

CapitalLinkSM

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Title: Market Turmoil: Disaster or Opportunity?
Category: Luncheon Meeting
Location: The Standard Club, 320 S. Plymouth Ct.
Start Date: December 9, 2008
End Date: December 9, 2008
City: Chicago
Description:

Market Turmoil: Disaster or Opportunity?

Date: December 9, 2008
Place: The Standard Club 320 S. Plymouth Ct. Chicago
Time: 11:30 am – 1:30 pm Please note due to the panel format and expected Q&A, this luncheon is expected to run till 1:30 pm.

Panelists

Thomas P. Danis, Jr., Managing Principal, RCP Advisors
Harris Smith, Managing Partner, Grant Thornton LLP
Sam Tinaglia, Principal, William Blair & Company

Our panel of senior level executives from leading market participants will discuss the following topics relating to the current market condition:

- **How did we get here?**
 - Discussion on specific asset/liability problems that drove value declines.
 - Bear Stearns, Lehman, and Merrill Lynch: were their problems the same?
 - How much more is to come?
 - Historical parallels.
- **What are some of the implications of investment bank consolidation?**
 - Impact on underwriting, credit availability and M&A.
 - Impact on private equity firms and hedge funds.
 - What new regulatory oversight should be expected?
- **What, if any, investment opportunities result from this market turbulence?**
- **How is private equity likely to change over the near and long term?**

Thomas P. Danis, Jr., is a Co-Founder and Managing Principal of RCP Advisors, a \$1.5 billion private equity fund of funds headquartered in Chicago. Tom leads the manager research / investment sourcing function and, as a member of the firm's investment committee, he is also responsible for the evaluation and monitoring of

investments. Tom is a frequent speaker at industry conferences and events and often quoted on private equity trends and issues in leading industry journals. Prior to Co-Founding RCP, Mr. Danis was a Director of Aon's Financial Sponsors Practice where he was responsible for advising companies on the financial, legal and risk management issues surrounding due diligence, structuring and valuation of transactions primarily from a liability perspective.

Mr. Danis is a member of ACG, CAPEX, The Commonwealth Club, The Executives Club of Chicago and has been involved in the private equity industry for over 12 years. Tom serves on the advisory boards of private equity funds sponsored by Sterling Capital Partners, Wingate Partners, Prairie Capital, and Chicago Growth Partners. Mr. Danis also serves as a director of the Western Golf Association, which is the largest independent sponsor of college sponsorships in the U.S. and was previously a member of the board of Chicago Children's Charities.

Mr. Danis earned his B.S. in Business Administration from the University of Colorado. Tom is married with 3 children and resides in Winnetka.

Harris Smith, is the Managing Partner of Private Equity and Strategic Relationships with Grant Thornton LLP. Harris is responsible for the development and enhancement of strategic relationships for the firm including working closely with private equity firms and their portfolio companies. These relationships will serve to further elevate the Firm's reputation and to create relationships with key influences to deal with challenges in the marketplace and to enhance their brand. Harris is a member of the Firm's National Leadership Team and the Sponsor of Grant Thornton's Women's Initiative.

Mr. Smith has more than 30 years of industry and public accounting experience. Harris started his career in the Baltimore office of Grant Thornton in 1976. Harris was later promoted to partner and in 1989 he relocated to the Southern California office to head up the Audit Practice. In 1998, Harris was promoted to the Office Managing Partner of the Greater Bay Area offices, and in 2003 he became the West Region Managing Partner. In 2008, Harris became the Managing Partner of Private Equity and Strategic Relationships.

Mr. Smith is Director, Executive Committee member and Chairman of the Association for Corporate Growth. Harris served as President (2003) and Director of the San Francisco Chapter of the ACG beginning in 2000. Harris is a member of the California Society of Certified Public Accountants and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Harris graduated from the University of Baltimore with a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting. Harris resides in Los Angeles with his wife and twins.

Sam Tinaglia joined the M&A group at William Blair & Company in 1999 and has been a Principal since 2001. Sam is co-head of the firms' Commercial & Industrial practice and has extensive public and private transaction experience across numerous industrial verticals including distribution, metal-working and manufacturing. Prior to joining Blair, Sam worked at both Robert W. Baird & Co., and Kidder, Peabody & Co. Sam has completed over 125 M&A and financing transactions.

Mr. Tinaglia holds an M.B.A. from UCLA and an A.B. from The University of Chicago (European History).

Questions please contact ACG Chicago at 630-455-1740

Registration Fees

\$40.00 ACG Members pre-registered by Dec. 5
 \$50.00 ACG Members registered after Dec. 5
 \$55.00 Non-ACG Members registered by Dec. 5
 \$65.00 Non-ACG Members registered after Dec. 5

Cancellation Policy

All cancellations received in writing to Chicagoacg@acg.org no later than 5pm, Dec. 8 will receive full credit. There are no refunds on cancellations received after 5pm on Dec. 8. All no shows will be invoiced. Payment is expected at the time of registration.

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