



ALEXANDRIA, VA – Ten investor relations (IR) professionals have earned the Investor Relations Charter (IRC®) credential awarded by the Certification Council of the National Investor Relations Institute (NIRI).

Representing the sixth class of IRC credential holders, there are now a total of 143 IRC holders worldwide. These IR professionals successfully completed the IRC examination offered in early March. A complete list of this latest IRC class is at the end of this news release.

The IRC program defines the profession of investor relations through the IR Competency Framework, and provides IR professionals with the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge, expertise, and commitment to the profession. The IRC is the only U.S. professional IR credential, and the program is dedicated to advancing the practice of investor relations and the professional competency and stature of IR professionals.

"Congratulations to this group of dedicated investor relations professionals who have earned the IRC," said NIRI President and CEO Gary A. LaBranche, FASAE, CAE. "I commend them for taking time out of their busy schedules to prepare for the IRC exam and for joining the rapidly growing network of IRC holders."

To be eligible to earn and maintain the IRC credential, candidates must meet educational and professional experience requirements, adhere to the IRC Code of Conduct and to NIRI's Code of Ethics, pass the IRC exam, and participate in ongoing professional development activities.

NIRI is now accepting applications to sit for the June 16-23, 2018, testing window. Program information and applications are available on the NIRI website: <a href="www.niri.org/certification">www.niri.org/certification</a>. The initial application deadline for the June testing window is April 27. The IRC exam also will be offered during November 13-20, 2018.

NIRI is also rolling out a series of enhancements to the IRC program this year to increase the value of the credential, create more awareness, and improve the overall experience for IRC applicants. Among these new features is a digital badge, which will list the competencies demonstrated to earn the IRC certification. This digital badge allows IRC holders to easily share their accomplishment with their social and professional networks via over 200 platforms including LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter.

March 2018 IRC Class

Michele Backman, IRC Christopher A. Chaney, IRC Loren J. Dargan, IRC Lisa M. Goodman, IRC Gregg M. Lampf, IRC Angeline C. McCabe, IRC David L. Mordy, IRC Lori K. Owen, IRC Timothy R. Sedabres, IRC Miranda Weeks, IRC About the National Investor Relations Institute (NIRI)

Founded in 1969, NIRI is the professional association of corporate officers and investor relations consultants responsible for communication among corporate management, shareholders, securities analysts and other financial community constituents. NIRI is the largest professional investor relations association in the world with more than 3,300 members representing over 1,600 publicly held companies and \$9 trillion in stock market capitalization.

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