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## **FOR RELEASE AT 7:30 A.M. ET, JULY 6, 2017**

### **JOB CUTS FALL 28 PERCENT IN FIRST HALF OF YEAR**

**CHICAGO, July 6, 2017** – Employers announced plans to cut payrolls by 31,105 jobs in June, the lowest monthly total of the year according to a report released Thursday by global outplacement consultancy Challenger, Gray & Christmas, Inc.

The June job-cut total is 6 percent lower than the 33,092 cuts recorded in May\*, and 19.3 percent lower than the same month last year, when 38,536 cuts were recorded.

The pace of job cutting is significantly slower compared to the first half of last year. Through the first six months of 2017, employers announced 227,000 planned job cuts, down 28 percent from the 313,754 cuts announced through the first half of 2016.

“In a tight labor market, it’s no surprise companies are holding on to their existing workforces. Companies are also waiting to see how proposed regulations from the Trump administration may impact business going forward,” said John Challenger, Chief Executive Officer of Challenger, Gray & Christmas, Inc.

Job cuts in the second quarter totaled 100,799, down 20 percent from the 126,201 cuts announced in the first quarter and 24 percent lower than the 132,834 announced cuts in the second quarter of 2016.

“It is typical to see fewer announced job cuts in the summer months. We have not seen large-scale layoffs this year, as we did in the last two years, especially in the tech and energy sectors,” said Challenger.

*\*Challenger revised May’s number down from 51,692 to 33,092. We reported 20,000 job cuts for Ford. Ford is offering 15,000 buyouts to cut 1,400 workers. Our revision reflects the 1,400 confirmed cuts.*

Indeed, through this point last year, oil prices were blamed for 71,075 announced job cuts. Challenger has not tracked any job cuts due to a downturn in oil prices so far this year.

Meanwhile, companies in the technology industry – computer, electronics, and telecommunications – announced 50,161 job cuts through June 2016, 52.5 percent more than the 23,813 tech sector job cuts so far this year.

“Pivoting in the retail sector has led to job cuts, but we are not yet seeing them at the level they were immediately after and during the recession or in 2003, when online shopping really began to catch on,” said Challenger.

Through June, retailers have announced 60,127 job cuts, 42 percent more than the 42,095 cuts the sector announced through the first half of 2016. It is the highest first-half total since 2009, when retailers announced 85,698 cuts. The sector went on to announce 98,807 job cuts that year, the highest annual total since 2003, when 100,518 retail cuts were recorded.

### Announced Retail Job Cuts

United States									
	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
JAN.	22,491	22,246	6,699	11,394	6,676	12,426	5,755	16,737	53,968
FEB.	11,889	1,096	9,163	3,848	2,279	2,090	8,360	1,534	18,759
MARCH	4,084	8,490	6,640	2,989	16,445	2,175	1,653	2,097	3,821
APRIL	11,669	5,145	3,594	6,993	5,897	2,365	2,900	899	2,927
MAY	5,777	1,287	1,187	472	1,386	1,927	2,944	608	2,657
JUNE	4,217	3,831	17,947	1,167	217	2,807	1,415	4,306	3,566
JULY		1,523	2,532	2,183	1,794	4,135	11,245	812	2,654
AUGUST		1,025	9,601	1,063	873	862	5,901	3,812	890
SEPT.		7,296	2,467	1,965	927	1,519	1,616	441	6,180
OCT.		1,180	5,153	6,874	538	1,013	4,264	1,923	1,643
NOV.		4,850	626	2,640	9,998	1,527	2,285	645	913
DEC.		1,355	249	2,195	2,269	22	2,608	4,937	829
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>60,127</b>	<b>59,324</b>	<b>65,858</b>	<b>43,783</b>	<b>49,299</b>	<b>32,868</b>	<b>50,946</b>	<b>38,751</b>	<b>98,807</b>
<b>2008</b>	81,621								
<b>2007</b>	51,036								
<b>2006</b>	53,419								
<b>2005</b>	84,954								
<b>2004</b>	62,357								
<b>2003</b>	100,518								
<b>2002</b>	98,661								
<b>2001</b>	96,741								
<b>2000</b>	44,831								

Source: Challenger, Gray & Christmas, Inc. ©

“We’ve tracked over 5,000 announced store closings this year, as retailers continue to focus operations online. It is likely we’ll continue to see cuts in the retail sector going forward, but it remains to be seen if they will mirror the cuts that occurred in the 00’s,” said Challenger.

###

**CHALLENGER, GRAY & CHRISTMAS, INC.  
JOB-CUT ANNOUNCEMENT REPORT**

**TOP FIVE INDUSTRIES**

**Year To Date**

	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>Retail</b>	<b>60,127</b>	42,095
<b>Health Care/Products</b>	<b>17,920</b>	10,733
<b>Services</b>	<b>15,415</b>	6,176
<b>Automotive</b>	<b>12,570</b>	8,381
<b>Telecommunications</b>	<b>11,367</b>	6,404

**MONTH-BY-MONTH TOTALS**

	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>January</b>	<b>45,934</b>	75,114
<b>February</b>	<b>36,957</b>	61,599
<b>March</b>	<b>43,310</b>	44,207
<b>April</b>	<b>36,602</b>	64,141
<b>May</b>	<b>33,092</b>	30,157
<b>June</b>	<b>31,105</b>	38,536
<b>July</b>		45,346
<b>August</b>		32,188
<b>September</b>		44,324
<b>October</b>		30,740
<b>November</b>		26,936
<b>December</b>		33,627
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>227,000</b>	<b>526,915</b>

Some reductions are identified by employers as workers who will take early retirement offers or other special considerations to leave the company.

**LAYOFF LOCATION**

**Year To Date**

<b>California</b>	<b>32,630</b>
<b>Texas</b>	<b>21,005</b>
<b>Ohio</b>	<b>20,814</b>
<b>Indiana</b>	<b>17,038</b>
<b>New York</b>	<b>13,777</b>

**CHALLENGER, GRAY & CHRISTMAS, INC.**  
**JOB-CUT ANNOUNCEMENT REPORT**  
**JOB CUTS BY INDUSTRY**

	16-Jun	17-May	17-Jun	YTD 2016	YTD 2017
Aerospace/Defense	575	1,408	791	8,316	8,797
Apparel				352	0
Automotive	1,252	1,671	2,174	8,381	12,570
Chemical	2,782	106	156	10,282	556
Commodities	14			1,098	0
Computer	2,736	1,239	2,715	39,589	9,688
Construction	150		147	1,039	937
Consumer Products	618	1,387	1,798	5,591	4,640
Education	485	1,646	1,727	7,631	9,004
Electronics	1,684	1,100	154	4,168	2,758
Energy	1,979	296	143	77,211	8,778
Entertainment/Leisure	2,049	941	1,061	11,368	6,898
Financial	9,052	254	510	15,802	5,911
Food	2,220	1,537	3,814	9,709	11,462
Government	491	85	719	4,860	6,146
Health Care/Products	1,091	3,054	3,597	10,733	17,920
Industrial Goods	1,936	2,236	1,819	20,342	11,162
Insurance	448	4,212		2,220	5,030
Legal		40		56	131
Media	651	262	635	3,149	2,845
Non-Profit	204		29	1,551	1,159
Pharmaceutical	1,080	243	193	6,246	3,928
Real Estate		197	50	122	505
Retail	3,831	5,777	4,217	42,095	60,127
Services	1,873	4,082	3,070	6,176	15,415
Telecommunications		546	552	6,404	11,367
Transportation	1,188	773	1,034	9,095	7,736
Utility	147			168	1,530
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>38,536</b>	<b>33,092</b>	<b>31,105</b>	<b>313,754</b>	<b>227,000</b>

**CHALLENGER, GRAY & CHRISTMAS, INC.  
JOB-CUT ANNOUNCEMENT REPORT**

**JOB CUTS BY REGION, STATE**

<b>EAST</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>YTD</b>
New York	2,708	13,777
Pennsylvania	1,670	11,977
New Jersey	828	11,407
Massachusetts	0	7,504
Dist. of Columbia	100	2,743
Maine	150	1,705
Maryland	304	1,224
Connecticut	323	1,159
New Hampshire	0	512
Vermont	233	319
Delaware	0	264
Rhode Island	72	72
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,388</b>	<b>52,663</b>

<b>MIDWEST</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Ohio	1,831	20,814
Indiana	372	17,038
Michigan	233	10,618
Illinois	1,394	6,629
Kansas	1,394	2,641
Wisconsin	500	2,491
Minnesota	72	2,003
Missouri	474	1,942
Iowa	143	1,227
Nebraska	66	914
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,479</b>	<b>66,317</b>

**CHALLENGER, GRAY & CHRISTMAS, INC.  
JOB-CUT ANNOUNCEMENT REPORT**

**JOB CUTS BY REGION, STATE**

<b>WEST</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>YTD</b>
California	8,279	32,630
Texas	991	21,005
Washington	861	8,639
Oregon	1,638	2,673
Colorado	318	2,529
New Mexico	0	1,006
Arizona	78	814
South Dakota	0	695
North Dakota	0	269
Oklahoma	108	257
Wyoming	0	222
Alaska	147	196
Utah	0	143
Idaho	0	64
Montana	0	55
Nevada	0	0
Hawaii	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12,420</b>	<b>71,197</b>

<b>SOUTH</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>YTD</b>
N. Carolina	1,096	10,802
Florida	558	8,684
Georgia	519	2,354
Mississippi	762	2,242
S. Carolina	720	2,179
Tennessee	937	2,037
Arkansas	0	1,786
Virginia	528	1,729
Alabama	372	1,407
Kentucky	180	1,399
West Virginia	120	1,302
Louisiana	26	902
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,818</b>	<b>36,823</b>

**CHALLENGER, GRAY & CHRISTMAS, INC.  
JOB-CUT ANNOUNCEMENT REPORT  
JOB CUTS BY REASON**

	<b>June</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Cost-Cutting	17,524	93,126
Closing	7,851	58,436
Restructuring	1,095	37,730
Merger/Acquisition	2,245	10,687
Demand Downturn	50	10,516
Loss of Contract	1,666	7,507
Bankruptcy	87	3,842
Outsourcing	331	2,508
Voluntary Severance	256	1,963
Relocation		685
	<b>31,105</b>	<b>227,000</b>

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**CHALLENGER, GRAY & CHRISTMAS, INC.  
JOB-CUT ANNOUNCEMENT REPORT**

**QUARTER BY QUARTER**

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	TOTAL
1989	9,850	10,100	24,085	67,250	111,285
1990	107,052	87,686	49,104	72,205	316,047
1991	110,056	76,622	147,507	221,107	555,292
1992*	110,815	85,486	151,849	151,850	500,000
1993	170,615	84,263	194,486	165,822	615,186
1994	192,572	107,421	117,706	98,370	516,069
1995	97,716	114,583	89,718	137,865	439,882
1996	168,695	101,818	91,784	114,850	477,147
1997	134,257	51,309	95,930	152,854	434,350
1998	139,140	131,303	161,013	246,339	677,795
1999	210,521	173,027	173,181	118,403	675,132
2000	141,853	81,568	168,875	221,664	613,960
2001	406,806	370,556	594,326	585,188	1,956,876
2002	478,905	292,393	269,090	426,435	1,466,823
2003	355,795	274,737	241,548	364,346	1,236,426
2004	262,840	209,895	251,585	315,415	1,039,735
2005	287,134	251,140	245,378	288,402	1,072,054
2006	255,878	180,580	202,771	200,593	839,822
2007	195,986	197,513	194,095	180,670	768,264
2008	200,656	275,292	287,142	460,903	1,223,993
2009	562,510	318,165	240,233	151,122	1,272,030
2010	181,183	116,494	113,595	118,701	529,973
2011	130,749	115,057	233,258	127,018	606,082
2012	143,094	139,997	102,910	137,361	523,362
2013	145,041	113,891	128,452	121,667	509,051
2014	121,341	124,693	117,374	119,763	483,171
2015	140,214	147,458	205,759	105,079	598,510
2016	180,920	132,834	121,858	91,303	526,915
2017	126,201	100,799			277,000
<b>AVG</b>	<b>198,910</b>	<b>154,023</b>	<b>179,093</b>	<b>200,423</b>	

*\*Estimate based on half-year total. Challenger began tracking job-cut data in 1993. Before that, it was tabulated by an independent newsletter no longer published.*

**CHALLENGER, GRAY & CHRISTMAS, INC.  
JOB-CUT ANNOUNCEMENT REPORT**

**ANNOUNCED HIRING PLANS**

**By Month**

	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
<b>January</b>	<b>136,501</b>	8,362	8,774	6,312	60,585	7,568
<b>February</b>	<b>25,765</b>	7,539	14,574	11,054	92,372	10,720
<b>March</b>	<b>127,006</b>	10,997	6,412	6,860	8,115	12,390
<b>April</b>	<b>61,537</b>	11,557	13,898	11,145	9,322	11,794
<b>May</b>	<b>77,447</b>	24,732	12,598	10,141	9,618	7,722
<b>June</b>	<b>40,095</b>	13,564	11,176	15,530	8,774	12,314
<b>July</b>		16,051	11,637	16,544	9,728	10,350
<b>August</b>		9,101	11,778	9,657	7,662	12,079
<b>September</b>		487,075	492,306	567,705	445,617	425,683
<b>October</b>		135,532	86,107	147,935	87,874	75,065
<b>November</b>		108,994	10,026	11,291	14,177	28,526
<b>December</b>		35,198	11,465	7,332	11,362	16,266
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>468,351</b>	<b>868,702</b>	<b>690,751</b>	<b>821,506</b>	<b>765,206</b>	<b>630,477</b>

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**CHALLENGER, GRAY & CHRISTMAS, INC.  
JOB-CUT ANNOUNCEMENT REPORT**

**ANNOUNCED HIRING PLANS**

<b>INDUSTRY</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>YEAR-TO-DATE</b>
Aerospace/Defense	1,153	8,883
Apparel		492
Automotive		7,987
Chemical	188	263
Commodities		0
Computer	400	110,383
Construction		0
Consumer Products	160	1,124
Education	500	1,425
Electronics		1,650
Energy		854
Entertainment/Leisure	3,035	74,815
Financial		3,222
Food	125	2,432
Government		850
Health Care/Products	100	3,545
Industrial Goods	255	6,202
Insurance	400	950
Legal		0
Media		0
Non-Profit		850
Pharmaceutical		5,660
Real Estate		0
Retail	31,329	194,316
Services	730	4,972
Telecommunications	350	28,346
Transportation	1,370	9,130
Utility		0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>40,095</b>	<b>468,351</b>

*\*Aldi announced 25,000 new positions over the next four years.*

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