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Gotham Private Equity Partners, L.P. Announces Its Formation as a New York-Based Private Equity Firm

NEW YORK--([BUSINESS WIRE](#))--Gotham Private Equity Partners, L.P. ("Gotham") announced its formation as a New York-based private equity firm focused on middle-market and lower middle-market companies. Gotham is focused on originating, executing and managing proprietary private equity transactions, and providing strategic advisory services to ensure the long-term success of its partners. The firm is comprised of a cohesive team of investment professionals who have worked together continuously since 2001 and who have achieved a strong investment record during their many years of investing. Gotham's principals began their careers in CIBC's Leveraged Finance and Merchant Banking Group and then helped establish Trimaran Capital Partners, a \$1.0 billion private equity fund.

Gotham's combined private equity and leveraged finance experience provides "real-life" insight into the many challenges that arise in successfully structuring, executing and managing private equity transactions. Since 1997, the principals have been involved in over 50 private equity transactions in a variety of industries including consumer, energy services, financial services, industrial and manufacturing, media, restaurants and retail and transportation.

Previous investments in which Gotham principals were involved include, among others: El Pollo Loco, a leading quick-service restaurant chain with over 400 locations; Reddy Ice Group, the nation's largest producer of packaged ice; Standard Steel, an integrated manufacturer of steel wheels and axles for the railcar industry; and SuperNova Shipping, a leading dry bulk shipping provider.

Gotham combines its industry expertise and deal structuring experience to acquire middle-market companies at compelling valuations. It seeks to invest in a variety of transactions and structures including: traditional leveraged buyouts partnering with superior management teams in companies that have recurring earnings and significant cash flow; growth equity for less mature but promising companies

that exhibit favorable growth characteristics and have a differentiated strategy or defensible market position; buy-and-build and roll-up strategies in fragmented industries where Gotham has a domain expertise; and family-owned and operated businesses that are seeking capital for further growth or that do not have a developed succession plan.

David Benyaminy, a Managing Principal of Gotham, commented, “We are extremely pleased to be establishing Gotham Private Equity Partners and believe that the current market environment has set the stage for experienced investors to provide value-added capital in a variety of situations across a number of industries. By utilizing our industry expertise and extensive network of executives and entrepreneurs, we believe that Gotham will be able to originate a number of compelling opportunities for our partners.”

Through its extensive network of strategic capital partners – including high net worth partners and family offices – Gotham is able to provide value-added capital for compelling opportunities. Gotham’s platform provides a full alignment of interest, transparency and communication. This unique, differentiated and creative approach leads Gotham and its partners to successful transactions and compelling returns.

Steven Flyer, a Managing Principal of Gotham, added “The support and commitment of a number of high net worth families and entrepreneurs, who are partners in our firm and who will be investors in businesses that we acquire, provide Gotham with unique operational and strategic insight. With this partnership in place, we believe that Gotham offers a value-added approach to private equity.”

Joining Benyaminy and Flyer in the formation of Gotham are Gregory Prata and Daniel Gaspar, Vice Presidents and founders of the firm. The four have been working together for a number of years, first at Trimaran Capital and later at a family office prior to formally establishing Gotham. Kyce Chihi, a former leveraged finance professional at Deutsche Bank, has been working with the team for several years and is a founder and Senior Associate of the firm. The team has proven experience investing and managing capital through market and economic cycles.

Steven Flyer concluded, “Our team respects each other personally and professionally. Each member has private equity experience coupled with a distinct financial background that provides for different viewpoints and open dialogue on every opportunity that we analyze.

Our partnership-first philosophy, alignment of interest with our strategic capital partners, and differentiated approach will allow us to provide value-added services to all of our partners.”

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