

1200 Smith Street 14th Floor Houston, TX 77002-4310

Tel: 713.658.1818 Fax: 713.658.2553

Media contact:

Ania Czarnecka 713-869-0707 aczarnecka@wardcc.com

## Chamberlain Hrdlicka Congratulates OPEN Houston's 2017 OHC Business Pitch Competition Finalists

**Houston, Texas - (November 1, 2017)** – National law firm <u>Chamberlain Hrdlicka</u> congratulates the finalists of the OPEN Houston's 2017 OHC Business Pitch Competition. The diversified law firm, which frequently advises startups on intellectual property and other legal issues, sponsors the event.

More than 30 emerging companies submitted their pitches to OPEN's 2017 Business Pitch Competition. Six finalists, developing innovative solutions to solve problems across health, social interaction, commerce and business operations will compete for a \$10,000 prize in a Live Pitch competition during the annual OPEN Houston Conference this Saturday, November 4, 2017, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Norris Conference Center.

The 2017 Business Pitch Competition finalists are:

- Alleviant Medical an early-stage medical device company focused on a treatment for congestive heart failure that will improve the quality of life for millions suffering from this disease.
- AtmoSpark an atmospheric water generation company whose technology extracts pure water out of the air to produce a higher quality of water than other alternatives.
- Looktivity a web platform where site visitors can search for, video-preview, book activities online.
- Paragon a marketplace for building owners to tap into the vast market of contractors with absolute ease, control, and transparency.
- Stocked Robotics proprietary autonomous navigation technology retrofitted on forklifts to make them self-driven.
- Zenus a software company that makes automated face recognition possible.

"We sponsor the event and support OPEN Houston because we want to help emerging companies reach their full potential and do our part to create an innovation economy in Houston," said Aly Dossa, shareholder in Chamberlain Hrdlicka's intellectual property practice and current president of OPEN Houston.

Since 2014, OPEN Houston has challenged Houston-area entrepreneurs and startups to bring their ideas to life through the OHC Annual Business Pitch Competition. To date, OPEN Houston has awarded more than \$40,000 to early stage companies that have participated in the competition. All participants also benefit from access to local venture capitalists, angel investors and mentors in the OPEN network. Many of the past winners have since experienced success through product launches and invitations to renowned incubators, such as Y Combinator.

## **About Chamberlain Hrdlicka**

<u>Chamberlain Hrdlicka</u> is a diversified business law firm with offices in Atlanta, Houston, Philadelphia and San Antonio. The firm represents both public and private companies as well as individuals and family-owned businesses across the nation. In addition to commercial and business litigation, the firm has expertise in tax planning and tax controversy, corporate law, securities and finance, employment law, employee benefits/ERISA, energy law, estate planning and administration, intellectual property, international and immigration law, real estate and construction law.

## **About OPEN Houston**

OPEN Houston is a voluntary not-for-profit association dedicated to the promotion of entrepreneurship and professional excellence. Our members includes professionals, entrepreneurs, venture capitalists, scientists, social leaders, academics and students. To learn more about OPEN Houston and the annual conference, go to <a href="http://www.openhouston.org">http://www.openhouston.org</a>