BIG LOTS INC
Form 11-K
June 26, 2009

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 11-K

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

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008

or

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

For the Transition Period From ______ to ______

Commission File Number 33-19309

A. Full title of the plan and the address of the plan, if different from that of the issuer named below:

BIG LOTS SAVINGS PLAN

B. Name of issuer of the securities held pursuant to the plan and the address of its principal executive office:

BIG LOTS, INC.
300 Phillipi Road, P.O. Box 28512
Columbus, Ohio 43228-0512
(614) 278-6800

Big Lots Savings Plan

Financial Statements as of and for the
Years Ended December 31, 2008 and 2007,
Supplemental Schedule as of December 31, 2008, and
Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

Big Lots Savings Plan

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* All other financial schedules required by Section 2520.103-10 of the U.S. Department of Labor's Annual Reporting and Disclosure Requirements under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 have been omitted because they are not applicable.

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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Associate Benefits Committee of Big Lots, Inc.:
Columbus, Ohio

We have audited the accompanying statements of net assets available for benefits of the Big Lots Savings Plan (the "Plan") as of December 31, 2008 and 2007 and the related statements of changes in net assets available for benefits for the years then ended. 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 audits 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 internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by manage–ment, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of the Plan as of December 31, 2008 and 2007, and the changes in net assets available for benefits for the years then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Our audits were performed for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The supplemental schedule of investments held at end of year December 31, 2008, is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary 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 schedule is the responsibility of the Plan's management. The supplemental schedule has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic 2008 financial statements taken as a whole.

/s/ Ary Roepcke Mulchaey, P.C.

Columbus, Ohio
June 26, 2009

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Big Lots Savings Plan

STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS
DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007

	2008	2007
Assets		
Investments, at fair value:		
Big Lots, Inc. common shares	$19,700,227	$27,015,409
Common/Collective trusts	42,714,212	37,881,409
Mutual funds	47,269,656	68,944,427
Participant loans	8,992,225	8,602,100
Total investments	118,676,320	142,443,345
Receivables for contributions:		
Company contribution	5,002,219	5,099,618
Participant contributions	70,701	-
Total contribution receivable	5,072,920	5,099,618
Other assets:		
Cash	23,162	13,354
Fee income receivable	82,421	67,098
Due from brokers	11,083	47,253
Accrued income	414	1,802
Total other assets	117,080	129,507
Total assets	123,866,320	147,672,470
Liabilities		
Administrative expenses payable	57,226	55,008
Due to brokers	29,574	60,608
Fee income payable	82,421	67,098
Total liabilities	169,221	182,714
Net assets available for benefits	$123,697,099	$147,489,756

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

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Big Lots Savings Plan

STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS
YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007

	2008	2007
Additions to net assets attributed to:		
Investment income / (loss):		
Net depreciation in fair value of investments	$(24,442,024)	$(5,926,307)
Dividends	2,062,683	4,372,380
Interest	651,868	610,213
Fee income	401,911	271,169
Total investment loss	(21,325,562)	(672,545)
Contributions:		
Company	5,002,219	5,099,618
Participant	8,916,026	9,306,780
Rollover	325,474	374,557
Total contributions	14,243,719	14,780,955
Total (reductions) / additions	(7,081,843)	14,108,410
Deductions from net assets attributed to:		
Benefits paid to participants	16,084,755	20,834,786
Administrative expenses	224,148	218,209
Fee expense	401,911	271,169
Total deductions	16,710,814	21,324,164
Net decrease in net assets available for benefits	(23,792,657)	(7,215,754)
Net assets available for benefits:		
Beginning of year	147,489,756	154,705,510
End of year	$123,697,099	$147,489,756

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

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Big Lots Savings Plan

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND 2007

A. PLAN DESCRIPTION

The following description of the Big Lots Savings Plan (the “Plan”) provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Plan agreement for a more complete description of the Plan’s provisions.

General — The Plan is a defined contribution plan covering all employees of Big Lots, Inc. and its subsidiaries (the “Company”) who have completed one year of service and have completed 1,000 service hours within the eligibility computation period and have attained 21 years of age. Eligible employees may begin participation on the first day following satisfaction of eligibility requirements.

The purpose of the Plan is to encourage employee savings and to provide benefits to participants in the Plan upon retirement, death, disability, or termination of employment. The Plan is intended to be qualified under Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”), and is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (”ERISA”).

Amendments — During 2007, the Plan was restated and amended to, among other things, permit participants to make Roth after-tax contributions to the Plan as noted under “Contributions” and change the Plan’s definition of compensation to include overtime.

Trustee — Wachovia Bank, N.A. (the “Trustee”) serves as the trustee of the Plan (see Note H).

Administration — The Company has established the Associate Benefits Committee that is responsible for the general operation and administration of the Plan. The Company is the Plan sponsor and a fiduciary of the Plan as defined by ERISA. The Trustee provides recordkeeping services to the Plan.

Contributions — Contributions to the Plan may consist of participant contributions, Company matching contributions, rollover contributions, and profit sharing contributions. Each year, a participant may elect to make a voluntary tax-deferred or after tax contribution up to 50% of their annual compensation (subject to certain limitations for highly compensated individuals), as defined in the Plan. Prior to 2007, the Plan did not allow for after tax contributions. Participants may also rollover amounts representing distributions from other qualified defined benefit or defined contribution plans. Contributions withheld by the Company and remitted to the Plan are participant directed and are limited by the Code to an annual maximum of $15,500 in 2008. Additional contributions of up to $5,000 in 2008 are allowed by the Code for all eligible participants at least age 50 by the end of 2008. The annual Company matching contribution is 100 percent of the first two percent and 50 percent of the next four percent of participant contributions and was allocated to each participant who (a) was an active participant and employed by the Company on December 31 of the Plan year (including a participant who was on approved leave of absence or layoff) and who completed one year of Vesting Service, as defined by the Plan, or (b) who retired, became disabled, or died during the Plan year. Additional profit sharing amounts may be contributed at the option of the Company’s Board of Directors. No profit sharing contributions were made in 2008 or 2007.

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