

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: IRISH CHAMBER ELECTS TWO NEW BOARD MEMBERS

**PHILADELPHIA, October 17, 2019** – The Irish American Business Chamber and Network (IABCN) is proud to announce the election of two new members to their Board of Directors this summer and early fall: Joseph M. Callahan, Founder and CEO of the Ciright Companies and Kate Ward, CEO and Founder of Ward Design Co. “As the Chamber continues to serve the interests of its members and promote the development of economic and educational relationships between the Greater Philadelphia Region and the Island of Ireland, we welcome the addition of these extraordinary new board members. We are thrilled to expand our team and we know the skills and assets of each new board member will strengthen our Chamber,” said Kevin D. Kent, Chairman of the Irish American Business Chamber and Network, Inc.

### **Joseph M. Callahan**

Joe Callahan, Founder and CEO of the Ciright Companies, is an Internet of Things (IoT) expert. Combining a mix of engineering, programming and creative marketing, Joe specializes in eliminating traditional technology barriers across all industries. He is a highly sought after thought-leader serving the needs of businesses striving for growth, governments seeking efficiency, social service organizations attempting to scale, and manufacturers interested in maximizing productivity.

As CEO and Founder of The Ciright Companies, Joe oversees more than 100 employees spanning several continents and over 15 brands. Each Ciright Company is focused on developing next-generation tools for small and large entities. The Ciright Companies also offers a TE (Technology Equity) Program whereby individuals or companies who have a compelling idea for a new product or service can pitch an internal team and ultimately partner with and leverage Ciright’s technology.

A native of Philadelphia (aka the “Liberty Valley”) and proud graduate of Northeast Catholic High School and Drexel University, Joe earned degrees in Engineering, Information Systems Management, and Marketing. In June of 2016, Joe was named Technology Entrepreneur of the Year by EY for the Philadelphia region, in January 2017 he received Drexel University’s 2017 Alumni Entrepreneur Award and in May 2018 he received the Irish American Entrepreneur of the Year award by the Irish Echo and the Irish American Business Chamber and Network. He proudly serves as a Board Member of PACT (Philadelphia Alliance for Capital & Technologies) and an Advisory Board Member of Drexel University’s Close School of Entrepreneurship.

Connect with Joe on LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/in/joseph-c-950b2424/>

### **Kate Ward**

Kate Ward is the CEO and Founder of Ward Design, a creative marketing, branding and website design studio. She previously spent 15 years in leadership roles in the architecture, commercial interiors and non-profit sectors. Kate received her Bachelor of Arts in Economics magna cum laude from the University of Notre Dame.

Kate serves on the Board of Directors of the Irish American Business Chamber Network and as Vice Chair of the Chester County March of Dimes Salute to Women of Achievement. She has also served in volunteer leadership roles for the Urban Land Institute, Professional Women in Construction, Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Building Blocks Foundation Fund, and Chester County Chamber’s Women Influencing Business.

Connect with Kate on LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/in/katebrennanward/>



### **About the Irish American Business Chamber & Network, Inc**

The Irish American Business Chamber & Network is a nonpartisan business organization dedicated to promoting the interests of its members and the development of economic and educational relationships between the United States, Ireland and Northern Ireland. The Chamber provides growth opportunities to its members through a series of monthly networking forums, programs and a broad range of services. Its members span the Philadelphia, Delaware and New Jersey tri-state area and include Irish based companies with strong interests in this region.

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