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Katten Honors Three Individuals for Excellence in Mentoring

(CHICAGO) Katten announced today that Partner Chris DiAngelo, Associate Nikolas Kroner, and Senior Director of Workplace Experience & Inclusion Amber Haggins have received the firm's 2026 John P. Sieger Excellence in Mentoring Awards.

Established in 2022, the annual awards honor the late John Sieger, a longtime Katten partner and former chair of the Restructuring practice. The awards celebrate his legacy as a dedicated mentor and the spirit of mentoring that remains central to Katten's culture.

"John's example still sets the standard: he made time for people, believed in them, and showed through his own conduct what it means to help others grow. Each year's honorees provide a valuable reminder of how much that example still means here," said Chairman Gil Soffer.

More than 50 Katten attorneys and business professionals were nominated for this year's awards. Internal selection committees chose the recipients based on the impact of their mentorship and their commitment to inspiring, teaching and engaging colleagues.

Chris DiAngelo

DiAngelo, a partner in Katten's Structured Finance and Securitization practice and former New York managing partner, represents financial institutions in mortgage finance, structured finance and securitization matters. He was recognized for the impact he's had on the careers of attorneys in his practice.

"He has been a mentor to all the partners and associates, directly or indirectly," one colleague said. "He has built and rebuilt his career and has supported the growth, opportunity and success of everyone on the team. None of us would be where we are without Chris' support, guidance, and mentorship."

Nikolas Kroner

Kroner, who began his Katten career as a summer associate and is now an associate in the firm's Private Credit practice in Los Angeles, represents private equity sponsors, lenders, agent banks, borrowers and strategic investors in leveraged buyouts and other financing arrangements for both public and private companies. He was recognized for making mentorship an integral part of his work with junior attorneys.

"He is extremely thoughtful and helps everyone around him understand their work," according to one colleague. "He serves as a formal mentor to a few of the Private Credit associates and an informal mentor to many more. We're all so grateful to have him here!"

Amber Haggins

As Katten's Senior Director of Workplace Experience & Inclusion, Haggins supports attorneys and business professionals while leading programs and initiatives that strengthen an inclusive culture across the firm. She was recognized for her approach to mentorship and commitment to helping others grow.

One colleague described her impact: "Amber's mentorship has redefined what mentorship should feel and look like to me. Her natural ability to lead with empathy, humility, and empowerment radiates outward, inspiring those around her to embody these same values. Because of Amber, I have become a more attentive, thoughtful, and encouraging mentor, someone who strives to lift others up just as she does."

Katten is a full-service law firm with nearly 650 attorneys in locations across the United States and in London and Shanghai. Clients seeking sophisticated, high-value legal services turn to Katten for counsel locally, nationally and internationally. The firm's core areas of practice include corporate, financial markets and funds, intellectual property, litigation, real estate, restructuring, structured finance and securitization, transactional tax planning, private credit and private wealth. Katten represents public and private companies in numerous industries, as well as a number of government and nonprofit organizations and individuals. For more information, visit katten.com.

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