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The Pepper Companies Appoints New Board Member

Graham Grady joins the privately held company's advisory team



CHIGAGO, Il – January 26, 2021 The Pepper Companies today announced the appointment of Graham Grady to its board of directors effective February 2021.

Mr. Grady is a partner in the law firm of Taft, Stettinius & Hollister, LLP where he specializes in real estate development, government relations and corporate governance. Mr. Grady has extensive experience advising developers and property owners in all sectors including commercial, residential, industrial, office, retail, healthcare, hospitality, convention and tourism, data centers, education, environmental and institutional.

"Graham's expertise in the Chicago real estate industry will be a tremendous asset to our board." says Stan Pepper, CEO of The Pepper Companies, which owns Pepper Construction.

Mr. Grady is vice chair, trustee and treasurer of the Lloyd A. Fry Foundation, which seeks to build the capacity of people and organizations that address persistent problems of urban Chicago and is a founding member of the African American Legacy of the Chicago Community Trust. He serves as a director of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra Association, WTTW/WFMT public broadcast stations, the Shriver National Poverty Law Center, a former member of the Visiting Committee of Northwestern University School of Law. Mr. Grady is a member of the Commercial Club of Chicago, a past president of the Realty Club of Chicago and the Lawyers Club of Chicago and is a long-standing member of the Economic Club of Chicago. He serves on the Leadership Advisory Council and the Architecture and Design Committee of the Art Institute of Chicago and founded Chicago African-Americans in Commercial Real Estate which promotes the full participation of African-Americans in all aspects of commercial real estate. Mr. Grady is also a founding principal of the Chicago Emerging Minority Development Initiative which seeks to create opportunities for Black and Latinx real estate developers.

Mr. Grady is a frequent lecturer on land use and zoning and is a former member of the faculty of the American Law Institute-American Bar Association Land Use Institute. His past honors include Leadership Greater Chicago Fellow, Crain's Chicago Business 40-Under-40, Ebony Magazine 30 Leaders Under Age 30, and the Doris B. and Marshall M. Holleb Community Service Award by Lambda Alpha International, Ely Chapter.

Mr. Grady is a graduate of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where he was elected as the Student Trustee to the Board of Trustees. Mr. Grady earned his law degree at Northwestern University School of Law where he was elected by his graduating class to receive the Wigmore Key for service.

Pepper Construction represents some of the most advanced thought leadership in our industry. By integrating their high-performance, lean and technological expertise into the company's operational processes, Pepper is transforming the future. Ranked as one of the top builders of sustainable projects in the nation, Pepper serves clients in a variety of markets such as healthcare, education, commercial interiors, manufacturing and industrial, civic and cultural, data centers, entertainment, hospitality and gaming, among others. Some of the firm's recent and current work includes the transformation of the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Gardens into the world's first Net Zero zoo; Starbuck's Roastery, the BMO Harris Office and Retail Bank, Titletown Flats, the Community Hospital East Campus Redevelopment, Purdue University's Veterinary Medicine Teaching Hospital, and Rolls-Royce's Reinvestment and Modernization of Manufacturing Operations. For more information, please visit <u>www.pepperconstruction.com</u>.