



ACG Atlanta recognizes Ed Croft as its inaugural Legend Award

Awards will be presented at the Atlanta History Center on November 13th at the 2018 Deals of the Year Celebration featuring Ben Stein

ATLANTA – October 12, 2018 – The Atlanta Chapter of The Association for Corporate Growth® (ACG), a global professional organization with the mission of Driving Middle-Market Growth®, recognizes Ed Croft for his contributions and legacy in the Atlanta deal making community.

Mr. Croft began his career on Wall Street in 1969 after serving as an officer in the U.S. Army following college. In 1971, he joined The Robinson-Humphrey Company in Atlanta and played an important role in building that firm into a leading investment bank in the Southeast. In 1996, he and his partner, Ted Bender, saw an opportunity to build a new firm focused on helping emerging and middle-market growth companies with merger & acquisition and capital-raising advisory services. Croft & Bender (“C&B”) has grown to be one of the most well-known independent investment banking firms in the Southeast, while its affiliated private equity fund, C&B Capital, has invested in 40 companies across three funds.

“Ed Croft exemplifies ACG Atlanta’s vision for this award,” said Patrick Putman, Chairman of the Board of Directors of ACG Atlanta. “He has had an incredible and lasting impact on the business community in Atlanta, and on the Investment Banking and Private Equity industries overall. We are delighted to present him with this well-deserved honor.”

Ed Croft remarked, “I am truly honored to be the first recipient of the ACG Atlanta 'Legend Award'. My five decades of investment banking have largely been dedicated to supporting good growth businesses in the Southeast. As a result, I have been privileged to participate in the dynamic growth and success of Atlanta and its business community. My thanks to ACG for helping take Atlanta to the next level.”

“We obviously could not be more proud of one of our namesake's recognition by ACG,” noted C&B Managing Director, Steve Tye. “Ed has served as a role model for so many in our community throughout his career, demonstrating not only how to put deals together, but also how to treat people in the process. We could not think of a more deserving recipient for this inaugural award.”

The ACG Atlanta Deals of the Year Award event recognizes outstanding transactions or IPOs completed from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 that have had a major impact on business in Atlanta and the region. The 2018 committee is led by Danielle Cheung, Atlanta Market Executive for Bank of America Merrill Lynch and consists of esteemed Atlanta business leaders and deals are considered based on but not limited to the following criteria: strategic execution, significant value, potential economic development impact in Atlanta, potential for incredible local and global financial impact, and the involvement of key Atlanta investors, executives, and serial entrepreneurs. The Legend Award is an additional recognition provided to a business leader whose impact has transcended any particular timeframe and continues to influence all deal makers in the community.

ACG Atlanta will present the award on November 13th at the Atlanta History Center following a Keynote by famed Economist Ben Stein.

About ACG Atlanta

The Association for Corporate Growth (ACG) comprises more than 14,500 members from corporations, private equity, finance, and professional service firms representing Fortune 500, Fortune1000, FTSE 100, and mid-market companies in 59 chapters in North America and Europe. Founded in 1974, ACG Atlanta is one of the oldest and most active chapters, providing the area's executives and professionals a unique forum for exchanging ideas and experiences concerning organic and acquisitive growth. Programs include Atlanta ACG Capital Connection, The Georgia Fast 40 Honoree Awards and Gala, a Wine Tasting Reception, a Deal of the Year event as well as an active Women's Forum and Young Professionals group. For more information, visit: acgatlanta.org or connect with ACG Atlanta via [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Twitter](#).

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