

# Derik Hammer



With a career rooted in technology and leadership, I began my journey as a fire controlman in the U.S. Navy, quickly rising to the leadership rank of E-6. Transitioning into civilian life, I shifted my focus to database administration, gaining expertise that eventually led to leadership roles in various organizations, including Liberty Tax Service, St. Vincent's Medical Center, Subway, and Olo. Twice awarded the Microsoft Data Platform MVP, I am proud of the recognition I've received for my contributions to both the technology community and the broader business ecosystem.

At Subway, I spearheaded an \$8.5 million project over three years, managing a group of 35 full-time employees and domestic/international consultants; vendor relationships, contract negotiations, and partnerships to deliver measurable success.

At Olo, I built the company's data organization from one employee into a three-team department. Later, I transitioned to managing Olo's delivery product line, and currently collaborate with major players like DoorDash, Uber, and GrubHub to drive innovation.

As the owner of Hammer Real Estate Investments, I focus on management and acquisition of multifamily properties, merging my data analytics expertise with real estate insights. My entrepreneurial experience also includes co-founding a paintball supply e-commerce business, honing my ability to adapt to diverse business problems.

Throughout my career, I've demonstrated a consistent ability to lead large-scale projects, manage complex stakeholder relationships, and strategically solve problems—all skills I plan to bring to the Middle Class United (MCU) Board of Directors. My experience in data management and IT leadership gives me a unique perspective on how to leverage technology for better decision-making and operational efficiency, which can be instrumental in driving MCU's mission to make homeownership more affordable. Whether negotiating with vendors, optimizing processes, or leading teams, my hands-on experience in both the private and public sectors position me to offer practical, results-oriented insights to the MCU board.

Moreover, my background in real estate investment will contribute directly to MCU's focus on affordable housing solutions. Having managed multifamily properties, I understand the challenges and opportunities within the housing market. This experience will enable me to advocate for innovative financing and housing initiatives that align with MCU's mission. I am passionate about identifying win-win solutions that uplift the middle class while ensuring long-term sustainability for MCU's charitable and financial objectives.

Joining the MCU Board of Directors represents an opportunity for me to combine my professional expertise with my desire to make a broader impact. MCU's commitment to uplifting the middle class, through innovative programs in affordable housing, charitable initiatives, and financing options, resonates deeply with me. Having built a career on creating value and solving complex problems, I am eager to contribute to an organization that prioritizes community impact and aligns with my core values of integrity, leadership, wisdom, discipline, and sacrifice.