

Company: growth[period], Tysons, VA

Company Description: growth[period] is an advisory firm that specializes in business development, transaction advisory support, strategy and management consulting, and executive retained search. Our professionals serve global Fortune 500 enterprises as well as small to medium-sized businesses, private equity and family offices with enterprises across multiple sectors.

Nomination Category: Individual Awards Categories

Nomination Sub Category: Best Female Entrepreneur – Business Services –11 to 2,500 Employees

Nomination Title: Courtney Spaeth, CEO



1. Which will you submit for your nomination in this category, a video of up to five (5) minutes, explaining the achievements since July 1, 2023 of the nominated woman, OR written answers to the questions? (Choose one):

Written answers to the questions

2. If you are submitting a video of up to five (5) minutes in length, provide the URL of the video here, OR attach it to your entry via the "Add Attachments, Videos, or Links to This Entry" link above, through which you may also upload a copy of your video. If you are submitting written answers to the questions for this category, provide them in the spaces below:

written answers

3. Briefly describe the nominated individual: history and past performance (up to 200 words):

Total 189 words used.

Courtney B. Spaeth is a world-leading expert in business development and corporate growth, with extensive experience in both the public and private sectors. She began her career in the aerospace-defense security sector, holding positions at the Department of Defense and Department of Justice, including in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low-intensity Conflict's Counter-Terrorism division. In 2005, Courtney pivoted to entrepreneurship and founded growthperiod, an advisory firm focused on business development, strategy, and consulting. Under her leadership, growthperiod has become a global leader, serving over 200 clients ranging from Fortune 100 companies to pre-revenue venture-backed startups. The firm's commitment to a healthy and productive work culture has earned it the title of "Best Place to Work" in the National Capital Region for nine out of the last ten years. Courtney's ability to combine strategic vision with a deep understanding of complex markets has fueled growthperiod's success across industries including Federal Contracting, Aerospace & Defense, Tech, Green Energy, and more. Additionally, growthperiod's transaction advisory services practice has expanded significantly under Courtney's leadership, completing multiple major deals, further solidifying the firm's leadership in strategic M&A.

4. Outline the nominee's achievements since July 1 2023 that you wish to bring to the judges' attention (up to 250 words):

Total 246 words used.

Strategic Growth at growthperiod: Courtney led growthperiod through a period of exceptional growth, expanding the firm's team by 60% in the last 18 months, a testament to her ability to drive change and innovation within the firm. This growth has positioned the company as one of the fastest-growing firms in its space, offering services in transaction advisory, business development, and strategic consulting.

Expansion of Transaction Advisory Services Practice: Since July 2023, growthperiod saw dramatic growth in its transaction advisory services, increasing the number of deals closed from an average of one per year to five major deals, including *Cadmus/Ventura*, *DMI/Encora*, *RTX/Blackstone*, *Apogee/BCP*, and another under NDA. With her leadership, the firm served as the sell-side advisor in Apogee Engineering LLC's acquisition by Bernhard Capital Partners (BCP) and provided buy-side diligence support for Cadmus Group's acquisition of Ventura, reinforcing its position as a leading provider of strategic M&A services.

Leadership and Industry Recognition: Courtney's leadership and vision were highlighted through her participation in high-profile industry events, including speaking on the outlook of M&A and government contracting at major conferences. Her insights into navigating disruptions and market changes have made her a recognized thought leader in her field.

Commitment to Culture: Courtney's commitment to fostering a transparent, ego-free workplace culture at growthperiod is a key achievement. Under her leadership, the firm has maintained a high retention rate and been awarded "Best Place to Work" in the Washington, D.C., region for nine out of the last ten years.

5. Explain why the achievements you have highlighted are unique or significant. If possible compare the achievements to the performance of other players in your industry and/or to the nominee's past performance (up to 250 words):

Total 225 words used.

Courtney B. Spaeth consistently delivers results that exceed industry norms, distinguishing herself and growthperiod in a market challenged by slow deal flow, talent retention issues, and economic uncertainty.

While many boutique firms have seen transactions stall in 2024-25, Courtney's team quintupled its annual deal volume, closing five major deals in 12 months (*Cadmus/Ventura*, *DMI/Encora*, *RTX/Blackstone*, *Apogee/BCP*, plus one under NDA). In comparison, most competitors averaged one or two deals in the same timeframe.

Past performance highlights this growth as a repeatable pattern. Under Courtney's leadership, growthperiod helped Serco Inc. leverage a \$225M acquisition of Alion Canada into a nationwide expansion strategy, including direct access to Canada's Prime Minister. Additionally, the firm helped an aviation-services provider grow from \$20M to \$300M in five years—15x faster than the sector's typical growth rate—culminating in a lucrative partnership with New Mountain Capital.

Courtney pairs deal execution with thought leadership, as seen in her keynotes at the Fox Rothschild & HKA Federal Contracts Symposium, where she positioned growthperiod as a leader in navigating disruptions such as AI and DOGE-driven policy shifts.

In an industry with high turnover, Courtney's transparent, ego-free culture has earned nine "Best Place to Work" awards in ten years, with a 60% staff expansion since 2023, enabling growthperiod to take on more complex mandates. These outcomes demonstrate Courtney's exceptional ability to combine strategic vision with disciplined execution.

6. Reference any attachments of supporting materials throughout this nomination and how they provide evidence of the claims you have made in this nomination (up to 250 words):

Total 133 words used.

Inc Magazine: [Courtney B. Spaeth: Spearheading Growth and Change](#)

Greater Washington Board of Trade Nomination: https://www.linkedin.com/posts/courtneybspaeth_greaterwashingtonboardoftrade-mgmnationalharbor-activity-7140350461471027200-lrRk?utm_source=share&

Fox

Rothschild: <https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7255273316704231425>

EY Entrepreneur of the Year Mid-Atlantic Judges

2025: <https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7319710114662232064>

Washington Business Journal Best Places to

Work: <https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7330351646540996608> ;

Cadmus/Ventura : [growthperiod acts](#) as buy side advisor to acquisition of Ventura by Cadmus Group - growthperiod

DMI: [\(7\) Post | LinkedIn](#)

DOGE: [DOGE - growthperiod](#)

Raytheon/Blackstone: [growthperiod supports major divestiture - growthperiod](#)

Raytheon/Blackstone Casestudy: [Transition Management for Corporate Divestiture - growthperiod](#)

Apogee/BCP: [BCP Acquires Apogee to Strengthen Government Services Platform; Frank Varga Quoted – GovCon Wire](#)

Apogee/BCP: [growthperiod acts as sell side advisor to acquisition of Apogee Engineering LLC by Bernhard Capital Partners - growthperiod](#)

Attachments/Videos/Links:

[Courtney Spaeth, CEO](#)



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