



MODERN LUXURY SPOTLIGHT



MICHAEL HAFT

Compass Coffee | Founder and CEO

In a bustling city, everyone needs a good cup of coffee and turns to Michael Haft's Compass Coffee, named the Best Coffee in DC for nine years running.

customers' everyday routines and lives. From first dates to marriage proposals or networking for that dream job, the team at Compass Coffee comes together to celebrate every customer's milestone. We want to know your name and make your day better every time you walk through our doors.

What differentiates your business strategy in the industry?

MH: "Real good coffee" is more than our slogan and founding mission; it's a mantra and a promise. We pledge to do everything the right way, the best way, down to the tiniest details. From myself as the CEO to the newest barista on their first day of training, every team member filters our choices through this lens.

Is there a mentor who has influenced your career?

MH: Nathaniel Fick transformed my life. In

2007, I was a sophomore in college interning at an investment bank, feeling miserable. His book, "One Bullet Away," inspired me to join the U.S. Marine Corps. He commissioned me as an infantry officer and has served as a trusted advisor and mentor.

What are positive ways you use your power in your community?

MH: I'm passionate about supporting and mentoring veterans and entrepreneurs, especially veterans who want to become entrepreneurs. A successful small business drives economic growth and job creation, transforming communities. As a veteran, I draw on my experience to help others transition their military skills into the civilian business world. Compass Coffee has even shipped coffee to deployed service members in Iraq and Afghanistan.

What are your specialties in your industry?

MH: Since our founding in 2014, Compass Coffee believed in a simple yet profound idea: the best cup of coffee points you in the right direction at the start of your day, just like a compass. From sourcing the finest beans worldwide to roasting them with meticulous care in our 50,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art Ivy City facility, we uniquely blend

artistic intuition and scientific precision of coffee production into every cup.

What is your favorite part of your job?

MH: The team members behind Compass Coffee make me so grateful for this business. We're steadfast in our commitment to creating the perfect coffee experience and building community. Our baristas are reliably intertwined with our

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