

Media Contact: Robin Bear, Vice President
Direct Line: (201) 478-5261
rbear@dakgroup.com

TO THE EDITOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**LISA STERN JOINS THE DAK GROUP; SIGNALS FURTHER EXPANSION
INTO RESTRUCTURING ADVISORY/DISTRESSED M & A MARKET**

Rochelle Park, NJ: The DAK Group, a New Jersey-based investment bank, announced today that Lisa Stern has joined the firm as a Managing Director. Ms. Stern will focus on expanding the firm's restructuring advisory and distressed mergers and acquisitions practice.

According to Ms. Stern, "I am thrilled to be affiliated with a leader in middle market investment banking transactions. Over the past 25 years, The DAK Group has developed a unique niche and stellar reputation for transactional services in this market. I will look to capitalize on this reputation in seeking to grow the firm's troubled company advisory business."

Alan Scharfstein, President of The DAK Group commented, "Ms. Stern has over 20 years of experience in investment banking, deal restructuring, workouts, DIP, senior and mezzanine lending and investment management. Her extensive financial structuring and negotiating experience enables her to provide unique insight to DAK's clients. She is a generalist with knowledge of a broad array of industries and an ability to understand complex business issues rapidly."



Prior to joining DAK, Ms. Stern was a partner at Gradient Partners, a special situations hedge fund. Previously, she created and ran a proprietary special situations and mezzanine lending portfolio for ORIX USA. Ms. Stern also was a Senior Vice President at First Union where she invested proprietary capital in special situation investments, managed bank workout assignments and assessed and executed debtor-in-possession, exit and turnaround lending opportunities.

Ms. Stern received an AB in history from Cornell University, an MBA in finance from New York University and a JD from Brooklyn Law School. She is admitted to the New York State Bar and holds Series 79, 7 and 63 licenses from FINRA.

About The DAK Group

Since 1984, The DAK Group has executed more than 500 transactions across a wide range of industries, including industrial manufacturing and distribution, telecommunications and technology, business services, packaging, consumer products and healthcare. As a leading investment bank serving the middle market, it offers unparalleled experience in the areas of mergers and acquisitions, financial restructuring, capital advisory, valuations and fairness opinions.

For further information, please contact:

Robin Bear, Vice President

The DAK Group

(201) 478-5261

rbear@dakgroup.com

#

