



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**First Tee - Cleveland names Rick Buoncore, Chairman & CEO of  
MAI Capital Management, to esteemed group of First Tee National Trustees**



CLEVELAND, OH (January 14, 2026) — **First Tee - Cleveland** today announced that Cleveland business executive **Richard J. Buoncore** has become a First Tee National Trustee, in recognition of his extraordinary leadership, generosity and decades-long commitment to advancing opportunities for young people through the game of golf.

**First Tee - Cleveland** is a youth development non-profit organization that enables kids to build life skills and character through the game of golf.

“Rick’s loyal dedication to First Tee - Cleveland and his investment in the organization’s future will help ensure more youth from all backgrounds in Cleveland and across the country have access to golf and the values the game brings,” said First Tee CEO Greg McLaughlin. “We thank Rick for helping to bring our mission to life.”

Buoncore joins a distinguished list of National Trustees made up of individuals, corporations and foundations that pledge \$1 million or more to support the First Tee mission. A First Tee Trusteeship is a lifelong designation and reflects a lasting commitment to advancing youth development through golf at both the national and local levels.

Buoncore’s connection to First Tee - Cleveland dates back to the organization’s earliest days. In 1999, he was contacted by André Thornton, former Cleveland Indians player and respected business leader who now serves as Chairman and CEO of ASW Global, about bringing a First Tee chapter to Cleveland. Together, they helped raise awareness and philanthropic support and identified land to develop a golf course, driving range and learning center in Newburgh Heights in partnership with Cleveland Metroparks and the Cleveland Municipal School District.

Buoncore served as First Tee - Cleveland’s founding Board Chair in 2003 and has remained actively engaged in the organization. Most recently, he served as Co-Chair of the “More Than a Game” Capital Campaign in 2023-2024, which raised \$3.5 million for the 12,000-square-foot, year-round Woodworth Activity Center, significantly increasing access and impact for youth across Northeast Ohio.

“First Tee - Cleveland and its mission have been deeply personal to me for more than 25 years,” said Buoncore. “Becoming a First Tee National Trustee is both a tremendous honor

and responsibility. I look forward to continuing to expand opportunities for young people across Cleveland and nationally as we advance a cause that builds character, commitment and confidence—the very values the game of golf instills and that serve youth well throughout their lives.”

Alongside his philanthropic activity, Buoncore serves as Chairman & CEO of MAI Capital Management, a Cleveland-based registered investment advisory firm. Under his leadership, MAI has grown into a national firm managing more than \$72 billion in client assets under management, with 650+ employees across 35 offices nationwide.

Patricia LoPresti, Executive Director of First Tee – Cleveland, said, “Rick has believed in First Tee from the very beginning—not just through words, but through consistent action, leadership and heart. His role as a National Trustee is incredibly meaningful for our chapter and a testament to the impact he has made locally, and now, nationally.”

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#### **About First Tee – Cleveland**

First Tee – Cleveland is a nonprofit youth development organization that uses golf to teach life skills and core values to young people ages 7-18 across Northeast Ohio. As one of 150 First Tee chapters, First Tee – Cleveland is headquartered at Cleveland Metroparks Washington Golf Course in Newburgh Heights. For more information, visit [www.firstteecleveland.org](http://www.firstteecleveland.org).

#### **About MAI Capital Management ("MAI")**

MAI is a registered investment adviser and wealth management firm unified in purpose to empower clients to simplify, protect, and grow the wealth they have worked so hard to build. Founded in 1973, the firm helps clients achieve their vision and goals through objective advice, tailored planning, comprehensive and integrated solutions, and highly personal service.

As of December 31, 2025, MAI and its affiliated adviser have 35 offices across the United States and a team of over 650 people and manage and advise on \$72 billion in total assets.\*

For more information, visit [www.mai.capital](http://www.mai.capital) or MAI's company page on LinkedIn.

\*MAI has \$67 billion in assets under management and \$5 billion in assets under advisement; assets under advisement include retirement plans and other accounts advised but not actively managed by MAI.

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