

## **NEWS RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

## CANDACE L. RANDLE RECOGNIZED AMONG 2013 "40 UNDER 40: NEW TRAILBLAZERS" BY PRWEEK

**BETHESDA, MD// SEPTEMBER 17, 2013//** The RLJ Companies today announced its director of corporate communications and public affairs, Candace L. Randle, has been recognized by PRWeek among this year's "40 Under 40" recipients. Founded by Robert L. Johnson, The RLJ Companies is a portfolio of businesses operating in hotel real estate investment, private equity, financial services, asset management, insurance services, automobile dealerships, sports, film and entertainment, and video lottery terminal (VLT) gaming.

Ms. Randle, a 13-year industry veteran, has worked for RLJ since 2008 and has an extensive media, public affairs and government background. Prior to joining The RLJ Companies, she worked in the Office of U.S. Senator Mark Pryor of Arkansas and for former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton during the 2008 presidential election.



Candace L. Randle, photo by Drew Xeron

A native Arkansan, Ms. Randle has previously worked in the

communications and media relations department for Arkansas Governor Mike Beebe and has a broad background in strategic advocacy, communications, and outreach and from her work in government affairs in the private sector at Entergy Services, Inc. Earlier during her career, Ms. Randle held a writing position with the Gore-Lieberman Presidential Campaign, has worked for retired U.S. Congressman Vic Snyder of Arkansas, and has served in a number of media capacities for local and statewide political campaigns.

Ms. Randle graduated with leadership honors from the University of Arkansas with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science and History, and she received a Master of Public Administration (MPA), summa cum laude, from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

PRWeek annually profiles 40 dynamic individuals under the age of 40, nominated by their peers and colleagues, who are leading the charge for the next generation of communicators. Nominations are submitted across agencies, corporations, and nonprofits to profile professionals who demonstrate innovative thinking, strong determination, and results that indicate a long and successful career in the PR industry.

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, insurance services, 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). For more information visit: www.rljcompanies.com. For inquiries contact: Traci Otey Blunt, 240.744.7858 or press@rljcompanies.com