

PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

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Advertising Section

ARCHITECTURE / ENGINEERING

Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Chicago

Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates (WJE), a global firm of engineers, architects, and materials scientists, is pleased to announce that **Ed Gerns** has been promoted to Senior Principal. Ed Gerns joined WJE's Chicago office in 1990 and currently serves on the company's Board of Directors. A LEED-accredited architect, his expertise includes the investigation and repair of deteriorated conditions in historic masonry buildings.



BANKING

First Bank Chicago, Northbrook

First Bank Chicago, a Division of First Bank of Highland Park, is a new division that will encompass our existing Middle Market Banking team, which currently serves the entire Chicagoland market. **Anne O'Connor**, Senior Vice President/Managing Director, Middle Market Banking, will support the Bank's expansion strategy by focusing on portfolio development of middle-market commercial loans in addition to delivering financial solutions to clients. She brings 20+ years of commercial banking expertise.



CANNABIS SECTOR

Union Cannabis Group, Chicago

Adam Robins, Chairman of the Board of Bubbies, president of Dobson Avenue Capital Partners and founder of GrowChicago Fund, is joining the advisory board of Union Cannabis Group (UCG Inc.), a leading cannabis manufacturing, brand licensing and consulting company. UCG (owner of the award-winning recreational cannabis brand Dabstrax™) is moving into the CBD space in 2020 and sees this as a strategic time in the cannabis industry to align with the consumer goods market. Robins, longtime Chairman and CEO of a confectionery manufacturing and distribution company, is connected to confectionery manufacturers around the country, most of whom he says are toying with the idea of incorporating CBD in their products: "There's a world waiting for it."



CRAIN

REPRINTS

To order frames or plaques of profiles contact **Lauren Melesio** at lmelesio@crain.com or 212-210-0707

CONSTRUCTION

ACCEND Construction, Chicago

Katie Cherry has joined ACCEND Construction as Project Manager. With over 15 years of construction industry experience and a Masters in Civil Engineering, Cherry brings a wealth of knowledge and commercial construction expertise to ACCEND. She specializes in heavy renovation and high-end interiors. Some of her key clients include The Hyatt, Bloomingdales and Nordstrom. Cherry is dedicated to creating a seamless and fun client experience while enforcing the highest quality and safety measures.



ENERGY

Trane, Chicago

Trane is pleased to announce the promotion of **Nick Hinz** to Regional General Manager, expanding his leadership of the Chicago area into the Dakotas, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. With over 17 years of experience, Nick has helped our commercial clients reduce the energy intensity of the world through HVAC and connected building solutions. Trane is also proud to announce that **Mike Abbott** has been named Area General Manager- Chicago where he will lead the Systems, Controls and Service business streams in the Chicago Market. Mike has been with Trane for 15 years where he most recently was the Systems Sales Manager. He has a proven track record of delivering best-in-class customer-focused leadership and will lead Chicago market growth strategies.



FINANCIAL SERVICES

Plante Moran, Chicago

Plante Moran, one of the nation's largest public accounting and business advisory firms, announces the promotion of **Greg Rief** to leader of the firm's investment company practice. Greg has over 20 years' experience advising investment companies and is active in industry associations including the Illinois Venture Capital Association, the Small Business Investor Alliance and the Association for Corporate Growth. Greg is a partner in the firm's Chicago office.



INSURANCE

National Flood Services, Chicago

National Flood Services (NFS), the largest provider of enterprise flood solutions for the country's top insurers, today appoints **Rick Tighe** as its Managing Director of Growth Strategy. Rick will lead the sales, marketing, and customer success teams to drive growth and innovation and to improve access to flood coverage for insurance agents and homeowners nationwide.



HEALTH CARE

ATI Physical Therapy, Chicago

ATI Physical Therapy (ATI), one of the nation's largest providers of physical therapy services, announced the appointments of **Matt Armiger** and **Shari Dropik-Hernandez** as Regional Vice Presidents (RVP) for ATI's Illinois and Southern regions. With Armiger leading Illinois and Dropik-Hernandez helming the South, the two will become part of a company-wide rollout of new RVP positions across the country. In their respective regions, Armiger and Dropik-Hernandez will develop operations plans, provide guidance on cultivating growth and ensure target earnings are met. The two bring nearly 50 collective years of experience in management and operations at major global brands including Walmart Stores and Starbucks Coffee Company.



HEALTH CARE

Health Management Associates, Chicago

Health Management Associates (HMA) welcomes **Douglas (Doug) L. Elwell**, who most recently served as Medicaid director for the State of Illinois, back to HMA as chief operating officer (COO). This will be Elwell's second tenure with HMA, having previously served as a principal and managing principal in the Indianapolis office from 2003 through 2014. As the company's COO, Elwell will be responsible for consulting activities across the firm's 23 offices. Elwell will be based in HMA's Chicago office.



LAW

Nixon Peabody LLP, Chicago

Nixon Peabody welcomes **Daniel J. Schwartz** as partner in the firm's Intellectual Property practice. Dan is an intellectual property trial lawyer handling complex patent litigation, representing some of the world's largest industrial, medical device, and telecommunications companies. He has argued cases in federal courts and before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office relating to trade secrets, trademark, copyright, and licensing issues. Dan advises clients on technology issues, with extensive experience in: artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning, imaging technologies, medical products, telecommunication networking architecture, GIS/geo-location technologies and database management, and internet-related technologies, among others.



LAW

Nixon Peabody LLP, Chicago

Nixon Peabody welcomes **Jonathan M. Lively** as partner in the firm's Complex Commercial Disputes practice. Jon focuses his practice on defending product manufacturers and property owners who face litigation in areas including toxic tort/asbestos/talc, environmental, products liability, professional liability, transportation, and other civil matters. In jurisdictions nationwide, he oversees all aspects of the litigation process for thousands of matters. He acts as national trial counsel for several of his clients and appears in courts across the country. Outside of his work, Jon serves on the Board of Directors for Chicago Professionals for Parkinson's Research.



LAW FIRM

Benesch, Chicago

Jason Greis joins Benesch as a partner in the Health Care & Life Sciences Practice Group. Jason represents a variety of dialysis and nephrology providers, dialysis vascular access centers, office-based laboratories, physician group practices, and other healthcare providers in structuring mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, accountable care and capitated care arrangements, and syndications implicating various regulatory compliance issues commonly associated with such transactions.



LAW FIRM

Benesch, Chicago

Scott Downing joins Benesch as a partner in the Health Care & Life Sciences Practice Group. Scott focuses on developing the right business and legal structures for healthcare companies, particularly joint ventures among various providers and non-provider third parties. Over the past two decades, he has participated in numerous transactions involving the purchase or sale of healthcare facilities representing both buyers and sellers of such companies.



NON-PROFIT

La Casa Norte, Chicago

Jose M. Muñoz joins La Casa Norte, Chicago's largest provider of wrap-around services for youth and families experiencing homelessness, as Executive Director. With over 20 years' experience in driving social impact through community empowerment, Muñoz will lead La Casa Norte in its vision to end homelessness in Chicago. Muñoz serves as Commissioner of the Chicago Park District appointed by Mayor Lori Lightfoot and is a member of Governor Pritzker's Hispanic Employment Plan Advisory Council.



NON-PROFIT

Keshet, Northbrook

Keshet recently named **Shalom Klein** as Director of External Affairs. In this integral leadership role, Klein will be working to advance both longstanding and new initiatives as the 36-year-old organization looks ahead in expanding opportunities for the thousands of children and adults that Keshet provides educational, recreational, vocational and residential services for. He previously served as Chair of Keshet's Board of Directors.



REAL ESTATE

Landtrust Title Services, Chicago

Carmen Carbonara has worked in the title industry for more than a decade, closing a high volume of transactions over the past year. Coming from a major underwriter, she brings a wealth of experience and strong relationships to the team. Carmen has a reputation in the industry as a passionate collaborator who works closely with attorneys, sellers and realtors to deliver the best customer experience. A board member of the Women's Council of Realtors, Carmen is also a member of several real estate associations.



TECHNOLOGY

MBX Systems, Libertyville

MBX Systems, a Libertyville-based manufacturer of specialized hardware devices designed to deliver complex technology products as an integrated hardware-software solution, has promoted **Chris Tucker** from president to CEO. He joined MBX in 2007 and served in multiple management roles, including Director of Business Development and VP of Customer Engagement, before assuming the presidency in 2018. He succeeds MBX founder Tom Crowley, who remains on the executive management team.



TECHNOLOGY

MBX Systems, Libertyville

In addition to Chris Tucker's new CEO role, MBX Systems has promoted **Carl Nothnagel** from VP of operations to COO and **Dean Thuent** from director of account management to director of channel engagement, a new position created to advance new growth initiatives with strategic channel partners. All three promotions are the culmination of ongoing expansion in MBX's specialized hardware manufacturing business, fueled by value-added services ranging from global logistics, certification and export management to a proprietary interactive toolset that simplifies manufacturing orchestration and supply chain visibility for some of the world's best-known tech companies.

