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7 Habits of Highly Effective Board Member Searches





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# Why Develop These Habits?



### Why Develop These Habits?

*"In 2019, the most private capital ever raised"* PitchBook, Private Fund Strategies Report, 2019 Annual



- 1. Accelerating competition for great board members
  - a. (1,064 funds raised \$888 billion in 2019)
  - b. Institutional investors increased allocations to private markets (again)
- 2. A single director can spell the difference between success and failure



## Habit 1 First, Define Qualifications



### First, Define Qualifications

*"Be proactive"* -Steven Covey



- 1. Establish <u>why</u> board member is being recruited
- 2. Use rubric to define "ideal" candidate:
  - a. Capabilities
  - b. Experience
  - c. Competencies
  - d. Talents
  - e. Relationships
  - f. Knowledge



### Habit 2 "Must-Haves" vs. "Nice-to-Haves"



#### "Must-Haves" vs. "Nice-to-Haves"

*"First things first"* -Steven Covey



- 1. Be realistic
- 2. Driven by strategy
- 3. Agreed upon by all



## Habit 3 Know Your Exit Strategy



### Know Your Exit Strategy

*"Begin with the end in mind"* -Steven Covey



- 1. Demonstrate investment
- 2. Strategies
- 3. Timelines
- 4. Envision success



## Habit 4 DIY or Outside Help?



### DIY or Outside Help?



- 1. How extensive is your network of friends, family, colleagues, etc.?
- 2. Need specific industry, technological, scientific, or other expertise?
- 3. Are you willing to spend the time to run a thorough process?



# Habit 5 Align Expectations



#### Align Expectations

"Seek first to understand, then to be understood" -Steven Covey



- 1. Search process
- 2. Compensation
- 3. On going



## Habit 6 Onboard & Integrate



### Onboard & Integrate

*"Win-win"* -Steven Covey



- 1. Their first day
- 2. First meeting prep
- 3. Follow up after first meeting



# Habit 7 Close the Loop



### Close the Loop

"Sharpen the saw" -Steven Covey



- 1. Identify and follow a process for respectfully notifying non-winners
  - a. Who informs?
  - b. Identify potential opportunities
  - c. Build relationships
  - d. Confirm contact information
  - e. Set follow up



# Closing Thoughts



### Closing Thoughts



- 1. Competition is accelerating
- 2. Great board members make a difference
- 3. Cultivate these habits to improve your odds
- 4. Get started early
- 5. If you need help, ask



# Q & A







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