Forty Under Forty Des Moines Business Record 100 4th Street The Depot at Fourth Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Dear Forty Under Forty Committee:

Please accept my nomination of Mike Barratt as a 2016 Forty Under 40.

The example Mike Barratt sets is what being a Forty Under 40 is all about. I have had the privilege to know Mike both personally and professionally for the past 10 years. He is a good friend that you can always count on. He is a professional of high integrity; who walks his talk and always does right by his clients. He is a member of the community who is committed to adding a great deal of value to those around him and takes action in leadership and support roles with organizations committed to making Central Iowa the best place to live and work for everyone.

One of the things I most appreciate about Mike is his commitment to being the best man he can be. His willingness to "look in the mirror" allows him to continue to grow and develop personally and professionally, allowing him to make the biggest impact possible. But the development and growth doesn't end with him, he is committed to leading, supporting, and helping others do the same.

I can talk about all of Mike's professional successes and the thousands and thousands of dollars he has raised for charities all day long. When I think about what it means to be a Forty Under 40, (local business leaders under the age of 40 who have demonstrated impressive career achievements and unparalleled community involvement) I think about Mike's foundational attitudes and characteristics that have not only led him to be worthy of this recognition today, but the attitudes and characteristics that will lead him to continue to impact others and the Des Moines community for years to come. This isn't a phase in life. He wants to change the world.

I was honored to be a Forty Under 40 in 2014. As I was going through this experience, I remember thinking this is part of the journey, not the end of the journey. This award is validation of a culmination of years of commitment and hard work, but I believe it's a reminder to everyone that there is more to do and it is our responsibility to contribute. Mike Barratt embodies everything being a Forty is all about and I am confident that he will represent this honor well for years to come.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please let me know if I can provide additional value.

Jason Kiesau Leadership and Talent Development Manager Merit Resources, Inc. 515.559.4216

