



## Harter Secrest & Emery LLP

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**For More Information:**

Phil Pantano

Pantano & Associates

716.601.4128 or phil@pantanoPR.com

### **CHRISTINE M. O’CONNOR NAMED FORTY UNDER 40 HONOREE BY ROCHESTER BUSINESS JOURNAL**

**Rochester, New York, October 23, 2017** – Harter Secrest & Emery LLP, a full-service business law firm with offices throughout New York, is happy to announce that Christine M. O’Connor, a Senior Associate in the firm’s Private Equity and Venture Capital practice group, is being recognized as one of this year’s Forty Under 40 honorees by the *Rochester Business Journal*. Each year, the award is presented to 40 business and community leaders in recognition of their outstanding professional accomplishments, civic involvement and impact of achievement before or by the age of 40.

“Our region is fortunate to have so many people from all walks of life who are committed to our community, both in their professional pursuits, as well as through their personal commitments,” O’Connor said. “Their passion for the Rochester area and for the people of our community is inspiring. I’m honored to stand alongside them as part of this year’s Forty Under 40 class.”

O’Connor graduated from Carnegie Mellon University with high honors, and received her law degree from Vanderbilt University Law School, where she was an Honors Scholar. She practiced with a large international law firm in Cleveland, Ohio prior to joining Harter Secrest & Emery. As an attorney, she represents public and private companies, including international, national and local clients, in connection with mergers and acquisitions, private equity leveraged buyout transactions and venture capital financings.

She was recognized in *Chambers USA 2017 America’s Leading Lawyers in Business*, and was named to the 2017 Upstate New York Rising Stars list by Super Lawyers. O’Connor is AV Preeminent<sup>®</sup> Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell. Earlier this year, O’Connor was recognized as an *Up & Coming Attorney* in *The Daily Record’s* annual Excellence in Law awards.

“Christine is a tremendously talented lawyer,” said Craig S. Wittlin, Harter Secrest & Emery Managing Partner. “Her recognition by *Chambers USA* and her Martindale-Hubbell rating are impressive and unusual accomplishments for someone just 10 years into her legal career. That is a function and reflection of her exceptional abilities and unwavering commitment to client service. As in

her legal practice, Christine is equally driven and committed in her many community-focused endeavors.”

In addition to her professional accomplishments, O'Connor is active in many area causes. She currently serves as the chair of the South East Area Coalition, and has been involved with the South Wedge Planning Committee, the Monroe County Bar Association's Business Law Section, the Greater Rochester Association for Women Attorneys, and the Upstate Venture Association of New York.

The Forty Under 40 honorees will be celebrated at the awards event on Wednesday, November 16 at the Joseph A. Floreano Rochester Riverside Convention Center, 123 E. Main Street.

### **About Harter Secrest & Emery LLP**

Harter Secrest & Emery LLP is a full-service business law firm providing legal services to clients ranging from individuals and family-owned businesses to Fortune 100 companies and major regional institutions. With offices in Buffalo, Rochester, Albany, Corning, and New York City, New York, the firm is a recognized leader in litigation, corporate, employee benefits, environmental and land use, health care, higher education, immigration, intellectual property, labor and employment, real estate, and trusts and estates law. Harter Secrest & Emery has 33 *U.S. News - Best Lawyers* 2017 “Best Law Firms” top tier practice group rankings—more Western New York rankings than any other law firm. The firm has been top ranked in *Chambers USA* for Corporate/M&A, Litigation, Immigration and Real Estate law and 42 attorneys are recognized as *The Best Lawyers in America*® for 2018. For more information visit [www.hselaw.com](http://www.hselaw.com).

###