

**Exhibit 99**

# **NEWS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **STAGE STORES BOARD DECLARES QUARTERLY CASH DIVIDEND**

HOUSTON, TX, May 30, 2008 - Stage Stores, Inc. (NYSE: SSI) today announced that its Board of Directors has declared a quarterly cash dividend of five cents per share on the Company's common stock, payable on June 25, 2008 to shareholders of record at the close of business on June 10, 2008.

Stage Stores, Inc. brings nationally recognized brand name apparel, accessories, cosmetics and footwear for the entire family to small and mid-size towns and communities through 717 stores located in 35 states. The Company operates under the Bealls, Palais Royal and Stage names throughout the South Central and Southwestern states, and under the Peebles name throughout the Midwestern, Southeastern, Mid-Atlantic and New England states. For more information about Stage Stores, visit the Company's web site at [www.stagestores.com](http://www.stagestores.com).

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