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SPOTLIGHT: COLUMBUS BUSINESS LEADERS

Building Central Ohio

Columbus commercial real estate leader **Donald R. Kenney & Company Realty** is in the business of fueling the city's capacity for economic growth.

nyone who has lived in Columbus, Ohio, over the last few decades has witnessed the growth of the city's booming corporate culture. Whether medical or industrial, startups or Fortune 500 companies, numerous industry leaders are attracting fresh talent into the city. With the rapidly increasing population comes the need for quality commercial real estate.

"Columbus has a welcoming entrepreneurial spirit that allows new industries to incubate," says Jaimine Johnson, director of commercial operations, leasing, and sales at Donald R. Kenney & Company Realty. "It's no longer just about the core downtown area—it's also about partnering with the suburbs to find the best locations for each client."

Centered on the importance of providing prime locations for corporate clients since 1966, DRK & Company Realty's mission is to accommodate the city's economic growth. "Columbus is a visionary city of brokers, entrepreneurs, and leaders," says Johnson. "It feels like a close community everywhere you go, yet you feel like you're a part of something bigger. It's a city that prospers when its businesses have an affordable place to flourish. That's what we provide."







Designing for Prosperity

With a variety of industries and clients comes the need for strategic commercial properties that meet the everchanging demands of employers and employees. Following the COVID-19 pandemic's push for employees to work from home, many companies in 2022 are increasingly drawn to flexibility.

"Columbus' current tagline is 'work, live, play," says Johnson. "This means that we often need to provide spaces for employees to do all three of these things under one roof. People are willing to put in some extra hours if they're able to do so conveniently and comfortably."

For DRK & Company Realty, the key to success is a deep understanding of each unique client through careful observation of the company's existing office spaces and culture.

"The first thing we do when meeting with a client is find out who they really are," says Johnson. "It's important to build a strong foundational understanding from the start to bring depth to the relationship. How does their current site look? How can we highlight their strengths and elevate their weaknesses? You have to get to know a client's needs to find a plan that points them to success."

With a track record that goes back five decades, DRK & Company Realty's views on prosperity go beyond the initial business transaction.

"We want long-term partnerships with our clients," explains Johnson. "We want to know how they're doing one, two, and 10 years down the road and how we can assist them. It's more than rent to us; it's about building a city that we love."



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