

# Howard & Howard

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## NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

### **CRAIN'S DETROIT BUSINESS NAMES HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEY JOSEPH J. DEVITO 'DEAL MAKER OF THE YEAR – ADVISOR CATEGORY' AS PART OF THE 2014 M&A AWARDS**

*Royal Oak, Michigan, March 31, 2014:* *Crain's Detroit Business*, in partnership with the Association for Corporate Growth – Detroit Chapter, recently named Howard & Howard's **Joseph J. DeVito** 'Deal Maker of the Year – Advisor Category' as part of the 2014 M&A Awards.

Now in its seventh year, *Crain's* M&A awards honors winners and finalists, recognizing top merger and acquisition deals. The awards will be presented 5-9 p.m. April 16 in cooperation with the Detroit chapter of the Association for Corporate Growth.

**Joseph J. DeVito** concentrates his practice on business and financial transactions and real estate matters, including: mergers, acquisitions and reorganizations of business entities; complex commercial and real estate lending and restructuring transactions; international business transactions; real estate sale and leasing transactions; securities law and private placements and healthcare related corporate matters.

Mr. DeVito formerly served as Assistant General Counsel responsible for mergers and acquisitions for ThyssenKrupp in North America, and has also served as interim general counsel for corporate clients in the automotive, technology and service industries, and in such capacity has advised members of management on all aspects of corporate, financial and real estate transactions (both domestic and international) and securities issues. His experience includes negotiation and consummation of mergers and acquisitions, formation of new subsidiaries and joint ventures including certified Minority Business Enterprises, negotiation and drafting licensing, e-commerce and other I.P. related agreements, negotiation and drafting of real estate purchase and leasing agreements and various aspects of securities transactions and regulatory compliance. Mr. DeVito's former firms include Dinsmore & Shohl (Cincinnati) and Butzel Long (Bloomfield Hills).

Mr. DeVito is the former assistant editor of the *Michigan International Lawyer*, and has authored various articles for the *Michigan Business Law Journal*. He is a frequent lecturer at ICLE and industry group seminars on various topics, such as mergers and acquisitions, corporate and real estate financing related matters.

Mr. DeVito is a graduate of Wayne State University Law School (LL.M. Corporate Finance, 2005), Wayne State University Law School (J.D., *cum laude*, 1995) and Michigan State University, James Madison College (B.A. of International Relations – Economics Emphasis, 1992). He is an alumnus of The Hague Academy of Private International Law.

Mr. DeVito is admitted to practice in Michigan and Illinois, and is admitted but inactive in Ohio. He is also admitted to practice before the U.S. Court of International Trade located in New York. Mr. DeVito splits his time between the firm's Royal Oak and Chicago Offices.

*Howard & Howard is your go-to firm for M&A deals. Our top ranked M&A group offers scalable resources and vast industry expertise to cover every aspect of your M&A transactions from qualifying buyers, IP due diligence and negotiation of deal documents, to post-closing integration. Applying innovative thinking and trusted insight, we deliver deals from the millions to the billions to help make your merger, acquisition or divestiture successful and cost effective – every time.*

*Founded in 1869, Howard & Howard is a full-service law firm with a national and international practice that provides legal services to businesses and business owners. The firm has offices in Michigan (Ann Arbor and Royal Oak); Illinois (Chicago and Peoria); and Las Vegas, Nevada. Howard & Howard's major areas of practice expertise include: bankruptcy and creditors' rights; business and corporate; commercial litigation; employee benefits; environmental; estate planning; intellectual property; labor, employment and immigration; mergers and acquisitions; real estate; securities and tax. Our focused expertise provides us with a solid understanding of the industries we serve, including, automotive and industrial; construction; energy and utilities; financial services; gaming; healthcare; and hospitality. For more information, please visit the firm's website at [www.howardandhoward.com](http://www.howardandhoward.com).*

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