

GRAY TELEVISION INC  
Form DEF 14A  
April 29, 2016  
**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**WASHINGTON, DC 20549**

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**SCHEDULE 14A**

**INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT**

**SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION**

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the  
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

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Filed by the Registrant	Filed by a Party other than the Registrant
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Check the appropriate box:

Preliminary Proxy Statement

**Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))**

Definitive Proxy Statement

Definitive Additional Materials

Soliciting Material Pursuant to Section 240.14a-12

**Gray Television, Inc.**

**(Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)**

N/A

**(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)**

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

No fee required.

Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.

(1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

(2) Aggregate number of class of securities to which transaction applies:

(3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

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Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fees was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

(1) Amount Previously Paid:

(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:

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## NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

### Meeting to be held on June 9, 2016

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual Meeting of Shareholders of Gray Television, Inc. will be held at 9:30 a.m., Eastern time, on June 9, 2016, at the Company's corporate headquarters, 4370 Peachtree Road, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia 30319, for the purpose of considering and acting upon:

1. the election of eight members of Gray Television, Inc.'s Board of Directors;
2. the ratification of the appointment of RSM US LLP as Gray Television, Inc.'s independent registered public accounting firm for 2016; and
3. such other business and matters or proposals as may properly come before the meeting.

Only holders of record of Gray Television, Inc. common stock, no par value per share, and Gray Television, Inc. Class A common stock, no par value per share, at the close of business on April 4, 2016 are entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the annual meeting. Attendance at the annual meeting is limited to such shareholders of record at the close of business on April 4, 2016 and to any invitees of Gray Television, Inc.

**Your vote is very important. Regardless of whether you intend to attend the annual meeting, we encourage you to vote as soon as possible by one of three convenient methods in order to ensure your shares are represented at the meeting: accessing the internet site listed on the notice of internet availability of proxy materials or proxy card, calling the toll-free number listed on the proxy card, or signing, dating and returning the proxy card in the enclosed postage-paid envelope. Any proxy you give will not be used if you attend the annual meeting and vote in person.**

By Order of the Board of Directors,  
Hilton H. Howell, Jr.  
*Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer*

Atlanta, Georgia

April 29, 2016

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**GRAY TELEVISION, INC.**  
**4370 Peachtree Road, N.E.**  
**Atlanta, Georgia 30319**

**PROXY STATEMENT**  
**For Annual Meeting of Shareholders**  
**to be Held on June 9, 2016**

This proxy statement is being furnished by the Board of Directors (the “Board”) of Gray Television, Inc., a Georgia corporation (which we refer to as “Gray,” the “Company,” “we,” “us” or “our”), to the holders of each of our common stock, no par value per share, and our Class A common stock, no par value per share, in connection with the solicitation of proxies by the Board for use at our 2016 Annual Meeting of Shareholders (the “2016 Annual Meeting”) to be held at the Company’s corporate headquarters, 4370 Peachtree Road, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia 30319, on June 9, 2016, at 9:30 a.m., Eastern time, and at any adjournments or postponements thereof. For directions to the location of the 2016 Annual Meeting, you may contact our corporate offices at (404) 504-9828. Distribution of the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials (the “Notice”) and this proxy statement and a proxy card to shareholders is scheduled to begin on or about April 29, 2016.

A proxy delivered pursuant to this solicitation is revocable at the option of the person giving the same at any time before it is exercised. A proxy may be revoked, prior to its exercise, by signing and delivering a later dated proxy card, by submitting a later dated vote via the internet or by telephone, by delivering written notice of the revocation of the proxy to our Corporate Secretary prior to the 2016 Annual Meeting, or by attending and voting at the 2016 Annual Meeting. Attendance at the 2016 Annual Meeting, in and of itself, will not constitute revocation of a proxy. Unless previously revoked, the shares represented by proxy will be voted in accordance with the shareholder’s directions if the proxy is duly submitted prior to the 2016 Annual Meeting.

If you return a signed proxy card that does not indicate your voting preferences, the persons named as proxies on the proxy card will vote your shares FOR the election of each of the director nominees recommended by the Board and FOR the ratification of the Company’s independent registered public accounting firm, and in accordance with the discretion of the named proxies on any other matters properly brought before the 2016 Annual Meeting.

The expenses associated with this proxy statement and soliciting the proxies sought hereby will be borne by us. In addition to the use of the mail, proxies may be solicited by our officers, directors and regular employees, who will not receive additional compensation therefor, in person or by telephone or other means of electronic communication. We also will request brokerage firms, banks, nominees, custodians and fiduciaries to forward proxy materials to the beneficial owners of shares of our common stock and our Class A common stock as of the record date for the 2016 Annual Meeting, and will provide reimbursement for the cost of forwarding the proxy materials in accordance with customary practice. Your cooperation in promptly submitting your vote by proxy will help to avoid additional

expense.

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**GRAY TELEVISION, INC.**  
**4370 Peachtree Road, N.E.**  
**Atlanta, Georgia 30319**

## **VOTING MATTERS**

### **Record Date and Voting Rights**

Our Board has fixed the close of business on April 4, 2016 as the record date for determining holders of our common stock and our Class A common stock entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the 2016 Annual Meeting. Only holders of record of our common stock and/or our Class A common stock at the close of business on that date will be entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the 2016 Annual Meeting. As of the record date, 6,404,862 shares of our Class A common stock and 66,284,329 shares of our common stock were outstanding. Each share of our common stock is entitled to one vote and each share of our Class A common stock is entitled to ten votes for each director nominee and each other matter to be acted upon at the 2016 Annual Meeting. Cumulative voting for director nominees is not allowed. The total number of possible votes for each director nominee, and for each other matter to be acted upon, is 130,332,949.

Shareholders of record may vote:

by the internet at <http://www.proxyvote.com> and following the instructions on the Notice or the proxy card;

by telephone at 1-800-690-6903 as directed on the proxy card;

by completing and mailing the proxy card; or

by attending the 2016 Annual Meeting and voting in person.

Instructions for voting are included on the proxy card.

You may revoke your proxy and change your vote by:

signing and properly submitting another proxy with a later date that is received before the polls close at the 2016 Annual Meeting;

voting by the internet or telephone on or before 11:59 p.m., Eastern time, on June 8, 2016;

giving written notice of the revocation of your proxy to the Company's Corporate Secretary, prior to the 2016 Annual Meeting; or

voting in person at the 2016 Annual Meeting.

**Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the 2016 Annual Meeting**

The following information can be found at <http://www.proxyvote.com>:

Notice of Annual Meeting;

Proxy Statement;

2015 Annual Report on Form 10-K; and

Form of Proxy Card.

## **Quorum**

A quorum is necessary to hold a valid 2016 Annual Meeting. A majority of possible votes, or 65,166,476 votes (including abstentions and broker non-votes (described below)), represented in person or by proxy will constitute a quorum. Votes cast by proxy or in person at the 2016 Annual Meeting will be tabulated by the inspector of elections appointed for the meeting, who also will count such votes to determine whether a quorum is present for the transaction of business.

If a quorum is not present at the scheduled time of the 2016 Annual Meeting, the chairman of the meeting may adjourn or postpone the 2016 Annual Meeting until a quorum is present. The time and place of the adjourned or postponed 2016 Annual Meeting will be announced at the time the adjournment is taken, and, unless such adjournment or postponement is for more than 30 days, no other notice will be given. An adjournment or postponement will have no effect on the business that may be conducted at the 2016 Annual Meeting.

## **Shares Held by a Bank, Broker or Other Nominee and Broker Non-Votes**

If you are the beneficial owner of shares of our common stock or Class A common stock held in “street name” by a bank, broker or other nominee, such other party is the record holder of the shares and is required to vote those shares in accordance with your instructions. If you do not give instructions to the record holder, that party will be prohibited from voting your shares on any matter other than with respect to the ratification of the appointment of RSM US LLP (formerly known as McGladrey LLP) as our independent registered public accounting firm for the year ending December 31, 2016. If you do not provide instructions to the record holder, your shares will be treated as “broker non-votes” with respect to all other proposals voted on at the 2016 Annual Meeting. Additionally, the record holder may elect not to vote your shares with respect to the ratification of our independent registered public accounting firm, in which case your shares would also be treated as “broker non-votes” with respect to that proposal. All “broker non-votes” will be included for purposes of calculating the presence of a quorum, but otherwise will be treated as shares not voted on a proposal.

## **Required Vote**

Each director nominee will be elected by a plurality of the votes cast in person or by proxy at the 2016 Annual Meeting, which means that the eight nominees receiving the most votes will be elected. Votes withheld from any nominee will have no effect on the outcome of the election of directors. Abstentions and broker non-votes will not be counted as “votes cast” and, therefore, will have no effect on the outcome of the election of directors.

With respect to the ratification of the appointment of RSM US LLP as Gray's independent registered public accounting firm for 2016, the approval of such proposal requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast in person or by proxy at the 2016 Annual Meeting. Under New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") rules, if your shares are held in "street name," the record holder is permitted, but is not required, to vote your shares with respect to the ratification of the appointment of RSM US LLP as Gray's independent registered public accounting firm for 2016 even if the record holder does not receive voting instructions from you. Abstentions and broker non-votes will not be counted as "votes cast" and, therefore, will have no effect on the outcome of this proposal.

With respect to any other matter that may properly come before the 2016 Annual Meeting for shareholder consideration, a matter generally will be approved by the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast in person or by proxy at the 2016 Annual Meeting unless the question is one upon which a different vote is required by express provision of the laws of Georgia, federal law, Gray's Articles of Incorporation or Gray's Bylaws, or, to the extent permitted by the laws of Georgia, the Board has expressly provided that some other vote shall be required, in which case such express provisions shall govern.

## **Board Recommendation**

The Board recommends that you vote:

“FOR” the election of the eight nominees to the Board to hold office until the 2017 Annual Meeting or until their successors are duly elected and qualified; and

“FOR” the ratification of the appointment of RSM US LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the year ending December 31, 2016.

## **Unexecuted or Unclear Proxies**

If you are a record holder and properly execute and return your proxy but do not indicate any voting instructions with respect to one or more matters to be voted upon at the 2016 Annual Meeting, or if your voting instructions are unclear, your shares will be voted in accordance with the recommendation of the Board as to all such matters.

Specifically, your shares will be voted FOR the election of all director nominees and FOR the ratification of the appointment of RSM US LLP as the independent registered public accounting firm of the Company for the year ending December 31, 2016, as well as in the discretion of the persons named as proxies on all other matters that may properly come before the 2016 Annual Meeting.

**PROPOSAL 1****ELECTION OF DIRECTORS****Nominees**

At the 2016 Annual Meeting, eight directors are to be elected to hold office until our next annual meeting of shareholders and until their successors have been duly elected and qualified. The director nominees have all been nominated for election by the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. Other than Elizabeth R. Neuhoff, each nominee is a current director who was elected by the shareholders at the Company's most recent annual meeting. Ms. Neuhoff was appointed by the Board on July 31, 2015. In case any nominee listed in the table below should be unavailable for any reason, which our management has no reason to anticipate, your proxy will be voted for any substitute nominee or nominees who may be selected by the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee prior to or at the 2016 Annual Meeting. Alternatively, if no substitute is selected by the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee prior to or at the 2016 Annual Meeting, the Board may determine to reduce the membership of the Board to the number of nominees available for election. Pursuant to our Bylaws and resolutions of the Board, the size of the Board is currently set at eight directors.

Set forth below is information concerning each of the nominees as of April 29, 2016:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Director Since</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Position</b>
Hilton H. Howell, Jr.	1993	54	Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer
Howell W. Newton	1991	69	Lead Independent Director
Richard L. Boger	1991	69	Director
T. L. Elder	2003	78	Director
Robin R. Howell	2012	51	Director
Elizabeth R. Neuhoff	2015	46	Director
Hugh E. Norton	1987	83	Director
Harriett J. Robinson	1997	85	Director

**Hilton H. Howell, Jr.** has been our Chief Executive Officer since August 2008 and has also served as our President since June 2013. Mr. Howell, who is a member of the Executive Committee of the Board, has been a director since 1993 and served as the Vice Chairman of the Board from 2002 until April 2016 when he was appointed as Chairman. He previously served as our Executive Vice President from September 2002 to August 2008. He has served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Atlantic American Corporation, an insurance holding company, since 1995, and as Chairman of that company since February 2009. He has been Executive Vice President and General Counsel of Delta Life Insurance Company and Delta Fire & Casualty Insurance Company since 1991. Mr. Howell also serves as a director of Atlantic American Corporation and of each of its subsidiaries, American Southern Insurance Company, American Safety Insurance Company and Bankers Fidelity Life Insurance Company, as well as a director of Delta

Life Insurance Company and Delta Fire & Casualty Insurance Company. He is the son-in-law of Mrs. Harriett J. Robinson and the husband of Mrs. Robin R. Howell, both of whom are members of our Board. In addition to the detailed operational knowledge he has gained in his current role as Gray's Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Howell brings to the Board experience from current and past leadership positions as an executive and his service on numerous boards. Mr. Howell also has practiced as an attorney in a variety of roles, which experience provides additional perspective to the matters within the purview of the Board.

**Howell W. Newton** has served as the Lead Independent Director of the Board since April 2016 and is Chairman of the Audit Committee and a member of each of the Executive Committee, the Compensation Committee and the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee of our Board. Since December 2015, Mr. Newton has been a Manager of 1899 Management Services, LLC, a real estate and investment company, that assumed the assets of Trio Manufacturing Co. From 1978 through December 2015, Mr. Newton was President and Treasurer of Trio Manufacturing Co., a real estate and investment company. Mr. Newton's many years of executive service with a financial services company provides the Board with considerable financial expertise. His tenure on our Board provides consistent leadership, and his familiarity with Gray's operations serves as an ongoing resource for issues facing a large, public company.

**Richard L. Boger** is the Chairman of each of the Compensation Committee and the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and is also a member of the Executive Committee and the Audit Committee of Gray's Board. Mr. Boger has been President and Chief Executive Officer of Lex-Tek International, Inc., a financial services consulting company, since February 2002. He has also served, between July 2003 and July 2013, as business manager for Owen Holdings, LLLP; since July 2004, as General Partner of Shawnee Meadow Holdings, LLLP; and since March 2006, as business manager for Heathland Holdings, LLLP, each of which is an investment holding company. He also serves, since September 2012, as Trustee for Boger-Owen Foundation, a 501(c)3 nonprofit under the Internal Revenue Code. He also serves as a member of the Board of Trustees of Corner Cap Group of Funds, a series mutual fund. Mr. Boger brings to the Board extensive managerial and entrepreneurial experience from his position as the Chief Executive Officer of a specialized financial services consulting company, his having founded and sold two commercial insurance services companies, and his service as a partner and business manager in three investment companies. His perspective from serving in several industries outside our own, including on the boards of a mutual fund and several nonprofit organizations, provides the Board with an informed resource for a wide range of disciplines and adds a diverse voice to its deliberations.

**T.L. (Gene) Elder** is a member of the Audit Committee of our Board. From 1994 to 2004, Mr. Elder was a partner of Tatum, LLC, a national firm of career chief financial officers which was acquired by Spherion Staffing Services in March 2010, and served as a Senior Partner of that firm from 2004 until his retirement from that position in May 2009. Mr. Elder, through his background as a former Chief Financial Officer, provides the Board and the Audit Committee with significant financial and accounting expertise.

**Robin R. Howell** has served as Vice President and a director of both Delta Life Insurance Company and Delta Fire & Casualty Company since 1992. She formerly served as Chairman of the Board of Farmer's and Merchant's Bank and as a member of the Board of Directors of Premier Bancshares Inc. She received a BA in Economics from the University of Virginia and a Masters of Business Administration from the University of Texas at Austin, and she has had a number of management and oversight roles in various businesses in which her family has maintained ownership interests since that time. Mrs. Howell is also a member of the board of directors of Atlantic American Corporation. Mrs. Howell is the daughter of Mrs. Robinson and the wife of Mr. Howell. Mrs. Howell is active in the community, serving on the Board of Directors and Executive Committee of the High Museum of Art, the Board of Directors of the Forward Arts Foundation, and as a member of the Junior League of Atlanta. Mrs. Howell's experience in board matters, and involvement at the executive level in various businesses is invaluable to the Board, and her numerous civic, social and academic associations provide valuable insight to the Company and elevate the Company's profile in the community.

**Elizabeth R. (Beth) Neuhoff** serves as the President and Chief Executive Officer of Neuhoff Communications, Inc., which is a privately owned radio and digital media company focused on small-to mid-size communities, a role she has held since August 2012. Prior thereto, she served as Executive Vice President of the Midwest division of Interep National Radio Sales, Inc, a national media sales and marketing firm. Ms. Neuhoff is an elected director of the National Association of Broadcasters, the broadcast industry trade association in Washington, D.C.; a director of the Broadcaster's Foundation of America, the broadcast industry's largest and oldest charitable organization; a Trustee of the National Association of Broadcaster's Education Foundation and a Trustee of the National Association of Broadcaster's Political Action Committee. She is a member of the Young President's Organization, Ellevate (formerly



85 Broads), the International Women's Forum, and the Alliance for Women in Media. She is a graduate of the NABEF's Broadcast Leadership Class that works in tandem with the FCC to encourage diversity of ownership in broadcasting. The Board believes Ms. Neuhoff's significant experience in both executive and sales roles at media organizations, combined with her experience with non-profit entities within the media and other industries, results in Ms. Neuhoff being able to provide significant insight into the Company, its operations and the regulatory environment in which it operates.

**Hugh E. Norton** is a member of each of the Compensation Committee and the Nominating and Governance Committee of our Board. Mr. Norton has been a real estate developer in Destin, Florida, and also served as President of Norco Holdings, Inc., an insurance agency, beginning in 1973. Prior to that, he was Regional Manager of Security Insurance Group where he served for 15 years. Mr. Norton brings to the Board a wealth of business experience based on his many years of service as an executive, as well as a unique perspective based on the regulatory and local government issues he faces as a developer. As the director with the longest tenure on our Board, he also serves as an ongoing source for industry-specific knowledge.

**Harriett J. Robinson** has been a director of Atlantic American Corporation since 1989. Mrs. Robinson has also been a director of Delta Life Insurance Company and Delta Fire and Casualty Insurance Company since 1967. Mrs. Robinson is the mother of Mrs. Robin R. Howell, a member of the Board, and the mother-in-law of Mr. Hilton H. Howell, Jr., our Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer. Mrs. Robinson's active service on our Board and on the boards of several other companies for a number of years provides capable leadership and a familiarity with the operational issues facing organizations in today's business climate. She lends a diverse voice to the Board's deliberations, including by virtue of the fact that she is the largest shareholder of the Company, bringing a unique perspective on issues of importance to shareholders, and her civic involvement and philanthropic activities also provide a critical link to the community.

**The Board of Directors recommends a vote FOR each of the director nominees.**

**PROPOSAL 2****RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF THE COMPANY'S  
INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM FOR 2016**

Gray's independent registered public accounting firm is appointed annually by the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee examines a number of factors when selecting a firm, including the qualifications, staffing considerations, and the independence and quality controls of the firms considered. The Audit Committee has appointed RSM US LLP as Gray's independent registered public accounting firm to audit our financial statements and our internal control over financial reporting for the year ending December 31, 2016. RSM US LLP has served as Gray's independent registered public accounting firm since 2006 and is considered by management to be well-qualified.

Shareholder ratification of the selection of RSM US LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm is not required but is being presented to our shareholders as a matter of good corporate practice. Notwithstanding shareholder ratification of the appointment of the independent registered public accounting firm, the Audit Committee, in its discretion, may direct the appointment of a new independent registered public accounting firm if the Audit Committee believes that such a change would be in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders. Should the shareholders not ratify the selection of RSM US LLP as Gray's independent registered public accounting firm for 2016 under this proposal, it is contemplated that the appointment of RSM US LLP for the 2016 fiscal year will nevertheless be permitted to stand unless the Audit Committee, on reconsideration, finds other compelling reasons for making a change.

Representatives of RSM US LLP are expected to be present at the 2016 Annual Meeting and, if present, will be given the opportunity to make a statement, if they desire, and to respond to appropriate questions.

**Fees**

The fees billed by RSM US LLP for 2015 and 2014 were as follows:

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
	(\$)	(\$)
Audit fees <sup>(1)</sup>	1,000,189	1,017,555
Audit-related fees <sup>(2)</sup>	106,069	107,109
Tax fees	—	—
All other fees <sup>(3)</sup>	57,500	—

Total 1,163,758 1,124,664

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- (1) Audit fees include fees and expenses for the audit of the Company's financial statements and internal control over financial reporting and fees for quarterly reviews of our reports on Form 10-Q.
- (2) Audit related fees were fees and expenses for audits of our employee benefit plans.
- (3) All other fees were for services provided in connection with various financing activities.

All audit related services, tax services and other non-audit services provided to the Company by RSM US LLP must be, and all such services and the expenses related to such services in 2015 and 2014 were, pre-approved by the Audit Committee, which also concluded that the provision of such services was compatible with the maintenance of RSM US LLP's independence in the conduct of its auditing functions.

In accordance with its written charter, the Audit Committee reviews and discusses with RSM US LLP, on a periodic basis, any disclosed relationships or services that may impact the objectivity and independence of the independent registered public accounting firm and pre-approves all audit and permitted non-audit services (including the fees and terms thereof) to be performed for us by our independent registered public accounting firm.

**The Board of Directors recommends a vote FOR the ratification of the appointment of RSM US LLP as the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for 2016.**

## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

We have adopted a Code of Ethics that applies to all of our directors, executive officers and employees. If any waiver of this Code of Ethics is granted, the waiver will be disclosed in an SEC filing on Form 8-K. Our Code of Ethics and the written charters of our Audit Committee, our Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and our Compensation Committee, as well as our Corporate Governance Principles, are available on our website at [www.gray.tv](http://www.gray.tv) in the *About Us* section under the heading *Governance*, subheading *Governance Documents*. All such information is also available in print to any shareholder upon request by telephone at (404) 266-8333.

After considering all applicable regulatory requirements and assessing the materiality of each director's relationship with us, our Board has affirmatively determined that the following directors are independent in accordance with Sections 303A.02(a) and (b) of the NYSE listing standards and the standards set forth in the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the "IRC") and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act"): Messrs. Boger, Elder, Newton and Norton. Dr. William E. Mayher, who served as Chairman of the Board until he passed away in January 2016, was also determined to be an independent director. In making its independence determinations, the Board considered the following relationships between the Company and its directors, entities associated with directors, or members of their immediate families:

Mr. Howell's status as an executive officer and his family relationships with Mrs. Howell and Mrs. Robinson;

Mrs. Howell's and Mrs. Robinson's family relationships with each other and Mr. Howell; and

Ms. Neuhoff's status as an executive officer of, and the Company's business transactions with an affiliate of, Neuhoff Communications, as described in more detail below under "Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions."

Gray encourages interested parties to communicate with its Board. Any interested party who wishes to communicate with the Board or with any particular director, including any independent director, may send a letter to our Corporate Secretary, Gray Television, Inc., 4370 Peachtree Road, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia 30319, which communications will be forwarded to the Board by the Company's Corporate Secretary. Any communication should indicate that you are an interested party and clearly specify that such communication is intended to be made to the entire Board or to one or more particular directors.

The Board does not have a formal policy with respect to attendance at annual meetings of shareholders, but the Board has historically held a regularly scheduled meeting in connection with each annual meeting of the shareholders, and directors are expected to attend. All director nominees who were members of our Board at the time of the 2015 Annual Meeting of Shareholders attended the 2015 Annual Meeting of Shareholders in person.

In accordance with Section 303A.03 of the NYSE listing standards, the independent non-management directors meet in executive sessions without management or non-independent directors present on a periodic basis. These meetings were held three times during 2015. Until Dr. Mayher passed away in January 2016, the roles of Chairman and Chief Executive Officer had been separated and, as Chairman, he presided over the executive sessions. Consistent with our belief that our leadership structure should reflect the best interests of the Company and our shareholders, we have not adopted a written policy with regard to whether or not the positions of Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board should be held by separate individuals. Rather, we believe that the Board should remain free to determine the Company's oversight and leadership structure from time to time based upon the availability of qualified and competent candidates. Following Dr. Mayher's passing, the Board reevaluated our leadership structure and determined in April 2016, in light of, among other things, the Company's recent growth and related increase in operational complexity, the desire to ensure effective communication between management and the Board, to provide strong and consistent leadership through a unified voice for the Company, and help ensure that the Chief Executive Officer understands and can effectively and efficiently oversee the implementation of the recommendations and decisions of the Board, to appoint Mr. Howell to the additional role of Chairman of the Board and to have Mr. Newton, who is an independent director, serve in the newly created role of Lead Independent Director of the Board. As Lead Independent Director, Mr. Newton will, among other things,

- preside over Board meetings in the absence of the Chairman;
- preside over executive sessions of the independent directors;
- serve as a liaison between the independent directors and the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer;
- coordinate with the Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer in developing and approving agendas, schedules, and materials for Board meetings; and
- be available for consultation with significant stockholders.

With respect to potential transactions with related parties required to be disclosed pursuant to Item 404(a) of Regulation S-K, the Audit Committee charter provides that the Audit Committee must review and approve such transactions in advance after full disclosure of the nature and extent of the related party's interest in any such transaction. See *Certain Relationships and Related Party Transactions* for a description of such related party transactions since the beginning of 2015 or that are currently proposed.

Management of the Company is responsible for the Company's day-to-day risk management, and the Board serves in an oversight role, including with respect to risk management. The Audit Committee assists the Board in fulfilling this risk management oversight function. The Audit Committee and management of the Company periodically review the Company's policies with respect to risk assessment and risk management, including major financial risk exposures and the internal controls and procedures in place to manage such risks. In addition, the Audit Committee and the Board consider risk-related matters on an on-going basis in connection with deliberations regarding specific transactions and issues.

### **Board Committees and Membership**

The Board held seven meetings during 2015. During 2015, each of the directors attended at least 95% of the meetings of the Board and meetings of all committees of the Board on which such director served, during the period that he or she served.

Our Board has the following committees: the Audit Committee, the Executive Committee, the Compensation Committee and the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee. The Executive Committee is authorized between meetings of the Board, to manage and direct our affairs, except as otherwise provided by law or as otherwise directed by the Board. All actions by the Executive Committee are subject to revision and alteration by the Board, provided that no rights of third parties shall be affected by any such revision or alteration. The current members of the Executive Committee are Messrs. Boger, Howell and Newton. Dr. Mayher served as a member of this committee until he passed away in January 2016.

The purpose of the Audit Committee is to assist the Board in its oversight of the integrity of the Company's financial statements; the Company's compliance with legal and regulatory requirements; the independent auditor's qualifications and independence; and the performance of the Company's internal audit function and independent auditor. The Audit Committee held four meetings during 2015. The current members of the Audit Committee are Messrs. Boger, Elder and Newton (as Chairman). Dr. Mayher served as a member of this committee until his passing in January 2016. The Board has affirmatively determined that Mr. Elder is an "audit committee financial expert" as that term is defined under applicable SEC rules. The identification of Mr. Elder as an audit committee financial expert does not impose on him any duties, obligations or liabilities that are greater than the duties, obligations and liabilities imposed on the other members of the Audit Committee. The Board has determined that all members of the Audit Committee are independent in accordance with NYSE and SEC rules governing audit committee member independence. The report of the Audit Committee is set forth in this proxy statement under the heading *Report of Audit Committee*.

The purpose of the Compensation Committee is to carry out the overall responsibility of the Board relating to executive officer compensation. In carrying out this purpose, the Compensation Committee has the responsibility to, among other things, establish and review the overall compensation philosophy of the Company; review and approve our goals and objectives relevant to the CEO's and other executive officers' compensation; and evaluate the performance of the CEO and other executive officers in light of established goals and objectives and, based on such evaluation, determine and approve compensation of the CEO and other executive officers. The Compensation Committee also administers the Company's various equity incentive plans. The Compensation Committee held five meetings in 2015. The current members of the Compensation Committee are Messrs. Boger (as Chairman), Newton and Norton. Dr. Mayher served as a member of this committee until his passing in January 2016. The Board has affirmatively determined that all members of the Compensation Committee are independent, in accordance with NYSE, SEC and IRC rules governing independence. The report of the Compensation Committee is set forth in this proxy statement under the heading *Report of Compensation Committee*.

The purpose of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee is to assist the Board in fulfilling its responsibilities to shareholders by identifying individuals qualified to become directors of the Company, recommending candidates to the Board for all directorships, developing and recommending to the Board an applicable set of corporate governance principles, and overseeing the evaluation of the Board and management. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee held two meeting in 2015. Currently, the members of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee are Messrs. Boger (as Chairman), Newton and Norton. Dr. Mayher served as a member of this committee until his passing in January 2016. The Board has determined that all members of the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee are independent in accordance with NYSE and SEC rules governing nominating committee independence. In recommending candidates to the Board for nomination as directors, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee strives to identify individuals who bring a unique perspective to Gray's leadership and contribute to the overall diversity of our Board. Although the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee has not adopted a specific written diversity policy for nominations, we believe that a diversity of experience, gender, race, ethnicity and age contributes to effective governance for the benefit of our shareholders. In practice, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee considers such characteristics together with the other qualities considered necessary by the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, such as requisite judgment, skill, integrity and experience. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee does not assign a particular weight to these individual factors. Rather, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee looks for a mix of factors that, when considered along with the experience and credentials of the other candidates and existing directors, will provide shareholders with a diverse and experienced Board. Historically, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee has not used a recruiting firm to assist with this process.

The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee will consider recommendations for director nominees submitted by shareholders. The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee's evaluation of candidates recommended by our shareholders does not differ materially from its evaluation of candidates recommended from other sources. Shareholders wishing to recommend director candidates for consideration by the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee may do so by writing to our Corporate Secretary, giving the candidate's name, biographical data, qualifications and all other information that is required to be disclosed under the applicable rules and regulations of the SEC. The foregoing information should be forwarded to the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, c/o Corporate Secretary, Gray Television, Inc., 4370 Peachtree Road, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia 30319.





**STOCK OWNERSHIP**

The following table sets forth certain information regarding the beneficial ownership of our Class A common stock and our common stock as of April 4, 2016 by (i) any person who is known to us to be the beneficial owner of more than five percent of our Class A common stock or our common stock, (ii) each director and director nominee, (iii) each current executive officer named in the summary compensation table below and (iv) all directors and current executive officers as a group. For purposes of this table, a person is deemed to be a beneficial owner of a security if he or she has or shares the power to vote or to direct the voting of such security, or the power to dispose or to direct the disposition of such security. Accordingly, more than one person may be deemed to be a beneficial owner of the same securities. A person is also deemed to be a beneficial owner of any securities that such person has the right to acquire beneficial ownership of within 60 days. Except as otherwise indicated, the persons named in the table below have sole voting and investment power with respect to all shares shown as beneficially owned by them. The information as to beneficial ownership has been furnished by the respective persons listed in the following table. The percentages of each class are based on 6,404,862 shares of Class A common stock and 66,284,329 shares of common stock outstanding as of April 4, 2016. Shares underlying outstanding stock options exercisable within 60 days of such date are deemed to be outstanding for purposes of calculating the percentage owned by such holder.

Name	Class A Common Stock Beneficially Owned (GTN.A)		Common Stock Beneficially Owned (GTN)		Combined Voting Power of Common Stock and Class A Common Stock Percent
	Shares	Percent	Shares	Percent	
Richard L. Boger <sup>(1)</sup>	19,214	*	28,066	*	*
T. L. Elder <sup>(1)</sup>	22,251	*	24,698	*	*
Hilton H. Howell, Jr. <sup>(2)</sup>	1,613,103	25.2%	1,556,960	2.3%	13.6%
Robin R. Howell <sup>(3)</sup>	1,613,103	25.2%	1,556,960	2.3%	13.6%
Elizabeth R. Neuhoff <sup>(4)</sup>	9,524	*	—	*	*
Howell W. Newton <sup>(1)</sup>	21,165	*	48,998	*	*
Hugh E. Norton <sup>(4)</sup>	24,222	*	76,915	*	*
Harriett J. Robinson <sup>(5)</sup>	4,702,948	73.4%	1,635,486	2.5%	37.3%
James C. Ryan <sup>(6)</sup>	—	*	278,671	*	*
Kevin P. Latek <sup>(7)</sup>	63,689	1.0%	264,584	*	*
Atlantic American Corporation <sup>(8)</sup>	880,272	13.7%	106,000	*	6.8%
Dimensional Fund Advisors LP <sup>(9)</sup>	—	*	5,588,922	8.4%	4.3%
BlackRock, Inc. <sup>(10)</sup>	—	*	3,600,566	5.4%	2.8%
All directors and executive officers as a group (10 persons) <sup>(11)</sup>	5,477,116	85.5%	3,081,878	4.6%	44.3%

\*Less than 1%.

(1) Includes 10,387 restricted shares of Class A common stock as to which the respective individual has voting, but not dispositive, power.

Includes: (a) 79,326 shares of Class A common stock (including the 10,387 shares of restricted Class A common stock included in note 3 below) and 24,955 shares of common stock owned by Mr. Howell's wife or children directly, as to which shares he disclaims beneficial ownership; (b) 999,000 shares of Class A common stock and 832,500 shares of common stock held in trusts for the benefit of his children, as to which shares he disclaims beneficial ownership; and (c) 6,841 shares of common stock held through his 401(k) plan. Also includes options to purchase 153,062 shares of common stock, which are currently exercisable or will become exercisable within 60 days, and 313,949 restricted shares of Class A common stock, as to which Mr. Howell has voting, but not dispositive, power.

- Includes: (a) an aggregate of 534,777 shares of Class A common stock and 546,443 shares of common stock owned directly by Mrs. Howell's husband or held through his 401(k) plan (including the 313,949 restricted shares of Class A common stock included in note 2 above); (b) options to purchase 153,062 shares of common stock held Mrs. Howell's husband, which are currently exercisable or will become exercisable within 60 days; (c) 500 shares
- (3) of Class A common stock owned by her children; and (d) 999,000 shares of Class A common stock and 832,500 shares of common stock held in trusts for the benefit of her children. Mrs. Howell disclaims beneficial ownership of all such securities. Also includes 10,387 restricted shares of Class A common stock as to which Mrs. Howell has voting, but not dispositive, power. In addition, excludes shares beneficially held by Mrs. Robinson as trustee for the benefit of Mrs. Howell, as to which Mrs. Howell has no voting or dispositive power.
- (4) Includes 9,524 restricted shares of common stock as to which the respective individual has voting, but not dispositive, power.
- Includes an aggregate of 2,188,180 shares of Class A common stock and 942,250 shares of the common stock held by various trusts for the benefit of Mrs. Robinson's daughters or grandchildren, with respect to which Mrs. Robinson serves as trustee. Mrs. Robinson disclaims beneficial ownership of all such securities. Also includes
- (5) an aggregate of 1,540,115 shares of Class A common stock and 251,000 shares of common stock owned by certain entities controlled by Mrs. Robinson. In addition, includes 10,387 restricted shares of Class A common stock as to which Mrs. Robinson has voting, but not dispositive, power. The address for Mrs. Robinson is 4370 Peachtree Road N.E., Atlanta, Georgia 30319.
- Includes: (a) 7,117 shares of common stock held through his 401(k) plan; (b) options to purchase 57,398 shares of
- (6) common stock, which are currently exercisable or will become exercisable within 60 days; and (c) 100,411 restricted shares of common stock as to which Mr. Ryan has voting, but not dispositive, power.
- Includes: (a) options to purchase 64,286 shares of common stock, which are currently exercisable or will become
- (7) exercisable within 60 days; and (b) 49,198 restricted shares of Class A common stock and 79,870 restricted shares of common stock as to which Mr. Latek has voting, but not dispositive, power.
- This information is based solely on Gray's review of a Schedule 13G filed with the SEC on August 12, 2013 by
- (8) Atlantic American Corporation and other information provided to Gray. The address of Atlantic American Corporation is 4370 Peachtree Road, NE, Atlanta, Georgia 30319.
- This information is based solely on Gray's review of a Schedule 13G/A filed with the SEC on February 9, 2016 by
- (9) Dimensional Fund Advisors LP. The address of Dimensional Fund Advisors L.P. is Building One, 6300 Bee Cave Road, Austin, Texas 78746.
- (10) This information is based solely on Gray's review of a Schedule 13G/A filed with the SEC on January 28, 2016 by BlackRock, Inc. The address of BlackRock, Inc. is 55 East 52nd Street, New York, New York 10022.
- Includes: (a) options to purchase 274,746 shares of common stock, which are currently exercisable or will become
- (11) exercisable within 60 days and (b) 415,082 restricted shares of Class A common stock and 199,329 restricted shares of common stock, as to which the directors and executive officers have voting, but not dispositive, power.

## EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

### Compensation Discussion and Analysis

#### *Compensation Committee*

The Compensation Committee of the Board maintains responsibility for establishing, reviewing and implementing the overall executive compensation philosophy of the Company. The Compensation Committee also administers our executive compensation programs by developing and evaluating director and officer compensation plans, policies and arrangements, approving the compensation of each of our executive officers and other senior management personnel, and establishing the compensation of our Board. The Compensation Committee currently consists of three members of our Board, Messrs. Boger (as Chairman), Newton (since April 2016) and Norton. Dr. Mayher served as a member of this committee until he passed away in January 2016. The Board has affirmatively determined that all members of the Compensation Committee are independent in accordance with applicable NYSE, SEC and IRC rules governing independence.

#### *Named Executive Officers*

The following discussion is focused primarily on the Company's compensation philosophy, policies and programs as they relate to, and amounts paid or payable to, our executive officers in 2015, consisting of the following individuals, who are sometimes referred to as our "named executive officers" or the "NEOs":

<b>Name</b>	<b>Executive Officer Since</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Current Positions</b>
Hilton H. Howell, Jr.	2000	54	Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer
James C. Ryan	1998	55	Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
Kevin P. Latek	2012	45	Executive Vice President, Chief Legal and Development Officer and Secretary

#### *Executive Compensation Program Execution*

In 2015, working with its compensation consultant, the Compensation Committee continued to execute on recent enhancements to our executive compensation programs, including:

striving to ensure an appropriate benchmarking of compensation for each executive based on his role, as compared to market data for similar roles within the Company's peer group, including updates to that peer group, described below;

establishing goals under the Company's annual non-equity incentive compensation program based on achievement of quantifiable financial objectives established in the first quarter of each fiscal year; and

applying appropriately updated methodologies and market data in making incentive compensation decisions, all as described below.

*Overview of 2015 Performance and Compensation*

Actual compensation paid in and for 2015 reflected Gray's significant operating and non-operating achievements during the year, including, but not limited to the following, which the Committee believes resulted from the significant efforts of management and were instrumental in helping to build long-term value for the Company's shareholders:

achieving record annual revenue of \$597.4 million, including record retransmission consent revenue of \$152.0 million, and record broadcast cash flow, which exceeded \$220.0 million;

reducing our total leverage ratio to 4.8 times, calculated on a trailing eight-quarter basis under the terms of Gray's senior credit facility as of December 31, 2015;

completing acquisitions which added seven television stations and four new markets to Gray’s operations;

entering into an asset purchase agreement with Schurz Communications, Inc. (“Schurz”) to acquire all of the television and radio stations owned by Schurz for a base purchase price of approximately \$443.4 million inclusive of working capital, which acquisition and certain related transactions were completed in February 2016 (the “Schurz Acquisition and Related Transactions”). The Schurz Acquisition and Related Transactions increased the Company’s station group to include 50 television markets broadcasting approximately 180 separate programming streams; and

successfully terminating nearly all of the Company’s remaining national advertising sales representation agreements, which will provide anticipated savings of approximately \$8.0 million to \$9.0 million of broadcast operating expense in the year ending December 31, 2016 as compared to the year ended December 31, 2015, with net savings continuing thereafter.

Gray believes that these achievements reflect management’s successful execution of the Company’s ongoing transformative growth strategy.

As a result of Gray’s performance and achievements in 2015, and as further described under “—Annual Incentive Compensation Program” below, annual and long-term plan-based incentive awards for the year were paid at between target and maximum opportunity levels, based upon the market competitive award structure established for 2015 by the Compensation Committee. In addition, in January 2016, the Company’s executive officers were awarded one-time, performance-based cash bonuses in recognition of their extraordinary efforts during 2015 in connection with the achievements described above and their efforts in successfully developing, pursuing and completing various strategic initiatives.

The table below shows the percentage allocation among the principal elements of total compensation paid to the NEOs in and for 2015 performance (including the one-time, discretionary cash bonuses awarded in 2016 and related to 2015 performance described above). Amounts in the following table do not correspond with amounts in the Summary Compensation Table which follows due to: (i) the exclusion from the table below of the fair value of a bonus equity award granted in 2015 for 2014 performance and results, which amount is included in 2015 compensation in the Summary Compensation Table below because it is required to be included in that table in the year it is actually awarded; and (ii) the exclusion from the table below of certain limited perquisites and other benefits paid in 2015 to the NEOs, as described below, but which did not comprise a material portion of 2015 total compensation:

**Allocation Among Principal Elements of Total Compensation Paid in and for 2015**

Name	Base Salary (%)	Cash Bonus (%)	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation (%)	Equity Incentive Plan Compensation (%)
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Hilton H. Howell, Jr.	21.2	29.9	29.9	15.9
James C. Ryan	32.5	22.9	22.9	16.2
Kevin P. Latek	31.6	24.5	24.5	17.4

*Philosophy and Elements of Compensation Program*

The goals of our executive compensation program are to attract, retain, motivate and reward our executive officers. We believe that the most appropriate executive compensation program is one that is competitive, yet conservatively designed, and that aligns long-term compensation with the creation of shareholder value.

The overall compensation program for our executive officers is designed to provide the Compensation Committee with the flexibility to offer a combination of cash (fixed and incentive-based) and equity-based compensation opportunities in order to retain, motivate and reward our executive officers, as well as to align their interests with those of our shareholders.



To accomplish these goals, the Compensation Committee strives to achieve an appropriate level, through the use of a combination of different forms, of compensation in order to (1) motivate the executive officers to deliver superior performance in the short-term by providing competitive base salaries, annual incentive opportunities and cash or other bonus opportunities based upon specific achievements, (2) further align the interests of the executive officers with the long-term interests of our shareholders through the grant of equity-based compensation that offers market-competitive, long-term compensation opportunities, with the potential for above-market compensation in extraordinary circumstances, (3) provide upside and downside risk aligned with other shareholders via meaningful executive stock ownership (through grants of restricted stock), (4) provide an overall compensation package that promotes executive retention and is aligned with the defined target market position; and (5) in exceptional circumstances, reward extraordinary performance with additional one-time awards.

Each year, our executive officers are eligible for a base salary increase, annual cash incentive awards and long-term, equity-based incentive award opportunities. Base salaries and incentive compensation award opportunities are typically based on the Compensation Committee's evaluation of market data and historical and targeted Company and individual performance. Actual incentive awards paid are generally dependent upon the level of achievement as compared to certain pre-established goals. Executive officers also receive limited perquisites that the Compensation Committee considers appropriate for the markets in which we operate and to enable us to attract and retain executive talent. The Compensation Committee also retains the ability to reward extraordinary financial or non-financial personal or corporate performance through the payment of discretionary cash or equity-based bonus awards in any year. Consistent with 2014, the executive compensation program for 2015 primarily consisted of the following elements:

base salary;

an annual incentive compensation opportunity;

a long-term incentive compensation opportunity; and

limited perquisites and other benefits.

Base salaries for our executives are established or adjusted from time to time based on the size and complexity of the Company, the scope of each individual executive's role, the knowledge and experience of the individual executive, the competitiveness of the executive's total compensation as compared to a peer group, as described below, and other market data.

With respect to the granting of non-equity incentive compensation opportunities, the Compensation Committee establishes annual metrics and opportunity levels based solely on quantitative goals, which is designed to provide additional focus and certainty for management in striving to achieve pre-established goals. Qualitative individual performance goals generally are not established or used to determine non-equity incentive plan compensation that might be awarded, absent extraordinary circumstances.

The decision to grant equity-based long-term incentive awards, on an annual basis or otherwise, is generally discretionary in nature. In undertaking this decision-making process, the Compensation Committee is free to consider a number of factors, including the following, or any others deemed appropriate by the Compensation Committee:

the amount and value of recent equity-based awards, determined by reference to value at either the grant date or other relevant date;

recent historical Company performance, determined by reference to stock price or other appropriate financial metric;

expected short and longer-term Company performance in light of internal budgets or forecasts, or other appropriate data; and

the overall competitiveness of current compensation levels when considered against an appropriate peer group, as described below.

In the event equity-based long-term incentive awards are granted, it has been the historical practice that award levels are also established at the Compensation Committee's discretion, as opposed to being made with a formulaic approach such as is used to provide annual non-equity incentive compensation opportunities.

As described above, the Compensation Committee also believes it is appropriate to retain discretionary authority to make cash or equity-based bonus awards in recognition of intervening events or extraordinary performance from time to time.

### *Compensation Framework: Risk Considerations, Policies, and Process*

#### Risk Considerations

The Compensation Committee periodically reviews the Company's compensation philosophy, policies and practices to ensure that such philosophy, policies and practices are appropriately structured for the Company and its business objectives and discourage executives from taking excessive risk. In developing Gray's philosophy, and implementing the policies and practices, the Compensation Committee has attempted to mitigate the possibility that excessive short-term risks are being taken at the expense of long-term value. These mitigation strategies include: (1) the annual review and approval of certain financial performance objectives by the Compensation Committee; (2) the use of multiple performance objectives, thus mitigating too heavy a focus on any one in particular; and (3) time-based vesting of equity-based awards to motivate NEOs to focus on providing consistent results over the longer term. In conducting its review of Gray's compensation philosophy, policies and practices, including its business operations, the Compensation Committee has determined that any risks arising from these compensation programs are not reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on the Company.

#### Role and Independence of the Compensation Consultant

For 2015, the Compensation Committee again engaged Grant Thornton LLP, an internationally recognized public accounting and consulting firm, as its compensation consultant to advise the Compensation Committee with respect to the implementation of Gray's compensation philosophy, policies and practices. In 2015, the Company paid Grant Thornton LLP \$109,639 for its services as the compensation consultant to the Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee directly hires and has the sole authority to terminate the compensation consultant and to determine the terms and conditions of their engagement. The compensation consultant reports directly to the Compensation Committee.

The Compensation Committee takes steps to monitor and manage the independence of its compensation consultant and annually reviews the role of the compensation consultant. As a result of the policies and procedures in place with respect to the compensation consultant, the Compensation Committee believes that the compensation consultant is able to provide candid, direct and objective advice to the Compensation Committee that is not influenced by management or any other services provided to Gray by Grant Thornton LLP. As a result, the Compensation Committee believes that Grant Thornton LLP is fully independent for purposes of serving as the Compensation Committee's compensation consultant.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, however, as described above, Grant Thornton LLP is a full service public accounting and consulting firm, and with the full knowledge of the Compensation Committee, the Audit Committee has from time to time, including in 2015, engaged a unit of Grant Thornton LLP, which is separate and distinct from the unit providing compensation consulting services to the Compensation Committee, to provide certain internal audit advisory services to the Company. In 2015, the Company paid \$146,996 for such internal audit advisory services. Management and the Audit Committee of the Company believe that the unit of Grant Thornton LLP that provides these internal audit services is exceptionally qualified to provide such services.

Neither the primary compensation advisor nor any member of the compensation consulting advisory team participates in any of those other services provided to Gray. Grant Thornton LLP provides the Compensation Committee with an annual update on its services and related fees, and the Compensation Committee determines whether the compensation consulting services can be performed objectively and free from the influence of management. The Compensation Committee has determined that the provision of these separate services did not result in a conflict of interest, or otherwise impair the independence, of Grant Thornton LLP to provide compensation consulting services to the Compensation Committee.

#### Role of Executive Officers

Mr. Howell, the Company's President and Chief Executive Officer, from time to time participates in meetings of the Compensation Committee in his role as Chief Executive Officer to provide information to the Compensation Committee and answer questions related to management and the performance of Gray, or any specific business or individual, but he is not present when the Compensation Committee goes into executive session to make executive officer compensation decisions.

#### Consideration of Say-On-Pay Vote and Related Matters

The Dodd-Frank Act provides Gray's shareholders with the right to vote to approve, on an advisory, non-binding basis, the compensation of Gray's NEOs at specified intervals. At Gray's 2011 annual meeting of shareholders, the shareholders approved a proposal providing that the shareholders would vote on such compensation every three years. Gray's shareholders most recently voted on this matter at Gray's 2014 annual meeting of shareholders. As a result, the next scheduled vote to approve, on an advisory, non-binding basis, the compensation paid to Gray's NEOs will be at Gray's 2017 annual meeting of shareholders.

At our 2014 annual meeting of shareholders, over 98% of the votes cast on our advisory say-on-pay proposal were voted to approve the compensation paid to our NEOs. The Compensation Committee believes that this shareholder vote strongly endorses the compensation philosophy, policies and practices of the Company. After considering the result of that advisory say-on-pay vote on our executive compensation, the Compensation Committee did not believe it was necessary to undertake any material changes in the Company's executive compensation philosophy or programs. In addition to consideration given to the results of any say-on-pay vote, the Compensation Committee considers any appropriate direct or indirect input from shareholders and other stakeholders, and more general developments in executive compensation principles, in the development and implementation of the Company's executive compensation philosophy and programs.

#### Compensation Deduction Limitations

Section 162(m) of the IRC generally sets a limit of \$1.0 million on the amount of compensation to each of the executive officers that we may deduct for federal income tax purposes in any given year. However, certain “performance-based” compensation paid in a manner that complies with the requirements of Section 162(m) of the IRC is not included in the calculation of the \$1.0 million cap. Historically, tax deductibility of executive officer compensation has not been a primary objective of the Compensation Committee or the Company because of the availability of net operating losses on a tax basis and the desire to maximize flexibility in pursuing our incentive and retention objectives. Our executive compensation program historically has not been structured to comply with all the requirements of Section 162(m), but the Compensation Committee periodically reviews such requirements and gives due consideration to the most appropriate ways to structure the executive compensation program to satisfy our compensation goals and meet the Section 162(m) deductibility guidelines. We may from time to time design compensation plans that recognize a full range of performance and other criteria important to our success regardless of the federal tax deductibility of compensation paid under those plans.

### Determining Competitive Practices

The Compensation Committee, with the assistance of Grant Thornton LLP, has established, and evaluates, a peer group for purposes of determining appropriate compensation types and amounts for our executive officers. Specifically, in 2015, the Compensation Committee used the peer group for relevant executive compensation comparisons such as market valuations of similar positions, and benchmarked certain compensation amounts and opportunities for each executive officer to market data for executives performing similar roles at peer group companies.

For purposes of establishing and benchmarking 2015 compensation, the compensation peer group was consistent with that used to determine prior years' compensation metrics and amounts, adjusted for industry consolidation, and was as follows: Crown Media Holdings, Inc., Cumulus Media Inc., Emmis Communications Corporation, Entercom Communications Corp., Entravision Communication, Lin TV Corp., Media General Inc., Nexstar Broadcasting Group, Inc., Radio One Inc., Salem Communications Corp., Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc. and Spanish Broadcasting System Inc.

The Compensation Committee believes that the use of peer group benchmarking for executive compensation determination is appropriate and provides data relevant in helping the Compensation Committee execute on its philosophy.

### Process for Establishing Executive Officer Total Compensation

In establishing NEO compensation levels for 2015, the Compensation Committee considered and evaluated historical and expected executive performance, input from the Company's President as Chief Executive Officer (with respect to other executive officers), peer group compensation metrics, internal pay equity considerations and a competitive market study prepared by Grant Thornton LLP. The study compared Gray's practices regarding base salary, bonuses, equity awards and cash incentive awards for its NEOs with market practices as reported in the peer group's most recent proxy data.

### *Compensation Decisions Made for 2015*

#### Base Salary

The base salary element of our executive compensation program provides each NEO with a fixed amount of annual cash compensation, intended to ensure an appropriate amount of financial certainty. Salaries for the NEOs are generally subject to annual review and adjustment by the Compensation Committee.

Consistent with its practice of making initial compensation decisions for a fiscal year in the first quarter of each year, the Compensation Committee approved our NEOs' base salaries for 2015 at its meeting in January 2015. At that time, and after consideration of the factors described above, the Compensation Committee approved 2015 base salary increases for Messrs. Howell, Ryan and Latek.

The Compensation Committee expects to continue to monitor the named executive officers' base salaries, and make adjustments from time to time as appropriate.

The annual base salaries for each of our NEOs were as follows for 2015:

<b>Name</b>	<b>2015 Base Salary</b>
	<b>(\$)</b>
Hilton H. Howell, Jr.	901,000
James C. Ryan	530,000
Kevin P. Latek	583,000



Annual Incentive Compensation Program

At the Compensation Committee's regularly scheduled meeting in the first quarter of each year, including in 2015, and after review of financial and other performance data from the prior fiscal year and certain internally forecasted financial information, the Compensation Committee sets certain target performance goals under the Company's annual incentive compensation program for the upcoming year. These goals are typically quantifiable annual, or other short-term, goals. Upon the achievement by the Company of these performance goals, the executive officers are eligible for additional cash compensation through the payment of annual incentive awards. This annual incentive award opportunity is intended to motivate the executive officers toward significant Company performance on an annual basis and, if appropriate, reward them for such achievement.

The Compensation Committee established performance goals for 2015, within the parameters of the Company's annual incentive compensation program, based entirely on quantifiable financial performance metrics. The three metrics approved for purposes of setting targets for 2015 annual incentive compensation awards consisted of the financial performance measures historically used by Gray for purposes of valuing the Company's business and approximating key financial performance covenants in certain of its financing agreements as follows:

revenue, which is calculated net of agency commissions;

net operating profit ("NOP"), which is calculated by determining total revenue less broadcast and corporate expenses before depreciation, amortization, impairment of intangible assets, gains on disposal of assets, interest expense, income taxes, and loss or early extinguishment of debt; and

"broadcast cash flow," which is defined as NOP plus amortization of non-cash stock based compensation, plus amortization of program broadcast rights, plus common stock contributed to 401(k) plan, less network compensation revenue, less network compensation per network affiliation agreements, less network expense per network affiliation agreements, less payments on program broadcast obligations, and plus corporate and administrative expenses (excluding amortization of non-cash stock based compensation).

For each of the financial performance measures, the following goals were established for 2015:

Financial Performance Measure	Threshold	Target	Maximum
	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
	(in thousands)		
Revenue (less agency commissions)	530,137	558,039	613,843
NOP	163,475	172,079	189,287

Broadcast cash flow 187,881 197,769 217,546

The target performance goals under the Company's annual incentive compensation program were aligned with the Company's internal business plan and annual budget as approved by the Compensation Committee, and did not give effect to the results of any acquired operations. Threshold goals were established at 95% of target so that a level of performance near target was required to be achieved before any incentive payment would be awarded, with a significant reduction to the incentive eligible to be earned if results were below target. Maximum award levels were established at achievement of 110% of target levels, as the Compensation Committee believed this represented an appropriate amount of stretch in the goals. The Compensation Committee reviews the threshold, target and maximum criteria at the start of each fiscal year to ensure that an appropriate degree of difficulty is incorporated into the goals.

The annual incentive compensation program award opportunity levels (expressed as a percentage of base salary) approved by the Compensation Committee for the NEOs in 2015 were as follows:

Name	Annual Incentive Opportunity		
	Threshold	Target	Maximum
Hilton H. Howell, Jr.	50.0%	100.0%	150.0%
James C. Ryan	25.0%	50.0%	75.0%
Kevin P. Latek	27.5%	55.0%	82.5%

Annual incentive compensation program payout opportunity levels were established to provide each NEO with a market-competitive incentive opportunity linked to achievement of the pre-determined financial metrics. Actual performance levels between threshold and target, or between target and maximum, are used to determine actual incentive awards. Actual awards are determined formulaically by linear interpolation of actual results as they relate to the established financial performance goals and the percentage by which such goals were achieved or exceeded. Furthermore, for purposes of calculating amounts payable under the Company's annual incentive compensation program, actual Company performance compared to goal performance for each of the metrics was determined and calculated discretely.

Non-equity annual incentive compensation payments are certified as approved following the Compensation Committee's review of the Company's audited financial results for the prior fiscal year. Gray's 2015 results, without giving effect to the results of operations acquired during 2015, would have been as follows:

<b>Financial Performance Measure</b>	<b>Actual (\$) (in thousands)</b>
Revenue (less agency commissions)	574,194
NOP	191,287
Broadcast cash flow	219,559

Based on the Company's 2015 financial results without giving effect to the results of operations acquired during 2015, total annual incentive compensation payments were made at between the target and maximum opportunity levels as follows:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Non-Equity Incentive Plan Payment For 2015 Performance</b>				<b>Total Non-Equity Incentive Plan Payment as a Percentage of Base Salary (%)</b>
	<b>Revenue (less agency commissions) Payout (\$)</b>	<b>NOP Payout (\$)</b>	<b>Broadcast Cash Flow Payout (\$)</b>	<b>Total Payment (\$)</b>	
Hilton H. Howell, Jr.	257,855	337,875	675,750	1,271,480	141.1
James C. Ryan	75,840	99,375	198,750	373,965	70.6
Kevin P. Latek	91,765	120,244	240,488	452,497	77.6
	425,460	557,494	1,114,988	2,097,942	

#### Performance-Based Cash Bonuses

In addition to potential cash payments under the Company's annual non-equity incentive compensation plan, as described above, the Compensation Committee retains the ability to make discretionary performance-based bonus payments in certain circumstances to reward outstanding performance by individual executives in circumstances where the Compensation Committee believes such performance is not adequately reflected by the non-discretionary portion of the executive's annual incentive award. Based on what the Compensation Committee determined to be extraordinary individual efforts in leading the Company to achieve the financial results and strategic goals, and undertake the related matters described above under "Overview of 2015 Performance and Compensation," the following one-time cash bonus awards were paid to executive officers in January 2016 for performance in 2015: Mr. Howell \$1,271,480, Mr. Ryan \$373,965 and Mr. Latek \$452,497.

Prior to approving the bonus payments, the Compensation Committee asked Grant Thornton LLP to assess the impact of the proposed bonuses on the market competitiveness of the executives' overall 2015 compensation. Grant Thornton LLP advised that based on the 2015 peer group, the cumulative impact of the bonuses would result in total direct compensation for the executive officers that would be in excess of the 75 th percentile. However, Grant Thornton LLP further noted that, due to the rapid growth of the Company, a more comparable peer group should be deployed, and the Compensation Committee approved such a group for compensation evaluation beginning in 2016. In addition, the Compensation Committee noted that it believed the executive officers had earned additional recognition and reward for their significant contributions to the growth and success of the Company in 2015, and determined that such awards were appropriate.

#### Long-Term Equity Incentive Awards

In order to be able to provide awards intended to further align the interests of our executive officers and other key management personnel responsible for our growth with the interests of our shareholders through stock price appreciation, we established the 2007 Long Term Incentive Plan, which allows us to grant equity-based awards. The 2007 Long Term Incentive Plan allows for the grant of various types of awards including performance shares, restricted shares and stock options. If stock options are granted, it is our practice to grant options with an exercise price equal to the closing price of the underlying class of our common stock on the date of grant.

The Compensation Committee has established guidelines, expressed as a percentage of base salary, that it generally considers when evaluating annual long-term equity incentive award levels. The long-term equity incentive opportunity guidelines considered by the Compensation Committee in connection with evaluating annual long-term incentive awards in 2015 were as follows:

**Long-Term Incentive  
Award Opportunity  
Guidelines**

**(as a Percentage of Base  
Salary)**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Low End</b>	<b>Mid Range</b>	<b>Upper End</b>
Hilton H. Howell, Jr.	75.0%	150.0%	225.0%
James C. Ryan	50.0%	100.0%	150.0%
Kevin P. Latek	55.0%	110.0%	165.0%

Notwithstanding these guidelines, unlike the formulaic annual incentive award opportunities, which are tied to the Company's actual performance compared to preset goals, the Compensation Committee has historically retained discretion with regard to the nature, timing and amount of long-term equity incentive awards. This discretion may be exercised based either on a prospective or retrospective and qualitative assessment of factors, as discussed above under the heading Elements of Compensation Program. For example, in January 2015, in order to incent the NEOs toward the creation of long-term value, and considering recent historical Company performance, recent years' equity incentive awards and the overall value of the NEOs' respective target compensation levels during 2014, the Compensation Committee approved the following grants of long-term equity incentive awards under the 2007 Long Term Incentive Plan to the NEOs:

Mr. Howell: 77,762 restricted shares of Class A common stock, with an aggregate grant date fair value of \$675,752, or 75% of his 2015 base salary;

Mr. Ryan: 25,804 restricted shares of common stock, with an aggregate grant date fair value of \$265,007, or 50% of his 2015 base salary; and

Mr. Latek: 36,899 restricted shares of common stock, with an aggregate grant date fair value of \$320,652, or 55% of his 2015 base salary.

To provide a balance between retention and performance, the Compensation Committee granted these restricted stock awards with a three-year ratable vesting schedule beginning one year from the date of grant.

Perquisites and Other Benefits

Gray also provides its executive officers with limited perquisites and other benefits, including the right to participate in all employee benefit plans generally available to employees, such as medical, dental, life and disability insurance plans. The Compensation Committee also believes it is appropriate for the Company to pay certain insurance premiums on behalf of our NEOs in order to remain market competitive for executive talent.

*Qualified Benefit Plans*

The executive officers were eligible to participate in the following qualified benefit plans in which all employees were eligible to participate: the Gray Television, Inc. Capital Accumulation (401(k)) Plan (“Capital Accumulation Plan”) and (through June 30, 2015, when it was frozen) the Gray Television, Inc. Retirement Plan (“Pension Plan”). Mr. Ryan also participates in the Busse Pension Plan (the “Busse Pension Plan”). The Company acquired Busse Broadcasting Corporation (“Busse”) in July 1998 and the Busse Pension Plan was assumed in that transaction. Mr. Ryan is a former employee of Busse. The table in the section entitled Pension Benefits herein lists the years of credited service and the present value of each NEO’s accumulated pension benefit, assuming payment begins at age 65, under the pension plans.

### *Capital Accumulation Plan*

We currently sponsor the Capital Accumulation Plan to encourage eligible employees to defer a part of their current income to provide for their retirement, death or disability under the provisions of Section 401(k) of the IRC. The plan covers all of our employees. Under the Capital Accumulation Plan, participants may elect to make pre-tax savings deferrals from their compensation each year, subject to annual limits on such deferrals imposed by the IRC. We may also, at our discretion, on an annual basis, make a matching contribution with respect to a participant's elective deferrals and/or may make additional voluntary contributions. From January 1, 2015 to June 30, 2015, we did not match employee contributions except for employees at one of our stations, in accordance with the terms of their union contract. Beginning on July 1, 2015, we matched employee contributions at a rate of 100% of the first 3% of each employee's salary deferral, and 50% of the next 2% of each employee's salary deferral. Participants are immediately vested in their voluntary contributions plus the actual earnings thereon. Employer contributions and earnings thereon become 100% vested after the participant completes three years of service. The only form of benefit payment under the Capital Accumulation Plan is a single lump-sum payment equal to the vested balance in the participant's account. The vested portion of a participant's accrued benefit is payable upon such employee's termination of employment, attainment of age 59 1/2, retirement, total and permanent disability, or death. Participants may also make in-service withdrawals from their pre-tax contributions under the plan for certain specified instances of hardship.

### *Pension Plan*

On June 30, 2015, we froze the Pension Plan with respect to all employees. As a result, participants ceased to accumulate benefits under the Pension Plan starting on July 1, 2015. Under the terms of the Pension Plan, in the event of the death of an executive officer before retirement, 50% of the accrued benefit will become payable to the surviving spouse at the time the deceased participant would have reached age 65. If the deceased participant had completed ten or more years of service, the survivor benefit may commence as early as the time the deceased participant would have reached age 55. If the deceased participant would have been eligible for early retirement at the time of death, survivor benefits may commence as soon as practicable. Any benefits that commence before the deceased participant would have reached age 65 will be reduced the same as early retirement benefits would have been reduced. In the event a disability occurs before retirement, the accrued benefit will become payable at age 65. No break in service will occur and benefits will continue to accrue during disability. In the event of voluntary termination, the vested accrued benefit will become payable at age 65. If the participant had completed ten or more years of service, the benefit may commence as early as age 55. If the participant had completed less than five years of credited service, the accrued benefit is not vested, and no future benefits would be payable from the Pension Plan.

**Summary Compensation Table**

The following table sets forth a summary of the compensation of our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, and our other executive officer for each of 2015, 2014 and 2013:

<b>Name and Principal Position</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Salary<sup>(1)</sup> (\$)</b>	<b>Bonus (\$)</b>	<b>Stock Awards<sup>(2)</sup> (\$)</b>	<b>Non-equity Incentive Plan Compensation (\$)</b>	<b>Change in Pension Value and Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Earnings<sup>(3)</sup> (\$)</b>	<b>All Other Compensation<sup>(4)</sup> (\$)</b>	<b>Total (\$)</b>
Hilton H. Howell, Jr. President, Chief Executive Officer and Vice Chairman <sup>(5)</sup>	2015	901,000	1,271,480	1,351,504	1,271,480	36,687	96,707	4,928,858
	2014	850,000	650,000	1,895,527	644,183	85,955	71,748	4,197,413
	2013	650,000	398,024	487,504	398,024	4,806	70,456	2,008,814
James C. Ryan Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer	2015	530,000	373,965	530,014	373,965	66,604	23,572	1,898,120
	2014	500,000	200,000	848,301	189,466	111,808	17,809	1,867,384
	2013	450,000	160,740	225,004	160,740	8,640	16,216	1,021,340
Kevin P. Latek Executive Vice President and Chief Legal and Development Officer	2015	583,000	452,497	641,305	452,497	20,302	16,391	2,165,992
	2014	550,000	250,000	953,308	229,253	27,155	12,871	2,022,587
	2013	450,000	160,740	225,004	160,740	10,583	6,478	1,013,545

(1) Each of the NEOs contributed a portion of his salary to our Capital Accumulation Plan. The disclosed salary amounts are before the NEOs' contributions.

Grant date fair value of awards of restricted shares made in the year indicated, computed in accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") Topic 718 (Stock Compensation). See note 6 to the Company's consolidated financial statements in its annual report on Form 10-K (2) for the year ended December 31, 2015 for a description of the assumptions made in the valuation of stock awards under FASB ASC Topic 718. For the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2015, includes the grant date fair value of the additional bonus equity awards for 2013 and 2014 performance, respectively, which awards were granted in January 2014 and 2015, respectively.

(3) For each year, represents the change in pension value, calculated as the difference between the present value of accumulated benefits at December 31 of the relevant year, and the present value of accumulated benefits at December 31 of the prior year, adjusted for benefit payments made during the year. The present values of accumulated benefits at December 31 of the relevant year were calculated using the assumptions that were used for



the December 31 financial statement disclosures of the relevant year, which were the RP-2014 mortality tables, with mortality improvements beginning in 2006 based on Social Security improvement assumptions, separately for males and females, and a 4.31%, 4.00%, 4.97% interest discount, respectively. See the table in the section entitled *Pension Benefits* herein for additional information, including the present value assumptions used in this calculation.

(4) See the *All Other Compensation* table below for additional information.

(5) Mr. Howell was appointed as Chairman in April 2016.

**All Other Compensation**

The following table describes each component of the amounts in the All Other Compensation column of the Summary Compensation Table for 2015:

Name	Company Contribution to Defined Contribution Plans (\$)	Company Paid Insurance Premiums (\$)	Directors' Fees <sup>(1)</sup> (\$)	Total (\$)
Hilton H. Howell, Jr.	—	10,207	86,500	96,707
James C. Ryan	—	23,572	—	23,572
Kevin P. Latek	—	16,391	—	16,391

(1) Represents fees paid for serving as a member of our board of directors. See the Director Compensation table for additional information.

**Grants of Plan-Based Awards in 2015**

The table below sets forth information about plan-based awards granted to the named executive officers during 2015 under the Company's Annual Incentive Plan and 2007 Long Term Incentive Plan. Non-equity annual incentive compensation payments were made to our NEOs in 2015 under the Annual Incentive Plan. Stock awards were made under our 2007 Long Term Incentive Plan.

Name	Grant Date	Estimated Possible Payouts Under Non-Equity Incentive Plan Awards <sup>(1)</sup>			Estimated Future Payouts Under Equity Incentive Plan Awards			All Other Stock Awards: Number of Shares of Stock or	All Other Option Awards: Number of Securities Underlying Options	Exercise or Base Price of Option	Grant Date Fair Value of Stock and Option Awards <sup>(2)</sup>
		Threshold (\$)	Target (\$)	Maximum (\$)	Threshold (#)	Target (#)	Maximum (#)				
	1/27/2015 <sup>(3)</sup>	—	—	—	—	—	—	77,762	—	—	675,752

Hilton H. Howell, Jr.	1/27/2015	—	—	—	—	—	—	77,762	—	—	675,752
		450,500	901,000	1,351,500	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
James C. Ryan	1/27/2015 <sup>(3)</sup>	—	—	—	—	—	—	25,804	—	—	265,007
	1/27/2015	—	—	—	—	—	—	25,804	—	—	265,007
		132,500	265,000	397,500	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kevin P. Latek	1/27/2015 <sup>(3)</sup>	—	—	—	—	—	—	36,899	—	—	320,653
	1/27/2015	—	—	—	—	—	—	36,899	—	—	320,652
		160,325	320,650	480,975	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

(1) For information on actual payouts under non-equity incentive plan awards for 2015 performance, see the column titled *Non-equity Incentive Plan Compensation* in the *Summary Compensation Table* above.

Grant date fair value of awards computed in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718. See note 6 to the Company's (2) consolidated financial statements in its annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015 for a description of the assumptions made in the valuation of stock awards under FASB ASC Topic 718.

(3) Represents bonus equity award granted in 2015 for 2014 performance and results.

**Outstanding Equity Awards at December 31, 2015**

The following table provides information on the stock options and restricted stock awards held by the NEOs at December 31, 2015. The market value of the stock awards is based on the closing market price of our common stock and Class A common stock of \$16.30 and \$13.67, respectively, as of December 31, 2015, as applicable.

Name	Stock Option Awards(1)			Stock Awards			Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Number of Shares, or Other Rights That Have Not Vested (#)	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Market Payout Value of Unearned Shares, or Other Rights That Have Not Vested (\$)
	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options Exercisable (#)	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options Unexercisable (#)	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#)	Option Exercise Price (\$)	Option Expiration Date	Number of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested (#)		
Hilton H. Howell, Jr.	114,798	38,264	—	1.99	4/1/2021	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	279,386(2)	3,915,680	—
James C. Ryan	43,050	14,348	—	1.99	4/1/2021	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	96,836 (3)	1,578,427	—
Kevin P. Latek	48,216	16,070	—	1.99	4/1/2021	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	124,969(4)	1,842,906	—

(1) All outstanding stock options at December 31, 2015 are (or upon vesting, will be) for shares of common stock. Awards vest in four equal, annual installments beginning on April 2, 2013.

(2) Includes: 36,682 restricted shares of common stock that vested on March 19, 2016; 43,590 restricted shares of Class A common stock that vested on January 17, 2016; 43,590 restricted shares of Class A common stock that vest on January 17, 2017; 51,842 restricted shares of Class A common stock that vested on January 31, 2016; 51,842 restricted shares of Class A common stock that vest on January 31, 2017; and 51,840 restricted shares of

Class A common stock that vest on January 31, 2018.

(3) Includes: 16,931 restricted shares of common stock that vested on March 19, 2016; 14,148 restricted shares of common stock that vested on January 17, 2016; 14,149 restricted shares of common stock that vest on January 17, 2017; 17,204 restricted shares of common stock that vested on January 31, 2016; and 34,404 restricted shares of common stock that vest in equal, annual installments on January 31, 2017 and 2018.

(4) Includes: 16,931 restricted shares of common stock that vested on March 19, 2016; 17,119 restricted shares of common stock that vested on January 17, 2016; 17,121 restricted shares of common stock that vest on January 17, 2017; 24,600 restricted shares of Class A common stock that vested on January 31, 2016; 24,600 restricted shares of Class A common stock that vest on January 31, 2017; and 24,598 restricted shares of Class A common stock that vest on January 31, 2018.

**Option Exercises and Stock Vested in 2015**

The following table provides information on the number of shares of stock vested in 2015 and the value realized by each NEO before payment of any applicable withholding tax.

Name	Class of Stock	Option Awards		Stock Awards	
		Number of Shares Acquired on Exercise (#)	Value Realized on Exercise (\$)	Number of Shares Acquired on Vesting (#)	Value Realized on Vesting (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>
Hilton H. Howell, Jr.	Common	—	—	36,682	530,422
	Class A Common	—	—	75,412	649,917
James C. Ryan	Common	—	—	45,861	554,546
Kevin P. Latek	Common	—	—	48,832	584,820

(1) Calculated by multiplying the gross number of shares acquired by the market value of the shares as of the relevant vesting date.

**Pension Benefits**

Messrs. Howell, Ryan and Latek participate in the Pension Plan. The Pension Plan, which is intended to be tax qualified, is available to certain of our employees and the employees of all of our subsidiaries that have been designated as participating companies under the plan. As noted above, the Company froze the Pension Plan on June 30, 2015.

A participating employee who retires on or after attaining age 65 and who has completed five years of service upon retirement may be eligible to receive during his or her lifetime, in the form of monthly payments, an annual pension equal to (i) 22% of the employee's average earnings for the highest five consecutive years during the employee's final ten years of employment multiplied by a factor, the numerator of which is the employee's years of service credited under the plan before 1994 and the denominator of which is the greater of 25 or the years of service credited under the plan, plus (ii) 0.9% of the employee's monthly average earnings for the highest five consecutive years in the employee's final ten years of employment added to 0.6% of monthly average earnings in excess of Social Security covered compensation, multiplied by the employee's years of service credited under the plan after 1993, with a maximum of 25 years minus years of service credited under (i) above. For participants as of December 31, 1993, there

is a minimum benefit equal to the projected benefit under (i) at that time.

In addition, Mr. Ryan would receive retirement benefits paid by Gray under a pension plan with Mr. Ryan's former employer, Busse Broadcasting Corporation (the "Busse Pension Plan"), which benefit amounts have been frozen since September 1997. The Company acquired Busse Broadcasting Corporation in July 1998 and the Busse Pension Plan was assumed in that transaction.

Our NEOs did not receive any pension benefit payments in 2015. The following table shows the years of credited service and the present value of accumulated benefits as of December 31, 2015 for the NEOs:

Name	Number of	Plan Name	Present Value of
	Years Credited		Accumulated
	Service <sup>(1)</sup> (#)		Benefit <sup>(2)</sup> (\$)
Hilton H. Howell, Jr.	13	Gray Television, Inc. Retirement Plan	328,733
James C. Ryan	17	Gray Television, Inc. Retirement Plan	461,108
	9	Busse Pension Plan	134,000
Kevin P. Latek	4	Gray Television, Inc. Retirement Plan	72,310

(1) Computed as of the same measurement date as used for 2015 financial statement reporting purposes.

The Present Value of Accumulated Benefit was calculated using the assumptions that were used for 2015 financial statement reporting purposes, which were the RP-2014 mortality tables, with mortality improvements beginning in (2) 2006 based on Social Security improvement assumptions, separately for males and females, and a 4.31% interest discount rate.

### **Potential Payments upon Termination or Change in Control**

Our NEOs do not have employment agreements or agreements with us that provide severance in the event of a change in control, except to the extent that the 2007 Long Term Incentive Plan, the Pension Plan, the Capital Accumulation Plan and the Busse Pension Plan contain such provisions that are applicable to all participants. The information below describes and quantifies certain compensation that would become payable under existing plans, policies and arrangements if the employment of each NEO had terminated (by virtue of involuntary termination, death, disability, voluntary termination or change of control) on December 31, 2015, given the NEO's compensation and service levels as of such date and, if applicable, based on our closing stock price on December 31, 2015. These benefits include benefits available generally to salaried employees, such as distributions under the Pension Plan, Busse Pension Plan, Capital Accumulation Plan, disability benefits, life insurance and accrued vacation pay.

For the purposes of this discussion, "disability" generally means total disability, resulting in the individual being unable to perform his job, and "change of control" means any of the following: (1) any person becoming the beneficial owner of 45% or more of the combined voting power of our then outstanding shares; (2) during any period of two consecutive years, individuals who at the beginning of such period constitute the Board cease for any reason to constitute at least a majority thereof, unless the election of such new directors was approved by a vote of at least two-thirds of the directors then still in office who were directors at the beginning of the period; (3) there is consummated any consolidation or acquisition in which we are not the continuing or surviving corporation or pursuant to which shares of our common stock are converted into cash, securities or other property; (4) there is consummated any consolidation or acquisition of us, in which we are the continuing corporation, in which the holders of our common stock immediately prior to the acquisition do not own 51% percent or more of the stock of the surviving corporation immediately after the acquisition; (5) there is consummated any sale, lease, exchange or other transfer of substantially all our assets; or (6) our shareholders approve any plan or proposal for our liquidation or dissolution.

The 2007 Long Term Incentive Plan provides that if a NEO's termination of employment occurs as a result of death or disability, incentive stock options issued under the 2007 Long Term Incentive Plan will be exercisable for 12 months after such termination. If the NEO dies within 12 months of termination by reason of disability, then the period of exercise following death will be the remainder of the 12-month period or three months, whichever is longer. If the NEO dies within 3 months after termination for any other reason, the period of exercise is three months. However, in no event shall the incentive stock option be exercised more than ten years after its grant.

The 2007 Long Term Incentive Plan provides that if a NEO's termination of employment occurs as a result of death, retirement or disability, nonqualified stock options issued under the 2007 Long Term Incentive Plan have will terminate 12 months after such termination; provided, however, if the NEO dies within 12 months after termination of employment by retirement or disability, the period of exercise shall be three months after date of death. As with the incentive stock options discussed above, in no event shall the nonqualified option be exercised more than 10 years after its grant.



The 2007 Long Term Incentive Plan provides that the committee administering the 2007 Long Term Incentive Plan has the authority to make adjustments to the awards granted under the 2007 Long Term Incentive Plan upon a change in control, including, without limitation, the substitution of new awards, or the adjustment of outstanding awards, or the termination of outstanding awards, the acceleration of awards, the removal of restrictions on outstanding awards, or the termination of outstanding awards in exchange for the cash value determined in good faith by the committee of the vested and/or unvested portion of the award.

Due to the number of factors that affect the nature and amount of any benefits provided upon the events discussed, actual amounts paid or distributed may be different than as disclosed. Factors that could affect these amounts include the timing during the year of any such event or our stock price.

The following table sets forth the amounts that would be owed by Gray to our NEOs if they were terminated as a result of involuntary termination, death, disability, voluntary termination, or there was a change of control, on December 31, 2015:

Name	Involuntary	Death <sup>(1)(3)</sup>	Disability <sup>(1)(4)</sup>	Voluntary	Change of
	Termination <sup>(1)(2)</sup> (\$)	(\$)	(\$)	Termination <sup>(1)(2)</sup> (\$)	Control <sup>(1)(5)</sup> (\$)
Hilton H. Howell, Jr.	438,188	5,254,303	7,117,007	438,188	4,415,856
James C. Ryan	676,434	4,028,924	4,619,584	676,434	2,278,105
Kevin P. Latek	119,838	2,957,649	5,682,644	119,838	979,959

(1) Gray does not have a formal severance policy for its NEOs. At the time of a separation from service for any reason, the Board may use discretion to determine each executive's severance payment, if any. The amounts reported above reflect any accrued and unpaid benefits payable to the executive officer in addition to payments identified in plan documents and insurance policies.

(2) Includes each NEO's accrued and unpaid vacation payable upon termination and the present value of accumulated benefits from their pension plan(s) as determined by the plan's actuary.

(3) Includes each NEO's accrued and unpaid vacation payable upon termination, the death benefit under their respective basic and supplemental life insurance coverage, the present value of the accumulated benefits from their pension plan(s) as determined by the plan's actuary, and accelerated vesting of 100% of their respective unvested restricted stock awards and stock options. The life insurance benefit reflects the payment of the death benefit by the insurance company for which Gray has been paying premiums on behalf of the NEO.

(4) Includes each NEO's accrued and unpaid vacation payable upon termination, the amount of long-term disability payments, the present value of accumulated benefits from their respective pension plan(s) as determined by the plan's actuary, and accelerated vesting of 100% of their respective unvested restricted stock awards and stock options. NEOs are entitled to monthly long-term disability payments from the time of disability through age 65.

(5) Includes each NEO's accrued and unpaid vacation payable upon termination, the present value of accumulated benefits from their respective pension plan(s) as determined by the plan's actuary, and accelerated vesting of 100% of their respective unvested restricted stock awards and stock options.

## Director Compensation

The current compensation and benefit program for directors is designed to appropriately compensate directors for time and effort required to be an effective director of a company of our size and scope; to align directors' interests with the long-term interests of shareholders; and to be simple, transparent and easy for shareholders to understand. Our directors' compensation for 2015 included the following cash compensation elements:

Description	Amount (\$)
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Chairman of the Board's annual retainer fee	65,000
Lead Independent Director's annual retainer fee(1)	60,000
Director annual retainer fee	55,000
Chairman of the Board fee per board meeting	4,000
Director fee per Board meeting	3,000
Audit Committee and Compensation Committee chairman fee per committee meeting	4,000
Audit Committee and Compensation Committee member fee per committee meeting	3,500
Other Committee chairman fee per committee meeting	4,000
Other Committee member fee per committee meeting	3,500

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(1) Beginning in April 2016.

Directors are generally paid the above fee arrangement for participation in person or by telephone in any meeting of the Board or any committee thereof. In addition, the members of our Board are reimbursed for reasonable travel expenses incurred by them during the execution of their duties as members of our Board and any committees.

In addition, our equity incentive plans provide the flexibility for us to grant our directors equity-based awards, including stock options and shares of restricted stock. In 2015, we granted each of our non-employee directors shares of restricted stock valued at approximately \$100,000.

The following table presents the compensation paid to our non-employee directors in 2015. Mr. Howell, our President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman, is our only current employee director. For information on the compensation paid to Mr. Howell for his service in all positions with the Company, including as a director, see the *Summary Compensation Table*:

Name <sup>(1)</sup>	Fees Earned	Stock	Total (\$)
	or Paid in Cash <sup>(2)</sup> (\$)	Awards <sup>(3)</sup> (\$)	
Richard L. Boger	110,000	100,005	210,005
T. L. Elder	90,000	100,005	190,005
Robin R. Howell	76,000	100,005	176,005
Elizabeth R. Neuhoff	34,917	–	34,917
Howell W. Newton	102,500	100,005	202,505
Hugh E. Norton	93,500	100,005	193,505
Harriett J. Robinson	76,000	100,005	176,005
William E. Mayher, III <sup>(4)</sup>	132,500	100,005	232,505

(1) As of December 31, 2015, with the exception of Ms. Neuhoff, each non-employee director held 8,313 restricted shares of our Class A common stock.

(2) Represents cash compensation earned in 2015 for Board and committee service.

(3) Grant date fair value of award of restricted shares, computed in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718. See note 6 to the Company's consolidated financial statements in the Company's annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015 for a description of the assumptions made in the valuation of stock awards under FASB ASC Topic 718.

(4) Dr. Mayher served as Chairman of the Board until he passed away in January 2016.

## REPORT OF COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

*The following Report of the Compensation Committee does not constitute soliciting material and should not be deemed filed or incorporated by reference into any other filing by Gray under the Securities Act of 1933, or the Exchange Act, except to the extent Gray specifically incorporates this Report by reference therein.*

The Compensation Committee has reviewed and discussed the *Compensation Discussion and Analysis* contained in this proxy statement with management and, based on such review and discussion, the Compensation Committee has recommended to the Board that the *Compensation Discussion and Analysis* be included herein and in Gray's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015.

Submitted by the Compensation Committee of the Board.

Richard L. Boger, Chairman  
Hugh E. Norton

#### **COMPENSATION COMMITTEE INTERLOCKS AND INSIDER PARTICIPATION**

Messrs. Boger (Chairman), Newton and Norton are the current members of the Compensation Committee. Dr. Mayher was a member of the Compensation Committee until he passed away in January 2016. No member of the Compensation Committee was an employee or officer of Gray or any of its subsidiaries during 2015 or was formerly an officer of Gray or any of its subsidiaries. No compensation committee interlocks existed during 2015.

## **CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

On January 1, 2015, the Company began leasing space for its principal offices from Delta Life Insurance Co. (“Delta Life”). Delta Life is controlled by Harriett J. Robinson, a member of our Board of Directors. In addition, Mr. and Mrs. Howell are officers, directors and/or shareholders in Delta Life. Under the terms of the lease, the Company pays annual rent of approximately \$0.1 million, plus a pro rata share of all real estate taxes, general maintenance and service expenses and insurance costs with respect to the office building and related facilities. The lease does not have a set termination date, but is terminable with 12-month advance notice by either party. The terms of the lease are believed by management of the Company to be no less favorable than terms that could be obtained by the Company from unrelated parties for comparable rental property.

Elizabeth R. Neuhoff is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Neuhoff Communications. She joined the Company’s Board of Directors on July 31, 2015. Previously, on July 1, 2015, the Company had acquired two television stations from Neuhoff Corp., an affiliate of Neuhoff Communications, for \$17.5 million pursuant to an asset purchase agreement negotiated at arms’ length between such company and Gray and executed in March 2015. On February 16, 2016, and as part of Gray’s acquisition of all of the television and radio stations of Schurz Communications, Inc. (“Schurz”), Gray divested certain radio stations owned by Schurz to Neuhoff Communications in exchange for \$8.0 million. The radio station divestiture to Neuhoff Communications occurred as a result of its submission of the superior bid in a competitive auction conducted for those assets at arms’ length by an independent investment bank among multiple radio broadcasters.

## **SECTION 16(a) BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REPORTING COMPLIANCE**

Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act requires the directors, executive officers and persons who own more than ten percent of a registered class of a company’s equity securities to file with the SEC initial reports of ownership (Form 3) and reports of changes in ownership (Forms 4 and 5) of such class of equity securities. Such officers, directors and greater than ten percent shareholders of a company are required by SEC regulations to furnish the company with copies of all such Section 16(a) reports that they file.

To our knowledge, based solely on our review of the copies of such reports filed with the SEC during the year ended December 31, 2015 all Section 16(a) filing requirements applicable to our officers, directors and ten percent beneficial owners were met, except for a single filing, relating to a single transaction, for each of Messrs. Newton, Norton, Elder and Boger; a single filing, relating to more than one transaction, for each of Messrs. Howell, Ryan and Latek and Ms. Howell; and the Form 3 filing for Ms. Neuhoff, each of which was filed late due to inadvertent administrative oversights.



## REPORT OF AUDIT COMMITTEE

*The following Report of the Audit Committee, together with references in this proxy statement to the independence of the Audit Committee members and the Audit Committee charter, does not constitute soliciting material and should not be deemed filed or incorporated by reference into any other filing by Gray under the Securities Act of 1933 or the Exchange Act, except to the extent Gray specifically incorporates this Report by reference therein.*

Management has primary responsibility for Gray's financial statements and the overall reporting process, including Gray's system of internal controls. RSM US LLP, the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, audits the annual consolidated financial statements prepared by management and expresses an opinion on whether those statements fairly present, in all material respects, the Company's financial position, results of operations, and cash flows in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The Audit Committee has reviewed the Company's audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2015 and discussed them with both management and RSM US LLP.

Management is responsible for establishing, assessing and reporting on Gray's system of internal control over financial reporting. RSM US LLP is responsible for performing an independent audit of Gray's internal control over financial reporting and for issuing a report thereon. The Audit Committee is responsible for the monitoring and oversight of this process. In connection with these responsibilities, the Audit Committee met with management and RSM US LLP to review and discuss the effectiveness of Gray's internal controls over financial reporting.

The Audit Committee has also discussed with RSM US LLP the matters required to be discussed by generally accepted auditing standards, including those described in Auditing Standard No. 16, *Communication with Audit Committees*, as amended, issued by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board.

The Audit Committee has received and reviewed the written disclosures and the letter from RSM US LLP consistent with the applicable requirements of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board regarding communications with the Audit Committee concerning independence and has discussed and confirmed with RSM US LLP its independence with respect to Gray. In addition, the Audit Committee has considered whether the provision of the non-audit services provided by RSM US LLP is compatible with maintaining that independence.

Based upon this review, the Audit Committee recommended to the full Board that the Company's audited consolidated financial statements be included in Gray's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015 and filed with the SEC.



Submitted by the Audit Committee of the Board.

Howell W. Newton, Chairman

Richard L. Boger

T. L. Elder

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## **OTHER MATTERS**

Our Board knows of no other matters to be brought before the 2016 Annual Meeting. However, if any other matters are properly brought before the 2016 Annual Meeting, it is the intention of the named proxies in the accompanying proxy to vote in accordance with their judgment on such matters.

## **SHAREHOLDER PROPOSALS FOR INCLUSION IN NEXT YEAR'S PROXY STATEMENT**

Proposals of shareholders intended to be presented at our 2017 Annual Meeting of Shareholders must be received at our principal executive offices by December 28, 2016 in order to be eligible for inclusion in our proxy statement and form of proxy for that meeting.

## **OTHER SHAREHOLDER PROPOSALS FOR PRESENTATION AT NEXT YEAR'S ANNUAL MEETING**

For any proposal that is not submitted for inclusion in next year's proxy statement, but is instead sought to be presented directly at the 2017 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, management will be able to vote proxies in its discretion if we: (1) receive notice of the proposal before the close of business on March 13, 2017 and advise shareholders in the 2017 proxy statement about the nature of the matter and how management intends to vote on such matter; or (2) receive notice of the proposal after the close of business on March 13, 2017. Notices of intention to present proposals at the 2017 Annual Meeting of Shareholders should be addressed to Gray Television, Inc., Attention: Kevin Latek, Corporate Secretary, Gray Television, Inc., 4370 Peachtree Road, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia 30319.

## **AVAILABILITY OF FORM 10-K**

Our Annual Report on Form 10-K is available online at [www.gray.tv](http://www.gray.tv) in the Investor Relations section under the heading SEC Filings. We will provide to any shareholder, without charge, upon written request, a copy of the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015, as filed with the SEC. Such requests should be addressed to Gray Television, Inc., 4370 Peachtree Road, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia 30319, Attention: Investor Relations.

## **HOUSEHOLDING**

As permitted under the Exchange Act, to the extent shareholders receive a hard copy of the proxy statement by mail, only one copy of this proxy statement is being delivered to shareholders residing at the same address, unless such shareholders have notified us of their desire to receive multiple copies of this proxy statement. We will promptly deliver, upon oral or written request, a separate copy of this proxy statement to any shareholder residing at an address to which only one copy was mailed. Requests for additional copies should be directed to Gray Television, Inc., 4370 Peachtree Road, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia 30319, Attention: Investor Relations, telephone (404) 504-9828. Shareholders residing at the same address and currently receiving only one copy of the proxy statement may contact Investor Relations at the address above to request multiple copies of the proxy statement in the future. Shareholders residing at the same address and currently receiving multiple copies of the proxy statement may contact Investor Relations at the address above to request that only a single copy of the proxy statement be mailed to them in the future.







