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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Michael Best Expands into Great Plains, Combines with Enterprise Legal Studio**

*The Arrangement Establishes the Firm's 19<sup>th</sup> U.S.-based Office in Lincoln, Nebraska, Adds to the Capabilities of the Venture Best Practice*

**Lincoln, NE (September 16, 2024)** – Michael Best is pleased to announce a strategic combination with Lincoln, Nebraska-based corporate and securities law practice, Enterprise Legal Studio. The arrangement represents Michael Best's latest opportunity to add respected venture practitioners and establish its 19<sup>th</sup> office, with the Lincoln location serving as the firm's formal entrance into the Great Plains market. Effective immediately, six attorneys and two professionals from Enterprise Legal Studio have joined Michael Best.

"We are thrilled to welcome the talented team from Enterprise Legal Studio to Michael Best," said David Krutz, Firm Managing Partner of Michael Best. "Their expertise and knowledge of both the Great Plains and national venture markets further strengthens our Venture Best practice and enhances the firm's ability to support venture investors, entrepreneurs, early-stage companies, and high-growth businesses on a greater scale."

After a successful tenure in the Palo Alto office of a prominent Silicon Valley law firm, attorney Bart Dillashaw relocated to Nebraska and established Enterprise Legal Studio in 2015. The firm quickly gained its reputation as a leading team of startup attorneys providing services tailored to investors, entrepreneurs, and startup companies in the Great Plains and around the country. The Enterprise Legal Studio team has become a top-5 venture practice by number of transactions according to PitchBook, and frequently supports early-stage, venture-backed companies with general corporate and transactional matters.

"Enterprise Legal Studio previously collaborated with Michael Best on venture matters, and through that process, we came to know the Venture Best team well," said Dillashaw. "As we considered ways to best serve our clients, it became clear that a combination with Michael Best was the right move to support our team and deliver quality, value-driven expertise to our clients."

The addition of the Enterprise Legal Studio team represents the most recent enhancement of Michael Best's Venture Best practice, a top-10 PitchBook-recognized venture practice with geographical footholds in California, Colorado, Illinois, North Carolina, Texas, and Wisconsin. This move underscores the practice's commitment to strengthening its presence in key markets, including metro markets with thriving research institutions and blossoming venture communities, as well as increasing its ability to serve clients across the United States at competitive, Midwest value.



“The world-class services Bart and the Enterprise Legal Studio team are known to provide to the angel and venture capital community are exceptional additions to Venture Best,” said Galen Mason, Partner and Co-Chair of Venture Best. “We’re excited to leverage the team’s expertise as we continue efforts to mature the practice and build on the high-quality services we can offer to investors and startup companies at competitive prices.”

With this addition, Michael Best continues to build on its reputation as a premier national law firm dedicated to delivering innovative, client-focused legal solutions.

#### **About Michael Best & Friedrich LLP**

Michael Best is a leading law firm, providing a full range of legal services to clients around the world. The firm has more than 400 legal professionals, including more than 300 attorneys, serving clients in 19 offices across the U.S. in California; Colorado; Illinois; Nebraska; North Carolina; Texas; Utah; Washington, D.C.; and Wisconsin. Michael Best’s areas of practice include: intellectual property; labor and employment relations (including employee benefits); litigation; corporate; government relations, political law, and public policy; privacy and cybersecurity; real estate; regulatory; tax; and wealth planning. The firm serves a variety of industries, such as advanced manufacturing, agribusiness, banking, and financial services, digital technology, energy, food and beverage, healthcare, higher education, and life sciences. For more information, visit [michaelbest.com](http://michaelbest.com).

#### **About Venture Best ®**

Venture Best, the emerging technology company and venture capital team at Michael Best, works closely with high-impact entrepreneurs and emerging businesses, as well as the angel and institutional venture capital investors that finance them. The Venture Best team represents a substantial number of startup and emerging companies in biotechnology, information technology and software, medical devices, electronics, and other high-tech sectors. This emerging company practice allows Michael Best to introduce venture capital and private equity investors to early- and mid-stage investment opportunities. For more information, visit [venturebest.com](http://venturebest.com).

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