



# *News Release*

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**CNL CEO HONORED BY JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT OF CENTRAL FLORIDA**

*-- Tom Sittema to receive Spirit of Achievement Award --*

(Orlando, Fla.) Nov. 6, 2017 — CNL Financial Group CEO Thomas K. Sittema has been selected by Junior Achievement of Central Florida as the recipient of its 2017 Spirit of Achievement award for his contributions to the community. The award ceremony will take place on Nov. 8, 2017, at the Mid-Florida Business Hall of Fame.

The Spirit of Achievement is an honor reserved for individuals who excel in business, leadership and innovation, all while maintaining a high degree of community-mindedness. Over the past 30 years, the award has recognized role models in the community whose efforts have moved Central Florida in a stronger direction.

Sittema's passion for central Florida is exemplified in his leadership positions across various service organizations. One of his most notable contributions is as a founding member and chairman of the board of directors for LIFT Orlando, a community organization committed to breaking the cycle of poverty through neighborhood revitalization. In addition, Sittema serves as president-elect for the board of directors for Florida Citrus Sports. He has also held leadership positions with the Metro Orlando Economic Development Commission and Heart of Florida United Way.

"I am honored and humbled that Junior Achievement of Central Florida has selected me for this award," Sittema said. "Giving back to the community is not just important to me, but it is an integral part of the CNL culture. There are so many organizations doing great work to improve the quality of life for all in the Orlando area, and I have been blessed to have the opportunity to use my time and talents to help just a handful of them."

Tables and seats are still available for the event, and those interested in attending should contact Sheryl Davis, development director for Junior Achievement of Central Florida, at 407-270-4973.

**About CNL Financial Group**

CNL Financial Group (CNL) is a private investment management firm providing real estate and alternative investments. Since inception in 1973, CNL and/or its affiliates have formed or acquired companies with more than \$34 billion in assets. CNL is headquartered in Orlando, Florida. For more information, visit [cnl.com](http://cnl.com).

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