

WILLIAM G. FERKO, CPA

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PROFILE

Corporate Director and former Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer with over four decades of experience driving sustainable business growth and creating shareholder value. Spearheaded over 80 acquisitions for leading international companies in manufacturing, lending, finance and nonprofit. Adept introducing automation and control systems, overseeing acquisition integrations, managing multi-billion dollar operations, creating innovative marketing strategies, motivating teams and serving on various public company boards, including Audit Committee Chair, Lead Independent Director and Nominating, Governance and Compensation committees. Broad-based expertise includes strategic planning, finance, risk management, M&A due diligence, audits, internal controls and JV reporting. Dedicated to building effective relations and providing support to investors, senior management and boards of directors.

EXPERIENCE

SYPRIS SOLUTIONS INC. NASDAQ: SYPR, Louisville, KY **2005 - Present**

A diversified provider of technology-based outsourced services and specialty products

Board Director

Served on the Nominating Committee and Compensation Committee and filled the rotating role of Lead Independent Board Director

DISMAS CHARITIES INC./DISMAS FOUNDATION, Louisville, KY **2003 - Present**

One of the largest, not-for-profit providers of residential effective, evidence-based re-entry services

Chairman and Board Director

- Served on the Finance, Governance and Long-Term Planning Committees and as Chairman of the Compensation Committee
- Navigated a very high-profile compensation, political, media and state auditor review
- Grew the business by successfully winning contract renewals and adding 2 to 3 new sites each year

REPUBLIC BANK NASDAQ:RBCAA, Louisville, KY **2009 - 2014**

A \$6.5B community bank servicing KY, FL, OH, IN, TN and MN markets and a national tax refund business

Senior Vice President, Chief Acquisitions Officer and Chief Risk Officer

- Completed 2 acquisitions, generating \$55.4M of profit during the first 2 years and created a footprint in the Tennessee and Minnesota markets
- Oversaw risk management functions, including credit, audit, security and insurance
- Member of the senior management team and Asset Liability Committee
- Purchased special asset pools of distressed assets that generated exceptional profits

GENLYTE GROUP INC. NASDAQ:GLYT, Louisville, KY **1998 - 2009**

A \$1.8B manufacturer of commercial, industrial and residential lighting

Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

- Increased enterprise capitalization from \$400M to \$2.8B, with sale to Philips
- Delivered 9 consecutive years of record growth in sales, operating profit and earnings per share
- Merged Genlyte and Thomas Lighting to form the second largest global lighting manufacturer
- Acquired 2 - 4 companies per year and managed the consolidation process for 10 years
- Grew sell side coverage from 0 to 10 and stock price from \$9.50 to \$95.50
- Named one of America's Best Big Platinum 400 Companies by Forbes Magazine twice
- Designated as one of the Best 100 Hot Growth Companies by Business Week Magazine

GOSS GRAPHIC SYSTEMS, INC., Westmont, IL **1996 - 1998**

An \$800M world leader of newspaper and commercial printing press manufacturing

Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

- Increased earnings by 90%, reduced operating costs by \$19M and increased orders by 80%

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TENNECO INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES NYSE:TEN, Lake Forest, IL **1976 - 1996**

A \$19B holding company with interest in packaging, auto parts, shipbuilding and natural gas

Treasurer, Tenneco Automotive (1994 - 1996)

- Coordinated global funding, foreign exchange exposures, insurance, pensions, benefits, real estate and positioned the company for a spinoff to an independent Tier-1 automotive parts leader

Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Monroe Auto Equipment Co, Monroe, MI (1993 - 1994)

- Invested in a \$20M marketing campaign and product differentiation concept to create the “SensaTrack” product line for the shock absorber aftermarket, which remained a success for 25 years

Group Controller, Tenneco Packaging, now PACTIV & PCA, Lake Forest, IL (1988 - 1993)

Assistant Group Controller, Tenneco Packaging (1987 - 1988)

- Led the Molded Fibre business to successive years of record growth and profitability
- Acquired molded distribution companies, joint ventures, operations in Spain, Germany and Australia
- Completed the acquisition of 1.2M acres of timberland and 2 paper mills from Georgia Pacific
- Oversaw acquisition financing with GE, the largest leveraged lease transaction ever completed
- Led the acquisition of Dixie Container recycled mill and container plants from Reynolds Aluminum

Manager of Corporate Finance, Tenneco, Inc. Houston, TX (1984 - 1987)

- Formed the Tenneco Credit Corporation and asset-based financing to support acquisitions, such as the acquisition of the International Harvester Farm Equipment business
- Executed over \$4B of public bond and debenture issuance transactions
- Participated in the formation of an intrastate natural gas trading business

Manager of Finance Office Accounting, JI Case Credit Corp, Racine, WI (1978 -1984)

- Grew portfolio 5-fold to over 80,000 loans and leases totaling \$1.2B
- Invented low-rate financing, as a marketing tool, when prime rate was 20% and took an 85% share
- Designed and installed IT systems servicing 19 finance offices in the US and Canada
- Led transition from paper-based to electronic-based system while experiencing exponential growth

Senior Auditor of North America and Australia, JI Case Company, Racine, WI (1976 - 1978)

PROFESSIONAL

Equine Finance & MBA Lecturer, University of Louisville

Republican Nominee, Kentucky State Senate Elections, June 2020

Past Commissioner and Board Director, Kentucky Horse Park

Investor and Past Interim Chief Financial Officer, CRS Reprocessing LLC

Past Consultant and Advisor, Airline Container Leasing, LLC

Co-Owner, Turning Leaf Farm

Principal, WGF Investments/Wildfire Funds LLC

Minority Partner, Anchorage Angels LLC

Board Director and Past President, Financial Executive International - Louisville Chapter

EDUCATION

Master of Business Administration, 1980

University of Wisconsin - Parkside, Kenosha, WI

Bachelor of Science, Business Management, 1975

University of Wisconsin - Parkside, Kenosha, WI