

## Urban Innovations, Chicago Based Real Estate Company, Honored Nationally as One of the 25 Best Small Companies to Work For in America.

Urban Innovations, a Chicago based real estate investment company has been named among the top 25 Best Small Companies to Work for in America. The list appears in the July 2006 issue of HR Magazine and was announced on June 26, 2006 before an audience of more than 12,000 at the Society for Human Resource Management's (SHRM) 58th Annual Conference & Exposition in Washington, D.C.

The list is sponsored by SHRM and selected and ranked by the Great Place to Work® Institute (GPTW), the same group that ranks large companies for Fortune Magazine.

Urban Innovations ranked number 11 in the list of small companies. The results were based on a randomly distributed employee

opinion survey. Each company evaluated was given a score based on employees' responses to a detailed questionnaire about the organizations' workplace cultures.



(Left to Right) Mark Kelly, President Urban Innovations, Scott Zatt, Director of Human Resources, Stacy Vearil, Human Resources Manager, and Susan Meisinger, President of SHRM.

"Urban Innovations is honored to be recognized by SHRM and GPTW as a Great Place to Work" said Mark Kelly, President of Urban Innovations. "The cornerstone of our success has always been our employees. As our company has grown from three employees to almost one hundred, we have paid careful attention to the importance of attracting good employees; motivating, empowering and challenging them; and harnessing their energy, their creativity and their intellect to drive our business forward."

"Because our employees take care of the needs of our customers, we do our best to make sure our employees are taken care of, treated with respect, and given the tools and resources they need to be successful in their work" said Mark Kelly. "Investing in our employees' well-being is simply good business."



Presented by Great Place to Work® Institute  
and Society for Human Resource Management

"Small and medium-sized companies make up the majority of the American economy and workforce," said SHRM President and CEO Susan R. Meisinger, SPHR. "These winning organizations demonstrate that making effective use of the workforce is key to their success, and they must be recognized for their accomplishments."

Great Place to Work® Institute cofounder, Robert Levering, said, "These companies stand out because their employees find them to be places where they can trust the management, have pride in their work and have fun at work. Other companies have much to learn about how to both be productive and do right by their people."

SHRM is the world's largest association devoted to human resource management. Representing more than 200,000 individual members, the Society's mission is both to serve human resource management professionals and to advance the profession. Founded in 1948, SHRM currently has more than 500 affiliated chapters and members in more than 100 countries.

Great Place to Work® Institute, Inc., is a global research and consulting firm dedicated to "building a better society by helping companies transform their workplaces." Great Place to Work® Institute works with FORTUNE Magazine, HR Magazine and other leading publications in 28 countries around the world to publish and recognize the "Best Companies to Work for". In addition to its global headquarters in San Francisco, Great Place to Work® Institute has 28 affiliates in countries throughout North America, South America, Europe and Asia.

Urban Innovations is a 27 year old real estate investment company with its headquarters in Chicago. The company currently employs just over 90 employees in various locations. Urban Innovations acquires properties for our investors, redevelops the properties with our in-house construction group and manages the properties with our in-house property management group. Our current portfolio consists of 12 commercial loft buildings in Chicago's River North area and 14 affordable senior housing properties throughout the Midwest. Earlier this month Urban Innovations was also recognized locally as one of Chicago's 101 Best and Brightest Companies To Work For by the National Association of Business Resources.

Stories about the winning organizations will appear in the July issue of HR Magazine, the Society's flagship publication with a circulation of 200,000 (available at [www.shrm.org/hrmagazine](http://www.shrm.org/hrmagazine)). The winning organizations will also be listed on the GPTW web site at [www.greatplacetowork.com](http://www.greatplacetowork.com).

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For more information about the Top 50 Best Small & Medium Companies to Work for in America Awards contact SHRM Media Affairs at 703-535-6012.