

December 27, 2013



Wheeler Real Estate Investment Trust, Inc. Chief Executive Officer, Jon S. Wheeler, Receives 2013 Corporate Volunteer Leadership Award Presented by VOLUNTEER Hampton Roads

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va.-- **Wheeler Real Estate Investment Trust, Inc. (NASDAQ:WHLR)** ("Wheeler" or the "Company"), today announced that its Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Jon Wheeler, was honored with the 2013 Corporate Volunteer Leadership Award on Wednesday, December 4, 2013.

Presented by VOLUNTEER Hampton Roads and in partnership with Hampton Roads Corporate Volunteer Council and Inside Business magazine, the Corporate Volunteer Leadership Award is awarded annually to business leaders in the Hampton Roads, Virginia area who strongly encourage social responsibility through workplace volunteerism and whose organization achieves excellence in its community outreach program.

"Jon Wheeler has been a model leader in our community in the area of corporate social responsibility," stated VOLUNTEER Hampton Roads' Executive Director, Kate Meechan. "He has created a work environment that showcases the importance of doing good in the community and not only allows his employees time to give back, but also leads by example in doing so himself. His work with Wheeler Real Estate Investment Trust is remarkable and the indelible touch his company has had on nonprofits and those in need in Hampton Roads is astounding."

Jon S. Wheeler, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, also commented, "I am honored to receive this award and am very proud to be included amongst such a prestigious group of corporate leaders that have received this special honor."

Under Mr. Wheeler's leadership, Wheeler Real Estate Investment Trust and its associates have participated in over 20 events for non-profit organizations. Mr. Wheeler currently serves on the board of several local associations and through his efforts with the Wheeler Benefit Foundation, a not-for-profit organization founded by Mr. Wheeler and his wife, Kim Wheeler in 2008, have raised and donated over \$150,000 in support of local organizations.

The Hampton Roads Corporate Volunteer Council, a program of VOLUNTEER Hampton Roads, is a coalition of area businesses that utilizes workplace volunteerism as a tool to develop the community and workforce.

VOLUNTEER Hampton Roads is a full-service management support organization for the

nonprofit sector and is the only comprehensive volunteer center in South Hampton Roads, Virginia. In 2007, VOLUNTEER Hampton Roads was the recipient of the prestigious George W. Romney Excellence Award as the nation's top volunteer center from a field of over 350 centers. VOLUNTEER Hampton Roads is a member of the Foundation Center, HandsOn Network and United Way of South Hampton Roads.

About Wheeler Real Estate Investment Trust Inc.

Headquartered in Virginia Beach, VA, Wheeler Real Estate Investment Trust, Inc. specializes in owning, acquiring, financing, developing, renovating, leasing and managing income producing assets, such as community centers, neighborhood centers, strip centers and free-standing retail properties. Wheeler's portfolio contains strategically selected properties, primarily leased by nationally and regionally recognized retailers of consumer goods and located in the Mid-Atlantic, Southeast and Southwest regions of the United States.

Additional information about Wheeler Real Estate Investment Trust, Inc. can be found at the Company's corporate website: www.whlr.us.

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Source: Wheeler Real Estate Investment Trust, Inc.