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Meagan Hardcastle is a strategic advisor serving owners and managers of privately held companies in the lower middle market. Her areas of expertise include performance improvement, profit maximization, growth strategies, interim CEO and CRO leadership, turnarounds and crisis management, project management, corporate finance, loan workouts, debt restructuring, refinancing transactions, financial due diligence, business valuation and exit planning. She has worked with middle market clients across a wide variety of industries.

Ms. Hardcastle has been recognized as a leading professional in her field and has received several industry awards including “*Turnaround of the Year*” awards from both the Turnaround Management Association and the M&A Advisor for her work as interim CEO and Chief Restructuring Officer of a troubled company. She was named “*Turnaround Professional of the Year*” by the M&A Advisor in 2012, and received the “*Manufacturing Business-to-Business Financing Deal of the Year*” award in 2007. Ms. Hardcastle was honored as an international award winner at the M&A Advisor’s inaugural “40 Under 40” event, and she has also been featured in D-Business Magazine’s “30 in Their Thirties” and Crain’s Detroit Business “40 Under 40”.

Prior to co-founding Harmon Partners, Ms. Hardcastle was a Director in the Strategic Advisory practice at a boutique middle market consulting firm, where she focused on turnaround and performance improvement, corporate finance transactions, commercial litigation support, and complex business valuation. She began her career in the banking industry at Bank One in Detroit, first as a Credit Analyst underwriting transactions in the Commercial Banking, Commercial Real Estate, and Managed Assets departments, and later as a Middle Market Commercial Banker. Ms. Hardcastle also served as a Commercial Real Estate Investment Specialist at Grubb & Ellis Company, where she provided advisory services related to commercial real estate investments.

Ms. Hardcastle holds a Masters degree in Business Administration from the Chicago Booth Graduate School of Business with concentrations in Finance and Strategic Management. She is also a Summa Cum Laude graduate of Wayne State University’s Business School, having earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Corporate Finance and Investment Finance. She now serves as Chairperson of the Board of Visitors for Wayne State University’s School of Business, and previously led the Board’s Strategic Planning Committee. Ms. Hardcastle is a Certified Turnaround Professional (CTP) and a Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE). She also holds the Certified Valuation Analyst (CVA) designation for business valuation, and is a Certified Exit Planning Advisor (CEPA).

Ms. Hardcastle served as President of the Michigan Chapter of the Turnaround Management Association (TMA) for the 2014-2015 term, and served for six years the Chapter’s Board of Directors. She formerly served as both Treasurer and Chair of its Programs Committee. She also currently serves as Vice-President and on the Board of Directors of the Michigan Chapter of the Commercial Finance Association (CFA). Ms. Hardcastle has published articles in The Secured Lender, The ABL Journal, Lawyer’s Weekly, The Journal of Corporate Renewal, and D-Business Magazine. She has also been a keynote speaker, panelist, and panel moderator at a number of industry events, and is a member of several professional organizations including MACPA and RMA.