

June, 2017

SLATE Partners Advises Republic Elite on Merger with LDC Stone, Inc.

DENVER – SLATE Partners (SLATE) announced today that its Principals advised Republic Elite, LLC (Republic Elite), a portfolio company of FC Crestone, LLC (previously known as FirstCity Crestone LLC) on its merger with LDC Stone, Inc., the parent company of granite and cabinet suppliers L'arte Della Cucina, European Granite & Marble, and Marva.

Republic Elite is a one-stop provider of cabinets and stone countertops exclusively to the multi-family residential market. The Company has created a differentiated, turnkey solution specifically tailored to the complex needs of multi-family developers across the country. Republic Elite is headquartered in Addison, Texas and maintains end-to-end manufacturing capabilities in its cabinet production facility in East Texas. The Company manages a complex supply chain of domestic and international suppliers, fabricators and importers to source best-in-class granite, quartz and marble countertops. Further, Republic Elite has differentiated itself by providing full-service installation management for all of its projects.

“The fast-growing multifamily residential market demands we grow and evolve quickly to offer our clients customized, one-stop cabinet and countertop solutions. SLATE has been an invaluable advisor, providing strategic consulting and insightful advice, strategy and direction. SLATE’s industry expertise ultimately allowed us to identify a partner that will enable Republic Elite to greatly expand its product offering and geographic footprint”, remarked Duane Pekar, President and CEO of Republic Elite.

Jason Munoz, co-founder of SLATE Partners added, *“By providing a unique, end-to-end cabinet and countertop solution, Republic Elite has emerged as a clear leader in the multi-family sector. The Company’s proven track-record providing a worry-free interior solution has allowed it to secure loyal, long-standing relationships with the industry’s preeminent developers, owners, contractors and architects. It was a pleasure working with FirstCity Crestone and the Republic Elite management team in this process.”*

Republic Elite received legal counsel from Bryan Cave LLP, Robertson & Robertson Law Group PLLC and Thompson & Knight LLP; and accounting support from RKL LLP and Laurus Transaction Advisors.

About SLATE Partners

SLATE Partners is a boutique investment banking firm with the exclusive mission to provide mergers and acquisitions advisory services to building materials and building services companies nationwide. This specifically includes manufacturers, distributors, and producers of both natural and manufactured building materials. It also includes building services companies such as architects, engineers, and construction / facilities services providers.

Securities offered through M&A Securities-Group, Inc. (MAS). SLATE Partners and MAS are not affiliated entities.

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