

**NEWS RELEASE
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JOHN MICKELSON ANNOUNCED AS WINNER OF THE 8TH ANNUAL EMERGING LEADERS AWARDS

West Des Moines, Iowa, July 5, 2017 - *The M&A Advisor* announced the winners of the Emerging Leaders Awards on Thursday, June 29th.

The M&A Advisor, renowned globally for its recognition of leading M&A, financing and turnaround professionals, created this event to promote mentorship and professional development amongst the emerging business leaders.

John Mickelson has been chosen for his accomplishments and expertise from a pool of nominees by an independent judging panel of distinguished business leaders.

"The Annual M&A Advisor Emerging Leaders Awards was born as the 40 Under 40 Awards in the United States in 2010 to recognize and celebrate the achievements of young M&A, Financing and Turnaround professionals who had reached a significant level of success and made a notable contribution to their industry and community. With the expansion of the Emerging Leaders program to the United Kingdom, and Europe in 2016, the 2017 US award winners join a truly global network of outstanding young professionals," said David Fergusson, President and Co-CEO of The M&A Advisor.

On Tuesday, September 19th, The M&A Advisor will host a black tie Awards Gala at the New York Athletic Club in Manhattan to introduce the Emerging Leaders Award Winners to the business community and celebrate their achievements.

To view the complete list of this year Emerging Leaders Award Winners [CLICK HERE](#).

"I am proud to accept this award on behalf of our team at Midwest Growth Partners. There is a lack of institutional capital catering to succession planning liquidity and growth capital needs in the Midwest and we feel blessed to have the opportunity to serve that market. I have long admired previous M&A Advisor award recipients and am humbled to join their ranks," said John Mickelson.

Prior to becoming a founding partner of Midwest Growth Partners, John was a Managing Director at The PrivateBank (NASDAQ: PVTB) where he was responsible for identifying and structuring loans for middle-market companies. Before PVTB, John worked as an investment banker for First National Bank of Omaha, where he provided M&A advisory services to middle-market companies and at Goldman Sachs in their asset management division. Starting at 14, John has also owned and operated three small companies.

John received his BBA, MBA, and JD all from the University of Iowa, where he was an Academic All Big 10 selection and letter-winner on the football team.

Away from MGP, John serves as a City Councilman for West Des Moines, a board member for the State of Iowa Historical Society, YPO Iowa and John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center, and is active in his church, St. Francis of Assisi. He is passionate about cycling, but loves nothing more than spending time with his wife Brooke and four boys (Jack, Tucker, Hansen, and Hunter).

THE M&A ADVISOR

Founded in 1998, The M&A Advisor was the first dedicated media company to offer insights and intelligence on mergers and acquisitions. As the world's premier think tank and leadership organization for M&A, restructuring and corporate finance professionals, the firm provides a range of integrated services including: The M&A Advisor Forums and Summits; The M&A Advisor Market Intelligence; M&A.TV.; The M&A Advisor Live; The M&A Advisor Awards; and The M&A Advisor Connects. To learn more about the company's Leadership Services visit www.maadvisor.com

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