

## Aligned Career Coaching Endorsements

### **Steve O'Connell, CFO, Lenox Corporation and former CFO, Harry & David**

*"Stuart's advice and good counsel was very helpful in making sure I left my company gracefully and made the right decisions during my transition; he also helped me keep a positive, up-beat attitude – which, looking back, made a big difference once I transitioned into a new position. Stuart's suggestion that some of our sessions include time with my spouse was hugely helpful – he handled these sessions with seriousness but also a soft touch – his perspective and suggestions helped a lot as we considered different job options and places to move our family. One of the key benefits of working with Stuart was his consistent availability and his prompt responses and feedback whenever I had questions or the need for his input. Stuart treated me like a partner and there were no egos involved even though he was clearly leading the way as he gave me well-considered advice, direction and feedback."*

### **Jeff DeBoer, Managing Director of the Securities Analysis Center, University of Oregon, and former CFO of Lithia Motors**

*"Having hired Stuart for multiple projects over the past five years as CFO of Lithia Motors, I can say with confidence that he is a consummate professional who knows how to achieve results. His organizational and communication skills are top notch and his resourcefulness in getting exactly the right information in front of key decision makers is unrivaled, in my opinion. For anyone looking for a career coach or management consultant, I offer my highest recommendation to Stuart. He has a natural knack to breathe success into whatever he puts his effort into."*

### **Lydia Tan, Executive Vice President, Related California and former Executive Vice President, BRIDGE Housing**

*"I've worked with Stuart for over a decade in a number of different capacities; including, executive coach and career transition coach. Stuart is very good at what he does. His approach is direct, comprehensive and results oriented. If you need world-class executive coach/organizational consultant, then Stuart is the right choice."*

### **Mike Rudolph, Chief Marketing Officer, Choose Energy**

*"While my recent career transition was an exciting prospect, it was also a scary one. The advice, tools, and support I received from Stuart gave me a clear roadmap for the journey. Working with Stuart sharpened my focus, boosted my confidence, and made my ultimate success inevitable. And it was fun!"*

### **Mark Pertschuk, Consulting Attorney and Project Director in public health**

*"I'm an unusual client for Stuart in that I am a nonprofit manager and public health consultant. During a transition period from serving as a senior manager in a nonprofit to becoming a consultant and project manager, Stuart was indispensable in helping me define my goals and develop a successful second career. He was available, knowledgeable,*

*flexible, and fair in his own business practices. I can recommend him without any reservations."*

**Michael Freeman, former Vice President, Corporate Compliance, Harry & David**

*"I worked with Stuart over the course of 8 months after I departed Harry & David. He is an outstanding Executive Coach who worked with me through the transition process providing invaluable advice, feedback and support. While it's up to me to do the work, Stuart was always available with insights and advice to get me into my next position. Can't thank him enough."*

**Cindy Jasper, Project Manager, Thermo Fisher Scientific**

*"I was fortunate to have the opportunity to benefit from Stuart's coaching during my most recent job search. As a result of his guidance and expertise, I completely changed the focus and approach of my search and ended up in a position that will be an excellent, long term fit for my interests, values and lifestyle. I can also take all of the valuable information that I have learned from him and continue to apply it throughout my career. I could not be happier with the entire process and the result. I highly recommend his services to anyone interested in re-evaluating or making a change to their career."*

**Meredith Best, Estate Manager**

*"Stuart has been the inspirational bright light that lit the otherwise dark path to dreaming, devising, and achieving a fantastic new career. Stuart is a career coaching virtuoso, applying his robust business acumen, exemplary coaching skills, and results-driven approach to every aspect of the job search, from sussing out the right professional fit to negotiating an offer. With Stuart's adept coaching, I moved beyond what I thought was possible and re-entering the workforce became a surmountable obstacle!"*

**Ken Kingery, Founder and Director of Sales, Mosaic Corporation**

*"The actual part of the coaching that was most valuable to me was the objective feedback to me about what I might be choosing to do that would be sub-optimal. For example, when I wanted to work on strategy issues with my team members at the end of the first quarter when it was more urgent for me to help the company meet the numbers. Also, the feedback to let some things go in my life that were "nice to haves" rather than "need to haves".*

*The specific coaching around how to handle relations with a boss whose style differs from my style to a considerable degree. This has made a world of difference to the degree today that she and I have a very good working relationship.*

*Finally, the planning tool helped me focus on all of the elements that comprise success in the first few months of a new job. THANKS!"*