

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

Mail Stop 3561

March 2, 2017

Mark S. Ashby Chief Financial Officer 2500 Bee Cave Road Building One, Suite 200 Rollingwood, Texas 78746

Re: EZCorp, Inc.

Form 10-K for the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2016

Filed December 14, 2016

File No. 0-19424

Dear Mr. Ashby:

We have reviewed your filing and have the following comments. In some of our comments, we may ask you to provide us with information so we may better understand your disclosure.

Please respond to these comments within ten business days by providing the requested information or advise us as soon as possible when you will respond. If you do not believe our comments apply to your facts and circumstances, please tell us why in your response.

After reviewing your response to these comments, we may have additional comments.

Form 10-K for the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2016

# <u>ITEM 7 — MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL</u> <u>CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS</u>

#### Other Items, page 33

1. Refer to your discussion and analysis of income tax expense (benefit). Based on your effective tax rate reconciliation on page 98, it appears there are other material factors impacting your income tax expense (benefit), such as foreign tax credits and changes in the valuation allowance. Please expand your discussion and analysis in future filings to address all material factors impacting your income tax expense (benefit). Please refer to Item 303(a)(3) of Regulation S-K for guidance.

Mark S. Ashby EZCorp, Inc. March 2, 2017 Page 2

# ITEM 8 — FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

# NOTE 2: CORRECTIONS AND REVISIONS TO PRIOR PERIOD FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, page 68

2. Explain to us in more detail the nature of the errors you disclose in your financial statements. Further, tell us why a restatement and amendment of your previously filed financial statements was unnecessary. Please provide us with your qualitative and quantitative assessment of materiality which supports a conclusion that the adjustments were not material to your historical financial statements.

### NOTE 3: DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS AND RESTRUCTURING, page 72

3. We note that you have notes receivable related to the sale of your equity interest in Grupo Finmart. Tell us what consideration you gave to the timing and probability of receipt in determining the fair value of these receivables, and the measurement of your disposition gain. Tell us what consideration you gave to the provisions of SAB Topic 5E in determining the recognition and measurement of your disposition gain.

# NOTE 6: STRATEGIC INVESTMENTS, page 80

4. Please confirm, if true, that the Company evaluated and does not have any reporting obligations under Rule 3-09 of Regulation S-X with respect to its investment in Cash Converters International.

# NOTE 9: GOODWILL AND OTHER INTANGIBLE ASSETS, page 87

5. We note that you recorded a \$73.2 million goodwill impairment loss related to your Grupo Finmart reporting unit during the quarter ended March 31, 2016. Please tell us in sufficient detail why an impairment occurred in this quarter and was not necessary prior to the three months ended March 31, 2016 such as the quarter ended December 31, 2015, or the year ended September 30, 2015. In this regard, you cite negative developments in bad debt experience at Grupo Finmart which appears to have been the primary factor which triggered the interim impairment test. Please describe and analyze your historical quarterly bad debt experience leading up to this impairment, and what specifically changed in the March 31, 2016 quarter which triggered the interim impairment test and related charge. As part of your response, explain to us what caused the swift decline in the Grupo Finmart reporting unit's fair value since September 30, 2015. Refer to your disclosure on page 79 of your Form 10-K for the year ended September 30, 2015 where you disclose that the fair value of the Grupo Finmart reporting unit exceeded its carrying value by 30% at that time.

Mark S. Ashby EZCorp, Inc. March 2, 2017 Page 3

6. Please explain when the changed circumstances occurred and why there was no cautionary disclosure within your December 31, 2015 Form 10-Q regarding the potential for a material goodwill impairment charge at the Grupo Finmart reporting unit.

# NOTE 13: INCOME TAXES, page 98

- 7. Please revise to disclose the components of income (loss) before income tax expense (benefit) separately as either domestic or foreign. Refer to Rule 4-08(h) of Regulation S-X.
- 8. We note that as of September 30, 2016, you concluded that it was more-likely-than-not that the amount of remaining deferred tax assets recorded would be realized. Further, we note you appear to be in a cumulative three year pre-tax loss position. In light of such cumulative loss, please provide us with your basis for your conclusion that a valuation allowance beyond what you have already recorded is not needed. Refer to ASC 740-10-30-23.

# ITEM 9A — CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

# Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting, page 116

9. We note that in connection with remediation efforts associated with your previously disclosed material weaknesses in your fiscal 2015 Form 10-K, you identified an overstatement of your recorded net tax assets in the third quarter of fiscal 2016. Explain to us the facts and circumstances that lead to the identification of this overstatement. In this regard, tell us what you did differently in the third quarter of fiscal 2016 that enabled you to detect this overstatement. Lastly, tell us how you were able to remediate this material weakness by year end fiscal 2016.

# Annual Incentive Bonus, page 132

- 10. We note your disclosure that you apply a "business performance modifier ranging from 0% to 150% based on the achievement of specified levels of consolidated EBITDA." However, we note that you have not disclosed the targets that must be achieved in order to apply the company performance modifier at a particular level or actual performance under the target. Please disclose this information in future filings or tell us why you do not believe you are required to do so. Please refer to Item 402(b) of Regulation S-K.
- 11. In future filings please provide additional disclosure about how you calculate the annual incentive bonus for each executive officer. For example, provide more detail about the "individual performance modifiers" applicable to each named executive officer. Please refer to Item 402(b)(1)(v) of Regulation S-K.

Mark S. Ashby EZCorp, Inc. March 2, 2017 Page 4

We remind you that the company and its management are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of their disclosures, notwithstanding any review, comments, action or absence of action by the staff.

You may contact Robert Babula, Staff Accountant at (202) 551-3339, or Elizabeth Sellars, Staff Accountant at (202) 551-3348, if you have questions regarding comments on the financial statements and related matters. Please contact Scott Anderegg, Staff Attorney at (202) 551-3342, Lisa Kohl, Legal Branch Chief at (202) 551-3252, or me at (202) 551-3720 with any other questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ Lisa M. Kohl for

Mara L. Ransom Assistant Director Office of Consumer Products