

Date: 07 January 2015

To : Forty Under 40 Selection Committee
The Depot at Fourth
100 4th St., Des Moines, Iowa 50309

From : Joseph R. Benesh
920 36th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50312

Regarding : Kevin Tiernan Forty Under 40 Recommendation Letter

Esteemed Committee Members:

I am writing to recommend Kevin Tiernan to be a member of the 2015 class of Forty Under 40. I have known and worked alongside Kevin for the past three years in the Downtown Chamber of Commerce, as well as the Partnership's Affiliate President's Council.

Kevin is a consistently caring, diligent, and thoughtful leader who dedicates his time to many organizations throughout greater Des Moines. Through his dedication and vision, the Chamber established a solid foundation in the downtown community that continues to build to this day.

His efforts at the helm of the Affiliate President's Council changed the dynamic of that group, leading to increased collaborations between the different chambers of commerce and changed the nature of conversations had between these groups, which are at the root of economic development in Des Moines. I am certain that Kevin's efforts at the Partnership made a significant and positive impact and were appreciated at the staff, chamber member, and community levels.

I am also proud to call Kevin a friend. His willingness to help others and make himself available for the good of the person or organization demonstrates another facet of his leadership style. He is thoughtful and considerate in his dealings with others and gives his time generously. The mix of empathy and the ability to execute a strategic vision is rare and Kevin excels in balancing the two.

Kevin is a very important and exceptional part of the downtown and the greater Des Moines community. I highly recommend Kevin for the honor and privilege of being a part of the 2015 class.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joseph R. Benesh', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Joseph R. Benesh
Forty Under 40, Class of 2014