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CUTTING THROUGH THE COVID-19 CHAOS: STRATEGIES FOR MAKING DIRECT INVESTMENTS & CO- INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

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QUESTION SUBMISSIONS

During this webinar you can submit questions through the Zoom Q&A function

- We would like the presentation to be as interactive as possible
- Questions will be visible to the presenters immediately after you submit your question
- The presenters will answer as many questions as possible live

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES – DIRECT INVESTING

- **Structural and duration elements to today's risks and opportunities**
 - Changed consumer behavior/preference and acceleration of industry evolution
 - Fleeting or long-lasting change
- **Certain industries will need to restructure/consolidate with a shakeout among stronger and weaker competitors**
 - Producers/Customers are learning lessons from supply chain disruptions

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES – DIRECT INVESTING

- **Categorization of opportunities**

- Distressed companies looking for a fundamental recapitalization in an industry dealing with change
- Solid companies looking for a partner in the storm and supplemental capital
- Strong companies looking for a partner and/or capital to go on the offense

- **Sellers in every market – today options are more limited**

- Families can be even more differentiated and therefore preferred
- Seeing some family businesses looking for capital/partner today who normally would not even contemplate the option

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES – DIRECT INVESTING

- **Returns in an uncertain world**

- Returns like truth are absolute – not relative – because risk is absolute
- Balance between stability of returns versus upside returns
- Family capital has value to the certain sellers beyond the money – that should be rewarded
- Nearer term higher risk for the opportunity to invest in an attractive business for the long term

- **Downside potential is real**

- Evaluating bankruptcy options
- Selling in bankruptcy – Section 363 sales

INVESTMENT STRUCTURING – DIRECT INVESTING

- **Majority/Control investments**

- Limited new transaction debt available today (but that will change)
- Buyer/seller valuation disconnect – especially in the early days of a downturn
- Significant change of control capital on the sidelines
- Comeback of bridging solutions like seller notes and earnouts
- Can over-equitize leaving existing debt in place and refinancing out equity when debt markets strengthen

INVESTMENT STRUCTURING – DIRECT INVESTING

- **Minority equity investments**

- Less threatening/often more acceptable to sellers who need a solution and will not consider selling control
- Structured equity (dividend plus penny warrants) minimizes need to determine a fair value
- Much less minority capital available from traditional sources
- Equity substitution opportunities where debt financing stays in place
- Family-owned businesses are not as aware of this option versus tradition debt and control equity options

- **Control investments becoming minority investments (and vice versa)**

RESOURCES & CAPABILITIES – DIRECT INVESTING

- **Right strategy, right team and right resources especially critical today for family direct investors**
- **Long cycle game which requires resources and staying power**
 - Less than a 1% business in finding the right opportunity (sourcing and sifting capability)
 - Doing the deal just gets you out of the dugout and onto the field
- **Long cycle often in dialogue with family sellers**
 - Have to plant seeds now to begin harvesting over the next few quarters
- **Family capital has unique advantages over traditional sources of capital – especially in this kind of market**
 - In a frothy market capital becomes more of a commodity and its unique advantages can be overpowered by high prices
 - Family capital has real advantages to sellers who care about their companies after close
- **Family capital advantages: long duration, structure flexibility, family business understanding, culture/values systems, etc.**

SOURCING – DIRECT INVESTING

- Deal sourcing in a world with limited new deals

- Can't rely on opportunities coming to you – create your own
- People remember a kind outreach/offer to help in difficult times
- Army of underutilized bankers, brokers and advisors who have a network of relationships
- Best marketing is when the opportunity comes to you but very, very few have the Berkshire Hathaway aura
- Normal family approach of keeping a low profile is not the best posture to find interesting opportunities
- Being top of mind is important when the family decides they need capital and a partner
- Remember the 1% rule

INVESTMENT STRUCTURING – CO-INVESTMENT

- **Co-Investment with private equity funds**

- Need for additional liquidity creates new opportunities for co-investment
- Typical private equity co-investment terms
 - No management fee and no carried interest
 - Limited oversight/veto rights for larger investors
- Investors should carefully review its co-investments rights
 - Prioritization
 - Conflicts of Interest
- Some additional recent interest in non-traditional co-investment (i.e., “overage” vehicles, opt-in/opt-out vehicles, limited investment co-investment, etc.)
- Direct co-investment alongside a private equity fund is generally limited to the largest investors

- **Co-Investing watchouts**

- Families have to be careful about overconcentrating by selectively co-investing in only some of a PE funds deals
- Does the family have the expertise to determine the better co-invest deals being offered to them
- Limited opportunities to invest capital this way as few traditional PE funds deploying significant capital today

INVESTMENT STRUCTURING – CO-INVESTMENT

- **Co-Investment with other family offices**
 - Family office co-investment funds/vehicles
 - Option to co-invest on direct investments
 - Pooled capital vs. opt-in/opt-out
 - Governance and control
- **Securities law and corporate liability considerations for co-investment vs. traditional PE fund investment**
- **Pass the hat models can be slow/cumbersome and leave the syndicate without a clear leader to drive the investment**

INDUSTRY/SECTOR FOCUS

- **Industry differentiation**

- While COVID-19 has impacted most industries adversely, there are some – certain healthcare and technology subsectors, in particular – that are seeing an increase in revenue
- Late cycle oil and gas funds, materials, consumer discretionary (retail, leisure, travel) some of the most adversely affected
 - Potential opportunities for distressed companies and assets in these industries, but it may take some time for prices to reflect new reality

- **Other interesting sectors today**

- Food
- Packaging
- Healthcare services
- Logistics services

DISTRESSED INVESTING

- **Distressed investment opportunities**

- Many investors already anticipating a recession or slow down
- Investment objective shifting to distressed opportunities
- PE funds may be constrained by the limited objectives/investment purposes in fund documentation based on contractual obligations
 - Unless permitted and/or there is overlap (i.e., healthcare and real estate); investors should review marketing material and operating agreement investment objectives to ensure that sponsors are operating within contractual mandate
 - Co-investment may provide alternative opportunities for exposure to distressed companies and assets
 - Family office flexible capital creates opportunity for distressed opportunities
 - Importance of investment team managing turnaround
- Buying assets out of bankruptcy – bankruptcy court process

REAL ESTATE/JOINT VENTURE INVESTMENTS

- **Subsector differentiation**

- After a brief pause, real estate funds and investors are showing signs of life in certain segments
 - Multi-family residential
 - Commercial and retail
- COVID-19 accelerating existing commercial and retail trends
- Core, Core-Plus, Value-Add, Opportunistic investment considerations
- **Real estate regulation**
- Direct real property investment treatment under certain securities laws and regulations
- Under certain conditions, such real estate may not be considered a “security”
- By avoiding investments in “securities”, family office investors may be able to stay outside Advisers Act and Investment Company Act, even if managing third-party capital

REAL ESTATE/JOINT VENTURE INVESTMENTS

- **Joint venture terms**

- Typically more bespoke structuring in real estate than other areas of private investing
- Joint ventures suitable for investors seeking greater oversight and more active management of real estate investments
- Terms typically include budget veto rights, right to force sale after specified term and drag/tag rights
- If structured properly, joint venture investments also avoid certain securities laws and regulations that would apply to managed funds and their advisers

VIRTUAL DUE DILIGENCE

- **Some core diligence processes remains the same**
- **Deploying capital through Zoom – due diligence in a locked down world**
 - Fact checking
 - Forecasting and predicting future outcomes (past as prologue?)
 - Assessing execution/implementation risk (management team)
 - Balancing risk and return

THANK YOU



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