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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

VETERAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPER RODRICK T. MILLER LAUNCHES FIRM TO FOCUS ON UNIQUE NEEDS OF URBAN CENTERS

WASHINGTON (September 18, 2017) – Respected economic development authority Rodrick T. Miller today announced the official launch of ASCENDANT GLOBAL, a boutique consulting firm offering a wide range of economic development services. The former head of organizations New Orleans and Detroit and senior executive in Phoenix, made the announcement as the International Economic Development Conference was just getting underway in Toronto.

“I recognized a gap in the market,” said Miller. “That is, there are no consulting firms that really offer the full breadth of economic development services with a keen focus on urban centers.” Supported by a robust team of seasoned practitioners, ASCENDANT GLOBAL’s work will focus on economic competitiveness, disaster recovery and economic resilience, economic inclusion, corporate growth, organizational development, and real estate and place-making.

ASCENDANT GLOBAL has been operating since April 2017 with offices in Detroit; New Orleans; Washington, DC; Atlanta and Medellin, Colombia. The firm manages diverse projects in the United States and Latin America and serves governments, economic development organizations, foundations, think tanks, real estate developers and neighborhood organizations. Its client roster includes such national leaders as Living Cities and the Wallace Center at Winrock International.

Miller further shared that movement in indicators such as population trends, job growth, poverty and social change all hinge on a city’s ability to deliver opportunities to earn income and build wealth for members of its communities. Avenues to achieving this include real estate development, small business and entrepreneurship, corporate attraction and workforce development. As such, ASCENDANT GLOBAL is focused on helping cities solve a wide range of challenges. Miller touts that his team has experience tackling an array of challenges including rebuild blighted neighborhoods, putting underemployed populations back to work, building ecosystems to support high-growth companies, and attracting global investment.

Courtney Pogue, former director of economic development for Clayton County Georgia and former deputy director of economic development for Cook County in Chicago, is leading ASCENDANT GLOBAL’s

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Real Estate and Economic Development Practice. Pogue says he joined the firm because of his belief that communities are searching for new solutions, and most consulting firms offer cookie cutter approaches and rehashed answers. He wanted to be a part of an organization that engaged communities thoughtfully, worked in partnership to find answers, understood economic inclusion as a central element to success, and would allow him to roll up his sleeves and do the work.

For more information on ASCENDANT GLOBAL and its team, call (202) 888.1763 or visit the firm's website at ascendantgc.com.

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