NOBLE ROMANS INC Form 10-K March 27, 2019

U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 FORM 10-K			
(Mark one) Annual Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934			
for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2018.			
Transition Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15 (d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934			
for the transition period from to			
Commission file number 0-11104			
NOBLE ROMAN'S, INC. (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)			
Indiana 35-1281154 (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)			
6612 E. 75th Street, Suite 450 Indianapolis, Indiana46250 (Address of principal executive offices)			
Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (317) 634-3377			
Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act: None			
Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: Common Stock			

Act.Yes No

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically every Interactive Data File required to be submitted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit such files). Yes No

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K (§229.405 of this chapter) is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company" and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large Accelerated Filer Accelerated Filer

Non-Accelerated Filer Smaller Reporting Company Emerging Growth Company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act). Yes No

The aggregate market value of the common stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant as of June 30, 2018, the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter, based on the closing price of the registrant's common shares on such date was approximately \$11.7 million.

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the registrant's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date: 21,683,032 shares of common stock as of March 4, 2019.

Documents Incorporated by Reference:

Portions of the definitive proxy statement for the registrant's 2019 Annual Meeting of Shareholders are incorporated by reference in Part III.

# NOBLE ROMAN'S, INC.

# FORM 10-K

Year Ended December 31, 2018

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#### PART 1

#### **ITEM 1. BUSINESS**

#### **General Information**

Noble Roman's, Inc., an Indiana corporation incorporated in 1972, sells and services franchises and licenses and operates Company-owned foodservice locations for non-traditional foodservice operations and stand-alone restaurants under the trade names "Noble Roman's Craft Pizza & Pub," "Noble Roman's Pizza," "Noble Roman's Take-N-Bake," and "Tuscano's Italian Style Subs." References in this report to the "Company" are to Noble Roman's, Inc. and its two wholly-owned subsidiaries, Pizzaco, Inc. and RH Roanoke, Inc., unless the context requires otherwise. RH Roanoke, Inc. operates a Company-owned non-traditional location.

The Company has been operating, franchising and licensing Noble Roman's Pizza operations in a variety of stand-alone and non-traditional locations across the country since 1972. Its first Craft Pizza & Pub location opened in January of 2017 as a Company-operated restaurant in a northern suburb of Indianapolis, Indiana. Since then, three more Company-operated units have opened with an additional four locations being considered. The Company-operated locations serve as the base for what it sees as the potential primary growth driver in the near future, franchising to experienced, multi-unit restaurant operators with a track record of success. The Company has signed the first such operator, Indiana's largest Dairy Queen franchisee with 19 franchised locations across north central Indiana. This franchisee's first Craft Pizza & Pub location is under construction in Lafayette, Indiana with an opening anticipated for spring of 2019.

#### Noble Roman's Craft Pizza & Pub

The Noble Roman's Craft Pizza & Pub utilizes many of the basic elements first introduced in 1972 but in a modern atmosphere with up-to-date technology and equipment to maximize speed, enhance quality and perpetuate the taste customers love and expect from a Noble Roman's.

The Noble Roman's Craft Pizza & Pub provides for a selection of 40 different toppings, cheeses and sauces from which to choose. Beer and wine also are featured, with 16 different beers on tap including both national and local craft selections. Wines include 16 affordably priced options by the bottle or glass in a range of varietals. Beer and wine service is provided at the bar and throughout the dining room.

The Company designed the system to enable fast cook times, with oven speeds running approximately 2.5 minutes for traditional pizzas and 5.75 minutes for Sicilian pizzas. Traditional pizza favorites such as pepperoni are options on the menu, but also offered is a selection of Craft Pizza & Pub original pizza creations. The menu also features a selection of contemporary and fresh, made-to-order salads and fresh-cooked pasta. The menu also incorporates the same baked subs, hand-sauced wings and a selection of desserts, as well as Noble Roman's famous Breadsticks with Spicy Cheese Sauce most of which has been offered in all its locations since 1972.

Additional enhancements include a glass enclosed "Dough Room" where Noble Roman's Dough Masters hand make all pizza and breadstick dough from scratch in customer view. Also in the dining room is a "Dusting & Drizzle Station" where guests can customize their pizzas after they are baked with a variety of toppings and drizzles, such as rosemary-infused olive oil, honey and Italian spices. Kids and adults enjoy Noble Roman's self-serve root beer tap, which is also part of a special menu for customers 12 and younger. Throughout the dining room and the bar area there are many giant screen television monitors for sports and the nostalgic black and white shorts featured in Noble Roman's since 1972.

The Company designed its new curbside service for carry-out customers, called "Pizza Valet Service," to create added value and convenience. With Pizza Valet Service, customers place orders ahead, drive into the restaurant's reserved valet parking spaces and have their pizza run to their vehicle by specially uniformed pizza valets. Customers who pay when they place their orders are able to drive up and leave with their order very quickly without stepping out of their vehicle. For those who choose to pay after they arrive, pizza valets can take credit card payments on their mobile payment devices right at the customer's vehicle. With the fast baking times, the entire experience, from order to pick-up only takes approximately 12 minutes.

Noble Roman's Pizza For Non-Traditional Locations

In 1997, the Company started franchising non-traditional locations (a Noble Roman's pizza operation within some other business or activity that had existing traffic) such as entertainment facilities, hospitals, convenience stores and other types of facilities. These locations utilize the two pizza styles the Company started with in 1972, along with its great tasting, high quality ingredients and menu extensions.

The hallmark of Noble Roman's Pizza for non-traditional locations is "Superior quality that our customers can taste." Every ingredient and process has been designed with a view to produce superior results.

A fully-prepared pizza crust that captures the made-from-scratch pizzeria flavor which gets delivered to non-traditional locations in a shelf-stable condition so that dough handling is no longer an impediment to a consistent product, which otherwise is a challenge in non-traditional locations.

Fresh packed, uncondensed and never cooked sauce made with secret spices, parmesan cheese and vine-ripened tomatoes in all venues.

100% real cheese blended from mozzarella and Muenster, with no soy additives or extenders.

100% real meat toppings, with no additives or extenders, a distinction compared to many pizza concepts.

Vegetable and mushroom toppings are sliced and delivered fresh, never canned.

An extended product line that includes breadsticks and cheesy stix with dip, pasta, baked sandwiches, salads, wings and a line of breakfast products.

The fully-prepared crust also forms the basis for the Company's Take-N-Bake pizza for use as an add-on component for its non-traditional franchise base as well as an offering for its grocery store license venue.

#### **Business Strategy**

The Company is focused on revenue expansion while continuing to minimize corporate-level overhead. To accomplish this the Company will continue owning and operating a core of Craft Pizza & Pub locations and develop what it believes to be a large growth opportunity by franchising to qualified multi-unit franchisees. At the same time, the Company will continue to focus on franchising/licensing for non-traditional locations by franchising primarily to convenience stores and entertainment centers and licensing to grocery stores.

The initial franchise fees are as follows:

	Non-Traditional Except Hospitals	Non-Traditional Traditional Hospitals Stand-Alone	
Noble Roman's Pizza or Craft Pizza & Pub	\$7,500	\$10,000	\$30,000(1)

(1) With the sale of multiple traditional stand-alone franchises to a single franchisee, the franchise fee for the first unit is \$30,000, the franchise fee for the second unit is \$25,000 and the franchise fee for the third unit and any additional unit is \$20,000. The Company has sold two franchises for Craft Pizza & Pub locations. One franchise is sold to the

largest multi-unit Dairy Queen franchisee in Indiana with 19 franchised locations. This Noble Roman's Craft Pizza & Pub franchised location is now under construction and is expected to open in spring 2019 in Lafayette, Indiana.

The franchise fees are paid upon signing the franchise agreement and, when paid, are non-refundable in consideration of the administration and other expenses incurred by the Company in granting the franchises and for the lost and/or deferred opportunities to grant such franchises to any other party.

The Company's proprietary ingredients are manufactured pursuant to the Company's recipes and formulas by third-party manufacturers under contracts between the Company and its various manufacturers. These contracts require the manufacturers to produce ingredients meeting the Company's specifications and to sell them to Company-approved distributors at prices negotiated between the Company and the manufacturer.

The Company utilizes distributors it has strategically identified across the United States. The distributor agreements require the distributors to maintain adequate inventories of all ingredients necessary to meet the needs of the Company's franchisees and licensees in their distribution areas for weekly deliveries.

# Competition

The restaurant industry and the retail food industry in general are very competitive with respect to convenience, price, product quality and service. In addition, the Company competes for franchise and license sales on the basis of product engineering and quality, investment cost, cost of sales, distribution, simplicity of operation and labor requirements. Actions by one or more of the Company's competitors could have an adverse effect on the Company's ability to sell additional franchises or licenses, maintain and renew existing franchises or licenses, or sell its products. Many of the Company's competitors are very large, internationally established companies.

Within the environment in which we compete management has identified what it believes to be certain competitive advantages for the Company. Many of the Company's competitors in the non-traditional venue were established with little or no organizational history operating traditional foodservice locations. This lack of operating experience may limit their ability to attract and maintain non-traditional franchisees or licensees who, by the nature of the venue, often have little exposure to foodservice operations themselves. The Company's background in traditional restaurant operations has provided it experience in structuring, planning, marketing, and controlling costs of franchise or license unit operations which may be of material benefit to franchisees or licensees.

The Company's Noble Roman's Craft Pizza & Pub format competes with similar restaurants in its service area. Some of the competitors are company-owned and some are franchised locations of large chains and others are independently owned. Some of the competitors are larger and have greater financial resources than the Company.

#### Seasonality of Sales

Bad winter weather conditions tend to adversely affect sales, especially those of the Craft Pizza & Pubs which are designed for in-store dining and carry-out, which in turn affects Company revenue. Sales of non-traditional franchises or licenses may be affected by seasonalities and holiday periods. Sales to certain non-traditional venues may be slower around major holidays such as Thanksgiving and Christmas, and during the first quarter of the year. Product sales of the non-traditional franchises/licenses may be slower during the first quarter of the year and certain venues such as grocery stores are typically slower during the summer months.

#### **Employees**

As of March 4, 2019, the Company employed approximately 28 persons full-time and 93 persons on a part-time, hourly basis, of which 16 of the full-time employees are employed in sales and service of the franchise/license units and 12 in restaurant locations. No employees are covered under a collective bargaining agreement. The Company believes that relations with its employees are good.

## Trademarks and Service Marks

The Company owns and protects several trademarks and service marks. Many of these, including NOBLE ROMAN'S®, Noble Roman's Pizza®, THE BETTER PIZZA PEOPLE®, "Noble Roman's Take-N-Bake Pizza," "Noble Roman's Craft Pizza & Pub®," and "Tuscano's Italian Style Subs®," are registered with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office as well as with the corresponding agencies of certain other foreign governments. The Company believes that its trademarks and service marks have significant value and are important to its sales and marketing efforts.

#### Government Regulation

The Company and its franchisees and licensees are subject to various federal, state and local laws affecting the operation of the respective businesses. Each location, including the Company's Craft Pizza & Pub locations, are

subject to licensing and regulation by a number of governmental authorities, which include health, safety, sanitation, building, employment, alcohol and other agencies and ordinances in the state or municipality in which the facility is located. The process of obtaining and maintaining required licenses or approvals can delay or prevent the opening of a location. Vendors, such as our third-party production and distribution services, are also licensed and subject to regulation by state and local health and fire codes, and U. S. Department of Transportation regulations. The Company, its franchisees, licensees and vendors are also subject to federal and state environmental regulations, as well as laws and regulations relating to minimum wage and other employment-related matters. In certain circumstances, the Company is, or soon may be, subject to various local, state and/or federal laws requiring disclosure of nutritional and/or ingredient information concerning the Company's products, its packaging, menu boards and/or other literature. Changes in the laws and rules applicable to the Company or its franchisees or licensees, or their interpretation, could have a material adverse effect on the Company's business.

The Company is subject to regulation by the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC") and various state agencies pursuant to federal and state laws regulating the offer and sale of franchises. Several states also regulate aspects of the franchisor-franchisee relationship. The FTC requires the Company to furnish to prospective franchisees a disclosure document containing specified information. Several states also regulate the sale of franchises and require registration of a franchise disclosure document with state authorities. Substantive state laws that regulate the franchisor-franchisee relationship presently exist in a substantial number of states and bills have been introduced in Congress from time to time that would provide for additional federal regulation of the franchisor-franchisee relationship in certain respects. State laws often limit, among other things, the duration and scope of non-competition provisions and the ability of a franchisor to terminate or refuse to renew a franchise. Some foreign countries also have disclosure requirements and other laws regulating franchising and the franchisor-franchisee relationship, and the Company is subject to applicable laws in each jurisdiction where it seeks to market additional franchised units.

### Officers and Key Management of the Company

Executive Chairman of the Board and Chief Financial Officer - Paul W. Mobley\*, age 78,was Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer from 1991 until 2014 when he became Executive Chairman and Chief Financial Officer. Mr. Mobley has been a Director and an Officer since 1974. Mr. Mobley has a B.S. in Business Administration from Indiana University and is a CPA. He is the father of A. Scott Mobley.

President, Chief Executive Officer, Secretary and a Director - A. Scott Mobley\*, age 55,has been President since 1997, a Director since 1992, Secretary since 1993 and Chief Executive Officer since 2014. Mr. Mobley was Vice President from 1988 to 1997 and from 1987 until 1988 served as Director of Marketing for the Company. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Mobley was a strategic planning analyst with a division of Lithonia Lighting Company. Mr. Mobley has a B.S. in Business Administration magna cum laude from Georgetown University and an MBA from Indiana University. He is the son of Paul W. Mobley.

Executive Vice President of Franchising - Troy Branson\*, age 55, has been Executive Vice President for the Company since 1997 and from 1992 to 1997, he was Director of Business Development. Before joining the Company, Mr. Branson was an owner of Branson-Yoder Marketing Group from 1987 to 1992, after graduating from Indiana University where he received a B.S. in Business.

Director of Operations/Director of Franchise Services - Terry Farabaugh, age 53, has been with the Company in various operations positions since 1989. He has been Director of Operations since 2015 and is currently also Director of Franchise Services. Mr. Farabaugh has owned various franchises of the Company and currently owns two franchise locations. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Farabaugh worked in operations for Golden Corral Steakhouse for five years.

\*Each of Messieurs Paul W. Mobley, A. Scott Mobley and Troy Branson are "executive officers" of the Company for purposes of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

#### **Available Information**

We make available, free of charge through our Internet website (http://www.nobleromans.com), our Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Current Reports on Form 8-K and amendments to these reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file these reports with, or furnish them to, the Securities and Exchange Commission. The information on our website is not incorporated into this annual report.

#### ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

All phases of the Company's operations are subject to a number of uncertainties, risks and other influences, many of which are outside of its control, and any one or a combination of which could materially affect its results of operations. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the Company's expectations are discussed below. Prospective investors should carefully consider these factors before investing in our securities as well as the information set forth under "Forward-Looking Statements" in Item 7 of this report. These risks and uncertainties include:

#### Competition from larger companies.

The Company competes with large national companies and numerous regional and local companies for franchise and license sales and with respect to its Company-owned locations. Many of its competitors have greater financial and other resources than the Company. The restaurant industry in general is intensely competitive with respect to convenience, price, product quality and service. In addition, the Company competes for franchise and license sales on the basis of several factors, including product engineering and quality, investment cost, cost of sales, distribution, simplicity of operation and labor requirements. Activities of the Company's competitors could have an adverse effect on the Company's ability to sell additional franchises or licenses or maintain and renew existing franchises and licenses or the operating results of the Company's system. Unlike the other non-traditional agreements, most of the take-n-bake license agreements with grocery stores are not for any specified period of time and, therefore, grocery stores could discontinue offering the take-n-bake pizza or other retail items at any time. As a result of these factors, the Company may have difficulty competing effectively from time to time or in certain markets.

## Dependence on growth strategy.

The Company's growth strategies include selling new franchises or licenses for non-traditional locations and to expand Craft Pizza & Pub locations by franchising to qualified franchisees and gradually increasing the number of Company-owned Craft Pizza & Pub locations. The opening and success of new locations will depend upon various factors, which include: (1) the traffic generated by and viability of the underlying activity or business in non-traditional locations; (2) the viability of the Craft Pizza & Pub locations; (3)the ability of the franchisees and licensees of either venue to operate their locations effectively; (4)the franchisee's ability to comply with applicable regulatory requirements; and (5) the effect of competition and general economic and business conditions including food and labor costs. Many of the foregoing factors are not within the Company's control. There can be no assurance that the Company will be able to achieve its plans with respect to the opening and/or operation of new franchises/licenses for Craft Pizza & Pub or non-traditional locations.

#### Dependence on success of franchisees and licensees.

While an increasing portion of its revenues are being generated by Company-owned operations, a significant portion of the Company's revenues continues to come from royalties and other fees generated by its franchisees and licensees which are independent operators, and their employees are not the Company's employees. The Company is dependent on the franchisees to accurately report their weekly sales and, consequently, the calculation of royalties. If the franchisees do not accurately report their sales, the Company's revenue could decline. The Company provides training and support to franchisees and licensees but the quality of the store operations and collectability of the receivables may be diminished by a number of factors beyond the Company's control. Consequently, franchisees and licensees may not operate locations in a manner consistent with the Company's standards and requirements, or may not hire and train qualified managers and other store personnel. If they do not, the Company's image and reputation may suffer, and its revenues and stock price could decline. While the Company attempts to ensure that its franchisees and licensees maintain the quality of its brand and branded products, franchisees and licensees may take actions that adversely affect

the value of the Company's intellectual property or reputation. Initiatives to increase the Federal minimum wage and/or shortage of available labor could have an adverse financial effect on our franchisees/licensees or the Company by increasing the labor cost.

Dependence on distributors.

The success of the Company's license and franchise offerings depends upon the Company's ability to engage and retain unrelated, third-party distributors. The Company's distributors collect and remit certain of the Company's royalties and must reliably stock and deliver products to the Company's licensees and franchisees. The Company's inability to engage and retain quality distributors, or a failure by distributors to perform in accordance with the Company's standards, could have a material adverse effect on the Company.

Dependence on consumer preferences and perceptions.

The restaurant industry and the retail food industry is often affected by changes in consumer tastes, national, regional and local economic conditions, demographic trends, traffic patterns and the type, number and location of competing restaurants. The Company could be substantially adversely affected by publicity resulting from food quality, illness, injury, other health concerns or operating issues stemming from one restaurant or retail outlet or a limited number of restaurants and retail outlets.

Ability to service or refinance our outstanding indebtedness and the dilutive effect of our outstanding convertible debt and warrants.

The Company has substantial debt obligations. At December 31, 2018, the total debt was approximately \$7 million. The outstanding debt includes \$2 million of indebtedness evidenced by convertible, subordinated promissory notes (the "Notes") the Company issued, along with certain warrants exercisable for the Company's common stock (the "Warrants"), in a private placement in 2016 and 2017 (the "Offering"). Generally, the Notes mature, and the Warrants expire, three years after issuance. However, in December 2018, the Company offered to extend the maturity of the Notes and the expiration date of the Warrants to January 2023. Certain of the holders of the Notes and Warrants accepted the Company's offer. Accordingly, of the principal amount of the Notes, \$700,000 matures in late 2019, \$650,000 matures in January 2020 and \$650,000 matures in January 2023. Included in the January 2020 maturity at December 31, 2018 is a \$50,000 Note which was converted, in January 2019, to common stock consistent with the terms of the Agreement.

The Company is prohibited, by its loan agreement with its senior debt lender, from repaying the Notes as long as its senior debt is outstanding. In order to meet the maturity schedules above in late 2019 and early 2020, the Notes must either be converted to common stock, extended beyond the maturity of the senior debt or replaced with other like securities. The Company may not be able to accomplish any of those alternatives. The Company intends to extend or refinance with external capital the Notes maturing in 2019 and 2020. However, the Company may not be able to refinance its debt or sell additional debt or equity securities on favorable terms, or at all.

Additionally, the issuance of shares of common stock upon the conversion of the Company's outstanding Notes or the exercise of the Warrants issued in connection with the sale of the Notes would have a dilutive effect on its stockholders.

Interruptions in supply or delivery of food products.

Dependence on frequent deliveries of product from unrelated third-party manufacturers through unrelated third-party distributors also subjects the Company to the risk that shortages or interruptions in supply caused by contractual interruptions, market conditions, inclement weather or other conditions could adversely affect the availability, quality and cost of ingredients. In addition, factors such as inflation, market conditions for cheese, wheat, meats, paper, labor and other items may also adversely affect the franchisees and licensees and, as a result, can adversely affect the Company's ability to add new franchised or licensed locations.

Dependence on key executives.

The Company's business has been and will continue to be dependent upon the efforts and abilities of its executive staff generally, and particularly Paul W. Mobley, its Executive Chairman and Chief Financial Officer, and A. Scott Mobley, its President and Chief Executive Officer. The loss of either of their services could have a material adverse effect on the Company.

Federal, state and local laws with regard to the operation of the businesses.

The Company is subject to regulation by the FTC and various state agencies pursuant to federal and state laws regulating the offer and sale of franchises. Several states also regulate aspects of the franchisor-franchisee relationship. The FTC requires the Company to furnish to prospective franchisees a disclosure document containing specified information. Several states also regulate the sale of franchises and require registration of a franchise disclosure document with state authorities. Substantive state laws that regulate the franchisor-franchisee relationship presently exist in a substantial number of states, and bills have been introduced in Congress from time to time that

would provide for federal regulation of the franchisor-franchisee relationship in certain respects. The state laws often limit, among other things, the duration and scope of non-competition provisions and the ability of a franchisor to terminate or refuse to renew a franchise. Some foreign countries also have disclosure requirements and other laws regulating franchising and the franchisor-franchisee relationship, and the Company would be subject to applicable laws in each jurisdiction where it seeks to market additional franchise units.

Each franchise and Company-owned location is subject to licensing and regulation by a number of governmental authorities, which include health, safety, sanitation, building, alcohol, employment and other agencies and ordinances in the state or municipality in which the facility is located. The process of obtaining and maintaining required licenses or approvals can delay or prevent the opening of a franchise location. Vendors, such as the Company's third-party production and distribution services, are also licensed and subject to regulation by state and local health and fire codes, and U. S. Department of Transportation regulations. The Company, its franchisees and its vendors are also subject to federal and state environmental regulations.

Indiana law with regard to purchases of our stock.

Certain provisions of Indiana law applicable to the Company could have the effect of making it more difficult for a third party to acquire, or of discouraging a third party from attempting to acquire, control of the Company. Such provisions could also limit the price that certain investors might be willing to pay in the future for shares of its common stock. These provisions include prohibitions against certain business combinations with persons or groups of persons that become "interested shareholders" (persons or groups of persons who are beneficial owners of shares with voting power equal to 10% or more) unless the board of directors approves either the business combination or the acquisition of stock before the person becomes an "interested shareholder."

Inapplicability of corporate governance standards that apply to companies listed on a national exchange.

The Company's stock is quoted on the OTCQB, a Nasdaq-sponsored and operated inter-dealer automated quotation system for equity securities not included on the Nasdaq Stock Market. The Company is not subject to the same corporate governance requirements that apply to exchange-listed companies. These requirements include: (1) a majority of independent directors; (2) an audit committee of independent directors; and (3) shareholder approval of certain equity compensation plans or equity issuances. As a result, quotation of the Company's stock on the OTCQB limits the liquidity and price of its stock more than if its stock was quoted or listed on a national exchange. There is no assurance that the Company's stock will continue to be authorized for quotation by the OTCQB or any other market in the future.

#### ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

None.

#### ITEM 2. PROPERTIES

The Company's headquarters are located in 8,088 square feet of leased office space in Indianapolis, Indiana. The lease for this property expires in April 2029.

The Company also leases space for its Company-owned restaurants in Westfield, Indiana which expires in January 2027, in Whitestown, Indiana which expires in November 2027, in Fishers, Indiana which expires in January 2028 and in Carmel, Indiana which expires in June 2028. The Company formerly leased a site for a Company-owned non-traditional location in Indianapolis, Indiana. The lease expires in April 2019, and the Company vacated the space in December 2018.

#### ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

The Company, from time to time, is or may become involved in various litigation or regulatory proceedings arising out of its normal business operations.

Currently, there are no such pending proceedings which the Company considers to be material.

#### ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

Not applicable.

#### PART II

# ITEM 5. MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

#### **Market Information**

The Company's common stock is included on the Nasdaq OTCQB and trades under the symbol "NROM." The over-the-counter market quotations on the Nasdaq OTCQB reflect inter-dealer prices without retail markup, markdown or commission and may not necessarily represent actual transactions.

#### Holders of Record

As of March 4, 2019, there were approximately 258 holders of record of the Company's common stock. This excludes persons whose shares are held of record by a bank, brokerage house or clearing agency.

#### Dividends

The Company has never declared or paid dividends on its common stock. The Company's current loan agreement, as described in Note 3 of the notes to the Company's consolidated financial statements included in Item 8 of this report, prohibits the payment of dividends on common stock.

Sale of Unregistered Securities

None.

Repurchases of Equity Securities

None.

# **Equity Compensation Plan Information**

The following table provides information as of December 31, 2018 with respect to the shares of the Company's common stock that may be issued under its existing equity compensation plan.

Plan Category	Number of Securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights (a)	Weighted-average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights (b)	Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a)) (c)
Equity compensation plans approved by stockholders	-	\$-	-
Equity compensation plans not approved by		\$.66	(1)

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stockholders

Total 3,688,667 \$.66 (1