



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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John Ikard to Receive Mizel Institute 2018 Community Enrichment Award

DENVER, CO (January 10, 2018) – The Mizel Institute announced today that John Ikard, former CEO of FirstBank and now chairman of Colorado Concern, will receive the 2018 Community Enrichment Award at the organization’s annual dinner on May 23, 2018 at Wings Over the Rockies Air & Space Museum. The Community Enrichment Award is presented annually to an individual who has made outstanding contributions to the community and worked to significantly enhance the lives of others.

“In addition to his continued support of the Mizel Institute, John Ikard’s extraordinary impact as a business leader and philanthropist make him truly deserving of this award,” said Larry A. Mizel, founder of the Mizel Institute. “John has invested in Colorado throughout his career. His commitment to statewide economic development and his ability to inspire charitable giving are unprecedented, and we are privileged to honor his enduring commitment to Colorado.”

Funds raised from the dinner support the work of the Mizel Institute’s two centers, the Mizel Museum and the Counterterrorism Education Learning Lab (CELL), whose valuable programs empower individuals to become civically engaged in promoting social justice and enhancing public safety.

Ikard started with FirstBank in 1981 and was elected president and CEO of FirstBank Holding Company in 1999. In early 2017, after 35 years with the company, the last 17 years as CEO, Ikard stepped down as CEO but continues to serve on the FirstBank Board of Directors. Ikard is an active community leader having served as past chairman of the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce, Denver Area Boy Scout Council and Denver Economic Development Corporation. On a national level, Ikard has served as Chairman of the American Bankers Association, the nation’s largest financial services association, as well as serving on the Federal Reserve Board of Kansas City. In 2010, he was honored with the prestigious “Community Banker of the Year” award by the American Banker magazine.

About the Mizel Institute

The Mizel Institute is committed to developing a more educated, conscientious and empowered community. Funds raised from the annual dinner support its two distinct centers: the Mizel Museum and the Counterterrorism Education Learning Lab (CELL). The Mizel Museum promotes social justice with its unique educational programming, cultural exhibits and events. The CELL confronts the threat of terrorism through its renowned event series, world-class exhibit and national training initiatives. Learn more at MIZELInstitute.org.

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