Loudoun Times-MirrorUPDATE: Three Leesburg businesses rank high in list of fastest growing companies

Friday, Aug. 23, 2013 by Andrew Sharbel, Times-Mirror Staff Writerl <u>0 comments</u> | <u>Email this story</u> Inc. Magazine has released its 2013 list of the 5,000 fastest-growing privately owned companies in the nation. Three Leesburg-based businesses showed well, ranking in the top 500 of the list.

"These great businesses truly illustrate why Leesburg is a great place to grow a business as well as a family," Marantha Edwards, Leesburg's Economic Development director said in a news release. "We have worked hard to foster an entrepreneur-friendly business culture here in Leesburg. The phenomenal growth of Knight Solutions, FCi Federal and Paramount Business Jets shows that we are being successful with those efforts."

Knight Solutions, FCI Federal and Paramount Business Jets have shown extreme growth during the last several years.

Knight Solutions is a veteran-owned general contractor that specializes in renovating cemeteries for former and retired U.S. service members. Its three-year growth of a whopping 1,472 percent, with 2012 revenues of \$16.3 million and 150 employees, landed the company in at 296 on the 2013 Inc. 5000 list.

Founded in 2005, Knight Solutions focuses on hiring veterans, and owner Kevin Knight was honored by the Leesburg Economic Development Commission at the 2012 Leesburg Business Awards with the inaugural Veterans Affairs Award.

"I am very proud of this designation and to be placed 294 out of 500 companies in America as one of the fastest growing tells me we are on the right track and our growth means that we grow in the number of veterans we hire on an annual basis," Knight said. "From a strategic standpoint we are going to continue doing what we are doing. We have a standard in terms of how we do our work and we will continue to do that. Our motto is if we continue to do those things then everything else will come into shape."

Founded in 1992, FCi Federal is a federal contractor that provides operations management and professional services to a variety of government agencies, including law enforcement and immigration. With a three-year growth of 1,218 percent and more than 1,300 employees in 38 states, FCi Federal came in at 361 on the Inc. 5000 list.

Additionally, company Founder and CEO Sharon Virts Mozer was named the 2013 Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year for the Greater Washington area in the Government Services category.

Paramount Business Jets is a private jet charter brokerage firm that's pioneered transparent pricing for

private charter flights as a more flexible and less costly alternative to fractional jet ownership.

Founded in 2005, Paramount has experienced an 1,093 percent revenue growth during the past three years, placing them at 409 on the Inc. 5000 list and No. 2 among travel and hospitality companies.

Paramount recently moved to Leesburg, relocating its headquarters to the town from Tampa in June.

CEO Richard Zaher said he was excited for the designation because of its magnitude.

"We are excited to rank as the fastest growing private jet company with Inc 5000," Zaher said. "It gives us even further validation that our core principles of fairness and transparency is appreciated among private jet flyers worldwide."

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