

May 24, 2016

I am writing this letter of recommendation in support of Jackie Johansen for the Meredith Emerging Business Woman of the Year.

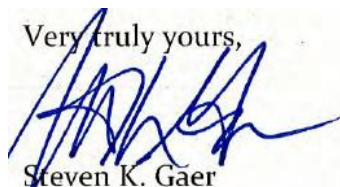
I have known and worked with Jackie for more than four years at R&R Realty Group in West Des Moines, Iowa. During this time I have seen her learn and thrive in the commercial real estate market, being successful in several ventures and partnerships. Jackie's leadership and knowledge was recognized recently when she was asked to be a panelist for a commercial real estate market trends event sponsored by The Business Record. Jackie is driven and goal oriented, while maintaining her approachability and positive attitude. She is an exceptional communicator with people of all levels, and maintains her integrity and ethical standards in every situation. Jackie looks for every opportunity to advance her knowledge and education, and has attended seminars in state and out of state, and she also uses these events to expand her business network. Also, Jackie is very adept at establishing meaningful relationships with people who can make a difference.

Jackie's desire for leadership positions is very apparent. She is an Executive with CREW Iowa (Commercial Real Estate Women) and was nominated for CREW Board President for the national CREW network. She is currently serving or has served on several Boards, including Girls Scouts of Central Iowa, Orchard Place, IWLC Invest in She, and various others. Jackie has participated in the West Des Moines Leadership Academy, the R&R Investors Leadership Academy, and also the Pella Corporation Leadership Academy.

While Jackie has achieved great success in the business world, she is also very involved in the community. In addition to the positions listed above, she is also a regular volunteer for Meals from the Heartland, Booster Pack, Youth Emergency Services & Shelter of Iowa, Rebuilding Together, and many other organizations.

I have had the opportunity recently to be a mentor for Jackie. In our one-on-one mentoring sessions, it is very apparent that Jackie wants to be successful in her family life, business ventures, and in her volunteering interest. She has the drive and work ethic to be successful in all areas of her life.

Very truly yours,



Steven K. Gaer  
Mayor

