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**BIG LOTS ANNOUNCES GRAND OPENING OF MESA, AZ STORE**

New Store Format Provides Fun and Engaging Shopping Experience

Columbus, Ohio (October 5, 2017) – Big Lots announced today it is celebrating the grand opening of its newest store in Mesa, Arizona, on Friday, October 6, 2017. The store will reflect a new format unveiled last month at the Company’s Investor & Analyst Conference. The “Store of the Future” showcases the Ownable and Winnable merchandise categories of Furniture, Seasonal, Soft Home, Food, and Consumables with prominent positioning in the store, and is part of a broader initiative to reposition the brand as a community retailer offering trustworthy value and friendly service.

“We’re excited to open our store in Mesa,” stated David Campisi, CEO and President of Big Lots. “The Phoenix area is one of two markets introducing the Store of the Future format which brings to life our new brand principles, including our mission to serve everyone like family.”

As part of the grand-opening celebration, Big Lots will hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 8:30 a.m. on Friday, October 6 at the store located at 2840 East Main Street, Mesa. Customers will find sweepstakes information in store for the chance to win one of six weekly \$100 gift cards and a \$1,000 home makeover shopping spree.

As previously announced, Big Lots has recently relaunched their point-of-sale fundraising campaign to benefit Nationwide Children’s Hospital, which provides care to children in all 50 states and more than 52 countries from around the world. Donations will be accepted September 28 through October 29 at Big Lots stores with 100 percent of the proceeds going directly to support the hospital.

In celebration of the Mesa store opening, Big Lots will match dollar-for-dollar amounts raised in all Phoenix area stores from October 5 through October 29. In addition, Big Lots will sponsor the 2017 Butterfly Run for Behavioral Health, a 5k/10k/Kids Fun Run on November 11 in Tempe.

The Mesa store will be open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday through Saturday.

To learn more about Big Lots or set up an interview with a company representative, please contact Andrew Regrut at 614-278-6622 or email investor\_relations@biglots.com.

**About Big Lots, Inc.**

Headquartered in Columbus, Ohio, Big Lots, Inc. (NYSE: BIG) is a unique, non-traditional, discount retailer operating 1,426 BIG LOTS stores in 47 states with product assortments in the merchandise categories of Furniture, Seasonal, Soft Home, Food, Consumables, Hard Home, and Electronics, Toys & Accessories. Our vision is to be recognized for providing an outstanding shopping experience for our customers, valuing and developing our associates, and creating growth for our shareholders. Big Lots supports the communities it serves through the Big Lots Foundation, a charitable organization focused on four areas of need: hunger, housing, healthcare, and education. For more information about the Company, visit [www.biglots.com](http://www.biglots.com).

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