

CINCINNATI BELL INC
Form 11-K
June 24, 2016
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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 11-K

(Mark One)

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended December 30, 2015
OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from _____ to _____
Commission File Number 1-8519

CINCINNATI BELL INC.
SAVINGS AND SECURITY PLAN

CINCINNATI BELL INC.
221 East Fourth Street
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

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CINCINNATI BELL INC. SAVINGS AND SECURITY PLAN
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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Participants and Administrator of the
Cincinnati Bell Inc. Savings and Security Plan:

We have audited the accompanying statements of net assets available for benefits of the Cincinnati Bell Inc. Savings and Security Plan (the “Plan”) as of December 30, 2015 and 2014, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 30, 2015. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Plan’s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. The Plan is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. Our audit included consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Plan’s control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, such financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of the Plan as of December 30, 2015 and 2014 and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 30, 2015, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The supplemental information in the accompanying schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 30, 2015 has been subjected to audit procedures performed in conjunction with the audit of the Cincinnati Bell Inc. Savings and Security Plan’s financial statements. The supplemental information is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but includes supplemental information required by the Department of Labor’s Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. The supplemental information is the responsibility of the Plan’s management. Our audit procedures included determining whether the supplemental information reconciles to the financial statements or the underlying accounting and other records, as applicable, and performing procedures to test the completeness and accuracy of the information presented in the supplemental information, including its form and content, is presented in conformity with the Department of Labor’s Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. In our opinion the supplemental information in the accompanying schedule is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

/s/ Barnes, Dennig & Co., LTD
Cincinnati, Ohio
June 24, 2016

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CINCINNATI BELL INC. SAVINGS AND SECURITY PLAN
STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS
(DOLLARS IN THOUSANDS)

| | December 30, | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|----------|
| | 2015 | 2014 |
| Investments | | |
| Investment in Master Trust | \$80,863 | \$83,323 |
| Notes Receivable | | |
| Participant loans | 2,367 | 2,501 |
| Net assets available for benefits | \$83,230 | \$85,824 |

See Notes to Financial Statements.

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CINCINNATI BELL INC. SAVINGS AND SECURITY PLAN
 STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 30, 2015
 (DOLLARS IN THOUSANDS)

Net assets available for benefits as of December 30, 2014 \$85,824

Contributions:

| | |
|---------------------|-------|
| Employee | 3,098 |
| Employer | 1,818 |
| Total contributions | 4,916 |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Investment gain from Master Trust | 973 |
|-----------------------------------|-----|

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| Interest on participant loans | 109 |
|-------------------------------|-----|

| | |
|---|--------|
| Transfers to other Company-sponsored plans, net | (484) |
|---|--------|

Distributions:

| | |
|---|----------|
| Benefits paid to participants | (8,096) |
| Administrative expense paid by the Plan | (12) |
| Total distributions | (8,108) |

| | |
|--|----------|
| Net decrease in assets available for Plan benefits | (2,594) |
|--|----------|

Net assets available for benefits as of December 30, 2015 \$83,230

See Notes to Financial Statements.

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CINCINNATI BELL INC. SAVINGS AND SECURITY PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(1) Plan Description and Accounting Policies

General: The Cincinnati Bell Inc. Savings and Security Plan (the "Plan") is sponsored by Cincinnati Bell Inc. (together with its subsidiaries, the "Company" or "Cincinnati Bell") and administered generally through the Company Employees' Benefit Committee.

The Plan is, subject to certain exceptions, currently available to hourly employees of the Company. Hourly employees are generally defined as employees either (i) who are represented by a collective bargaining unit (unless the applicable collective bargaining agreement does not approve their participation in the Plan) or (ii) whose position is an hourly-paid position that is or at any prior time had been subject to automatic wage progression or covered under the Plan. However, an hourly employee hired on or after February 1, 2008 ("Tier 2 participants") and in a position described in clause (ii) above is generally not eligible for the Plan.

In addition, certain persons who might be considered part of the above classes of employees (including but not limited to co-op students, interns, temporary employees, and contingency employees) are ineligible to participate in the Plan. These Notes to Financial Statements provide a brief description of certain provisions of the Plan, but do not constitute a document under which the Plan is operated, and, in the event of any conflict between these Notes to Financial Statements and the Plan documents, the Plan documents shall control. Participants must refer to the Plan documents and to the summary plan description for further details of the Plan.

The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA").

The financial statements of the Plan are prepared under the accrual method of accounting in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP"). The Plan's fiscal year (the "plan year") begins each December 31 and ends the following December 30. The Plan's trustee is Fidelity Management Trust Company (together with its affiliates, "Fidelity").

In accordance with the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") 962 - Plan Accounting - Defined Contribution Pension Plans, the Statement of Net Assets Available for Benefits presents the fair value of the Plan's investments. In addition, the Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits is presented on a fair value basis.

Employee Contributions: The Plan generally permits employees to contribute to the Plan immediately upon being hired. For the Plan's plan year ending December 30, 2014 and for pay days in the Plan's year ending December 30, 2015 that occurred before July 17, 2015, the Plan generally permitted eligible employees to contribute for each pay period, in before-tax and/or after-tax dollars, any amount that is an increment of \$5 and not more than 75% of the participant's plan compensation. Pursuant to an amendment to the Plan effective July 17, 2015, a participant's contributions can be made in any amount that is a whole percent up to a maximum of 75% of the participant's plan compensation. Additionally, as a result of the amendment, a participant's contributions can be made either on a before-tax basis or as Roth contributions. Roth contributions are made on an after-tax basis, but the earnings on such contributions can be paid later to the participant on a tax-free basis if certain conditions are met.

The Plan provides that contributions made by eligible employees to the Plan will be invested at the employees' direction. Contributions made by eligible employees to the Plan without an elected investment option will be invested in the Plan's default investment option, an age specific Vanguard Target Retirement Fund. Plan participants may elect to change their contribution and investment elections or discontinue participation in the Plan at any time.

The amount of a participant's combined before-tax and Roth contributions for any calendar year generally cannot exceed \$18,000, the legal limit in 2015. If the participant is age 50 or older by the end of the calendar year, the participant is allowed to make additional combined before-tax and Roth contributions up to \$6,000, the maximum amount per the Code in 2015. The amount of a participant's contributions is subject to additional provisions under the Code, which could further limit the amount of a participant's contributions for any plan year.

Participant contributions are allocated to the participant's account under the Plan ("Plan account"). A participant is always fully vested in the part of the Plan account attributable to employee contributions.

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CINCINNATI BELL INC. SAVINGS AND SECURITY PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Except as noted above with respect to Roth contributions, a participant is generally not subject to federal income tax on the amount of employee contributions to the Plan, or on the earnings on those contributions, until the amounts are distributed from the Plan to the participant.

Employer Contributions: For the Plan's plan year ending December 30, 2014 and for pay days in the Plan's plan year ending December 30, 2015 that occurred before July 17, 2015, for participants who are Tier 2 participants, or treated as Tier 2 participants for matching contributions, the Company generally made matching contributions in an amount equal to 100% of the participant's basic contributions made for any pay period. For all other participants, the Company made matching contributions in an amount equal to 66 2/3% of the participant's basic contributions made for any pay period during such period. A participant's basic contributions are, for this purpose and during such period, generally equal to the portion of the participant's before and after-tax contributions made for any week that is not in excess of amounts as defined in the Plan document or applicable collective bargaining agreement. Any excess of a participant's contributions over the basic contribution limit is not eligible for the Company match.

Pursuant to the amendment effective July 17, 2015, the Company makes matching contributions in an amount equal to 100% of each participant's employee contributions to the Plan made for any pay period that are not in excess of 6% of his or her plan compensation for such pay period

Matching contributions are generally made on a bi-weekly basis under the current practice of the Company and must be made by the end of the first full month that ends after the participants' related contributions are made.

The Company's matching contributions for a participant are allocated to the participant's Plan account. A participant is generally vested in the Company's matching contributions if credited with at least three years of vesting service. However, a participant may become vested in such part of his or her Plan account in certain other situations, including continued employment with the Company after attaining age 65 or termination of employment with the Company due to total disability or death.

A participant is generally not subject to federal income tax on the amount of the matching contributions or on the earnings on these contributions until the amounts are distributed from the Plan to the participant.

Rollovers: A participant may elect to rollover to the Plan an otherwise taxable distribution from another employer's d. tax-qualified savings, profit sharing, or other employer plan, if the distribution meets certain conditions set forth in the Plan and the Code.

Any rollover contributions are allocated to the participant's Plan account. A participant is always fully vested in the part of the Plan account attributable to rollover contributions.

A participant is generally not subject to federal income tax on the rollover contributions or on the earnings on the rollover contributions until the amounts are distributed from the Plan to the participant.

Employee-Directed Investments: A participant can specify the manner in which contributions made by or for the participant to the Plan shall be invested in the available funds under the Plan, and may elect to change the funds to e. which future contributions are allocated and transfer amounts held in the participant's Plan account from one fund to another.

Distributions to Participants: A participant may receive a distribution of all or a portion of his or her Plan account f. while employed by the Company only in certain circumstances.

In general, a participant, while still employed by the Company, may withdraw, for any reason, after-tax contributions, rollover contributions, and the vested part of the Plan account attributable to Company matching contributions made for plan years before the three consecutive plan years that end with the plan year of the withdrawal. However, if the participant withdraws any after-tax contributions that have received a matching contribution from the Company and were contributed in the plan year of the withdrawal and/or either of the two immediately preceding plan years, the entire non-vested portion of his or her Plan account will be forfeited, and the participant will be suspended from actively participating in the Plan for six months after the withdrawal.

Further, a participant, while still employed by the Company, can withdraw amounts that are attributable to before-tax or Roth contributions if the withdrawal is required by reason of the participant's hardship situation, which meets the rules set forth in the Plan concerning hardship withdrawals. Any hardship withdrawal does not include the earnings on before-tax or Roth contributions that were allocated after December 31, 1988.

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CINCINNATI BELL INC. SAVINGS AND SECURITY PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Other than for the withdrawals described above, the distribution of a participant's Plan account will generally occur only after the participant's employment with the Company has terminated for any reason, including retirement, discharge, termination, disability, or death. Only the portion of the participant's Plan account that is vested may be distributed; the non-vested portion of such account, if any, is forfeited in accordance with rules set forth in the Plan. If the value of the participant's vested Plan account is \$1,000 or less, the participant's vested account under the Plan can be distributed, within a reasonable administrative period, in a lump sum and without the consent of the participant after the participant's employment with the Company ends for any reason.

Participant Loans: Loans are available from the Plan to participants under the current provisions and policies of the Plan. Loans are subject to several conditions, certain of which are described below.

A participant cannot have more than two outstanding loans from the Plan at any time. The minimum amount of any loan to a participant is \$1,000, while the maximum amount cannot exceed the lesser of (i) 50% of the vested balance of the participant's Plan account, excluding amounts attributable to the participant's contributions which were matched and the associated matching contributions from the Company for the plan year of the loan and the two preceding plan years and income earned after 1988 on the participant's before-tax contributions, or (ii) \$50,000 reduced by the highest outstanding balance of loans made to the participant from the Plan and other plans of the Company during the one year period preceding the new loan date.

The Company Employees' Benefit Committee determines the interest rate charged by the Plan on a loan made to a participant. In general, the interest rate is based on the prime rate plus 1.0% at the time the loan is made. As of December 30, 2015, the interest rate on loans made under the Plan was 4.3% per annum. For the plan year ended December 30, 2015, a participant also paid to Fidelity a \$35 origination fee for processing a new Plan loan and a \$15 annual maintenance fee for the life of the loan.

In general, any loan to a participant must be repaid through payroll deductions and be collateralized by up to 50% of the vested portion of the participant's Plan account. The minimum term of any loan to a participant is 6 months, and the maximum term of a loan is 60 months.

h. Investments: As of December 30, 2015, the following funds were available for investment under the Plan:

- American Funds EuroPacific Growth Fund
- Cincinnati Bell Inc. Common Stock Fund*
- Fidelity Growth Company Fund*
- Fidelity International Discovery Fund*
- Fidelity Managed Income Portfolio II Fund*
- Fidelity Mid-Cap Stock Fund*
- Fidelity U.S. Equity Index Commingled Pool Fund*
- LKCM Small Cap Equity Fund
- PIMCO Total Return Fund
- Vanguard Balanced Index Fund
- Vanguard Mid-Cap Value Index Fund
- Vanguard Target Retirement 2010 Fund
- Vanguard Target Retirement 2015 Fund
- Vanguard Target Retirement 2020 Fund
- Vanguard Target Retirement 2025 Fund
- Vanguard Target Retirement 2030 Fund
- Vanguard Target Retirement 2035 Fund
- Vanguard Target Retirement 2040 Fund

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CINCINNATI BELL INC. SAVINGS AND SECURITY PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

- ✓ Vanguard Target Retirement 2045 Fund
- ✓ Vanguard Target Retirement 2050 Fund
- ✓ Vanguard Target Retirement 2055 Fund
- ✓ Vanguard Target Retirement 2060 Fund
- ✓ Vanguard Target Retirement Income Fund
- ✓ Vanguard Windsor II Fund
- * Party-in-interest funds

Purchases and sales of securities are reflected as of the trade date. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date. Income from other investments is recorded on an accrual basis.

Management fees and operating expenses charged to the Plan for investments in the mutual funds are deducted from income earned on a daily basis and are not separately reflected. Consequently, management fees and operating expenses are reflected as a reduction of investment return for such investments.

Administrative Expenses: Administrative expenses of the Plan that are not clearly related to a specific investment fund are generally paid by the Company. However, the Plan permits certain of these expenses to be paid from the Plan assets and allocated and charged to each participant's account based on the proportion that such participant's account balance bears to all account balances under the Plan.

Forfeitures: Any amounts forfeited by participants under the Plan are applied to reduce subsequent contributions of the Company to the Plan. At December 30, 2015 and 2014, unapplied forfeited amounts totaled \$13,800 and \$283 respectively.

Transfer to/from Other Plans: If a Plan participant becomes a participant of the Cincinnati Bell Retirement Savings Plan, another defined contribution plan sponsored by the Company, or if a participant of the Cincinnati Bell Retirement Savings Plan becomes a participant of the Plan, the Plan account balance is generally transferred to and assumed by the recipient plan. These transfers are included in "Transfers to other Company-sponsored plans, net" on the Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits.

Uncertain Tax Positions: U.S. GAAP requires Plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability if the Plan has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the Internal Revenue Service. There are no uncertain tax positions taken or expected to be taken that would require recognition of a liability or disclosure in the financial statements. The Plan is not currently under audit by any taxing jurisdictions.

Use of Estimates: The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires management of the Plan to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of Net Assets Available for Benefits and the reported Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

Recently Issued Accounting Standards: In May 2015, the FASB issued Accounting Standard Update ("ASU") 2015-07, Disclosures for Investments in Certain Entities That Calculate Net Asset Value ("NAV") per Share (or Its Equivalent). The standard will be effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2015 and will be applied retrospectively. Under the amendments in this update, investments for which fair value is measured at NAV per share (or its equivalent) using the practical expedient should not be categorized in the fair value hierarchy. The Company elected to early adopt the provisions of this new standard. Based upon review of ASU 2015-10, which was issued and effective in June 2015 and clarifies the guidance for determining if an equity security has a readily determinable fair value, the Company concluded that ASU 2015-07 has no material impact on the Plan.

In July 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-12, Defined Benefit Plans: Part (I) Fully Benefit-Responsive Investment Contracts, Part (II) Plan Investment Disclosures, Part (III) Measurement Date Practical Expedient. This three-part standard simplifies employee benefit plan reporting with respect to fully benefit-responsive investment contracts and plan investment disclosures, and provides for a measurement-date practical expedient. Parts I and II will be effective

for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2015 and will be applied retrospectively. Part III will be effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2015 and will be applied prospectively.

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CINCINNATI BELL INC. SAVINGS AND SECURITY PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Management has elected to adopt Parts I and II early. Accordingly, the Part I amendments were retrospectively applied resulting in changes to the presentation of the statement of net assets available for benefits at December 30, 2015 and 2014 such that the amounts previously reported at contract value in the Plan's financial statements are now presented at NAV consistent with other common collective trusts and reported on the statement of net assets available for benefits with investments at fair value. The change in presentation is the result of the MIP Fund no longer being classified as a fully benefit-responsive investment contract due to the clarifying guidance noted in ASU 2015-12. The Part II amendments were retrospectively applied to remove the disclosure noting any individual investments that represent 5 percent or more of the Plan's net assets available for benefits at fair value as of December 30, 2015 and 2014 and adjust the fair value hierarchy table as of December 30, 2015 and 2014 to no longer segregate investments by nature, characteristics, and risk, but rather by general type of investment.

Management has elected not to adopt Part III early and does not expect it to have a material impact on the Company's policy elections or financial statements.

(2) Fair Value Measurements

The Plan's investments in the Master Trust are stated at fair value. Mutual funds of the Plan are valued using the quoted market prices of the shares of each applicable mutual fund. The value of the Plan's Cincinnati Bell Inc. Common Stock Fund was determined by the ending share values as last published by the New York Stock Exchange on December 30, 2015 and 2014. Common collective trust funds are based on the NAV of units of a collective trust as published by the trustee.

Certain events limit the ability of the Plan to transact with the participants at fair value of the Fidelity Managed Income Portfolio II Fund, a common collective trust. Such events include the following: (a) amendments to the Plan documents (including complete or partial plan termination or merger with another plan), (b) changes to the Plan's prohibition on competing investment options or deletion of equity wash provisions, (c) bankruptcy of the plan sponsor or other plan sponsor events (e.g., divestitures or spin-offs of a subsidiary) which cause a significant withdrawal from the Plan, or (d) the failure of the Plan to qualify for exemption from federal income taxes or any other prohibited transaction exception under ERISA. The Plan Administrator does not believe that the occurrence of any such event, which would limit the Plan's ability to transact with the participants, is probable.

ASC 820 established a three-tier fair value hierarchy, which prioritizes the inputs used in measuring fair value as follows:

Level 1 - Quoted market prices for identical instruments in an active market;

Level 2 - Quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active, inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability (i.e., interest rates, yield curves, etc.), and inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means (market corroborated inputs); and

Level 3 - Unobservable inputs that reflect management's determination of assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability. These inputs are developed based on the best information available, including our own data.

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NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

There were no significant transfers between the fair value hierarchy levels in the year ended December 30, 2015. At December 30, 2015 and 2014, the fair value and placement in the fair value hierarchy of the underlying assets of the Cincinnati Bell Retirement Savings Plans Master Trust (the "Master Trust") that are required to be measured at fair value on a recurring basis are as follows:

| (dollars in thousands) | Assets at Fair Value as of December 30, 2015 | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|----------|---------|------------|
| | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | Total |
| Mutual Funds | \$251,025 | \$— | \$ | —\$251,025 |
| Common collective trust funds | — | 44,699 | — | 44,699 |
| Common stocks | 12,274 | — | — | 12,274 |
| Total assets at fair value | \$263,299 | \$44,699 | \$ | —\$307,998 |

| (dollars in thousands) | Assets at Fair Value as of December 30, 2014 | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|----------|---------|------------|
| | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | Total |
| Mutual funds | \$249,569 | \$— | \$ | —\$249,569 |
| Common collective trust funds | — | 43,946 | — | 43,946 |
| Common stocks | 10,731 | — | — | 10,731 |
| Total assets at fair value | \$260,300 | \$43,946 | \$ | —\$304,246 |

(3) Interest in Master Trust

At December 30, 2015 and 2014, the Plan's assets were held by the Master Trust. The Master Trust holds only the assets of the Plan and the Cincinnati Bell Retirement Savings Plan, an additional plan sponsored by the Company. The purpose of the Master Trust is the collective investment of assets of the Plan and the Cincinnati Bell Retirement Savings Plan (collectively, the "Savings Plans"). Master Trust assets are allocated to the Savings Plans by assigning to each plan those transactions (primarily contributions and benefit payments) which can be specifically identified to that Savings Plan. When applicable, net investment income, gains and losses, and expenses resulting from the collective investment of the assets are allocated to the Savings Plans in proportion to the fair value of the assets allocated to the Savings Plans.

As of December 30, 2015 and 2014, the Plan's percentage of assets held in the Master Trust was 26% and 27%, respectively. The following table presents the fair value of the total investments held by the Master Trust, in which the Plan invests:

| (dollars in thousands) | December 30, | |
|---|--------------|-----------|
| | 2015 | 2014 |
| Mutual funds and common collective trust funds | \$295,724 | \$293,515 |
| Common shares of Cincinnati Bell Inc. | 12,274 | 10,731 |
| Net assets available to participating plans at fair value | \$307,998 | \$304,246 |

During the plan year ended December 30, 2015, realized and unrealized gains and interest and dividends on investments held by the Master Trust were as follows:

| Gain on Investments | Interest and Dividends |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
|------------------------|---------------------------|

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(dollars in thousands)

| | Realized | Unrealized | |
|--|----------|------------|-----------|
| Mutual funds and common collective trust funds | \$452 | \$(14,050) | \$ 14,472 |
| Common shares of Cincinnati Bell Inc. | 87 | 1,103 | — |
| | \$539 | \$(12,947) | \$ 14,472 |

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NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Plan's portion of the gains on the Master Trust's investments and investment income for the plan year ended December 30, 2015 was as follows:

| (dollars in thousands) | Gain on Investments | | Interest and Dividends |
|--|---------------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| | Realized | Unrealized | |
| Mutual funds and common collective trust funds | \$ 175 | \$ (3,437) | \$ 3,746 |
| Common shares of Cincinnati Bell Inc. | 26 | 463 | — |
| | \$ 201 | \$ (2,974) | \$ 3,746 |

(4) Amendment or Termination of the Plan

While the Company has not expressed any intent to terminate the Plan and subject to collective bargaining requirements under applicable law, it reserves the right to amend or terminate the Plan at any time. In the event of the termination of the Plan, all affected participants' accounts would become 100% vested.

(5) Tax Status

The Internal Revenue Service issued on December 30, 2011, a favorable determination that the Plan meets the requirements of Section 401(a) of the Code and is exempt from federal income taxes under Section 501(a) of the Code.

(6) Related Party Transactions

The Plan invests in the Master Trust, and the Master Trust's investments include shares of Cincinnati Bell Inc. common stock and shares of mutual funds managed by Fidelity. Cincinnati Bell is the sponsor and administrator of the Plan, and Fidelity is the Plan's trustee. Therefore, these investments qualify as party-in-interest transactions. Fees paid by the Plan to these parties-in-interest for the plan year were \$11,931.

The amount of common stock of Cincinnati Bell Inc. held in the Master Trust for the Plan was 1,417,403 and 1,413,456 shares with a cost basis of \$6,399,723 and \$6,513,935 at December 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

(7) Concentrations, Risks, and Uncertainties

The Master Trust has a significant concentration of investments in Cincinnati Bell Inc. common stock. A change in the value of the stock could cause the value of the Plan's net assets to change significantly due to this concentration. The Plan provides for various investment options in money market funds, mutual funds, commingled funds, and Cincinnati Bell Inc. common stock. Investment securities, in general, are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, credit, and overall market volatility. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term, and those changes could materially affect the amounts reported in the Statements of Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits.

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CINCINNATI BELL INC. SAVINGS AND SECURITY PLAN
SCHEDULE H, LINE 4i - SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)
DECEMBER 30, 2015
FORM 5500 SCHEDULE H (FORM 5500)
EIN 31-1056105
PLAN NUMBER - 004
(Dollars in thousands)

| Issuer | Description of Investment | Current Value |
|--------|--|---------------|
| | Participant loans* 6 to 60 months (4.3%) | \$2,367 |

* Party-in-interest

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SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the trustees (or other persons who administer the employee benefit plan) have duly caused this annual report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

SAVINGS
AND
SECURITY
PLAN
By:
Cincinnati
Bell Inc.

June 24, 2016 /s/ Sarah E.
S. Davis
By: Sarah E.
S. Davis
Employees'
Benefit
Committee

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EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit
Number Description

23.1 Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm - Barnes, Dennig & Co., LTD

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