



NEWS RELEASE **For Immediate Release**

THE RLJ COMPANIES RANKS AMONG TOP INDUSTRIES ON ANNUAL BLACK ENTERPRISE ‘B.E. 100s LIST’

BETHESDA, MD//JUNE 26, 2014// The RLJ Companies today announced three of its portfolio businesses are listed among the “2014 B.E. 100s List,” published annually by *Black Enterprise* magazine.

RLJ McLarty Landers Automotive (RML) ranks 1st in the auto dealerships category marking the company’s fifth consecutive year in the top spot on the list, which is based on 2013 revenue among 60 minority auto dealers from around the country. Headquartered in Little Rock, Arkansas, RML is the largest African American owned automotive franchise in the U.S. consisting of 35 automotive franchises and three Harley-Davidson motorcycle dealerships across the South Central, Southeast, and Midwest regions of the country.

RLJ Equity Partners, LLC ranks 12th on the private equity firms list. Founded by Johnson and The Carlyle Group, RLJ Equity Partners specializes in middle-market leveraged buy-outs, leveraged recapitalizations, and growth equity. RLJ Equity Partners currently has 9 portfolio companies within aerospace/defense, automotive and transportation, business services, consumer and retail, and general industrial sectors.

Making its debut to the annual list, **RLJ Credit Management, LLC** ranks 14th on the private equity firms list. With 3 portfolio companies, RLJ Credit provides flexible debt capital solutions for both private equity sponsored and non-sponsored lower middle market companies and can provide senior, subordinated, or unitranche loans to support buyouts, recapitalizations, refinancings, and growth financings.

For more information on these and other RLJ affiliate operations, visit www.RLJcompanies.com.

About The RLJ Companies

The RLJ Companies, founded by Robert L. Johnson, is an innovative business network that provides strategic investments in a diverse portfolio of companies. Within The RLJ Companies portfolio, Johnson owns or holds interests in businesses operating in a publicly traded hotel real estate investment trust; private equity; financial services; asset management; automobile dealerships; sports and entertainment; and video lottery terminal (VLT) gaming. The RLJ Companies is headquartered in Bethesda, MD, with affiliate operations in Charlotte, NC; Little Rock, AR; Los Angeles, CA; San Juan, PR; and Monrovia, Liberia. Prior to founding The RLJ Companies, Johnson was founder and chairman of Black Entertainment Television (BET).

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