## Hiding In Plain Sight:

# Daily Journal Corporation (NYSE: DJCO)

## VALUEx 2019 Klosters, Switzerland

Peterson Capital Management, LLC

Matthew Peterson, CFA

Matthew.Peterson@petersonfunds.com



# The Daily Journal Corporation (NYSE: DJCO)

## An American Publishing and Technology Company

- Misunderstood/Hidden Business Model
- Off Financial Statement Value
- Undervalued Microcap Compounder in Huge Space
- Highest Quality Board and Management Team



# **Daily Journal Corporation Board of Directors**





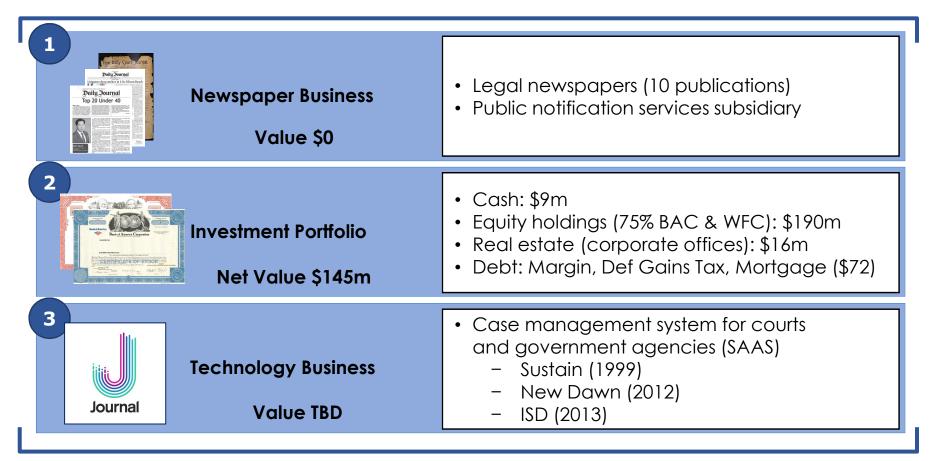
### **TIMELINE OF PROMINENT EVENTS**

- 1977: Munger and Guerin buy Daily Journal for \$2 million USD
- 2009: Munger and Guerin invest cash flow from foreclosure notices into an equity portfolio
- 2012/13: Purchase New Dawn and ISD with a \$30m margin loan from equity portfolio
- 2019: Becoming an important Software as a Service (SAAS) provider in a large niche space





### Core Components of the Daily Journal Corporation



I only wish our prospects were as good as BYD's. And by the way, they might be... - Munger 2016

# Deferred Gratification – 100+ contacts uncovered, many with years of differed revenue masking profitability.

ontract	Links	Court/Agency	Nonrecuring	Rev F	Recuring Re	١V	2017		2018		2019		2020
	http://dccouncil.						\$ 153,000	\$	156,825	\$	160,746	\$	164,764
2	http://sccgov.iqn	Santa Clara County					\$ 211,519	\$	222,095	\$	233,200	\$	244,860
3	https://solano.leg	Solano County, CA					\$ 215,000	\$	93,000	\$	95,325	\$	97,708
4	https://www.pla	Placer CA	\$ 220,0	000	\$ 95,	000	\$ 220,000	\$	95,000	\$	97,375	\$	99,809
5	http://opendocs.	Cook County	\$ 543,100	.00	\$ 329,250	0.00	\$ 329,250	\$	337,481	\$	345,918	\$	354,566
6	http://apps.fortw	Fort Worth			\$ 337,	179	\$ 345,608	\$	354,249	\$	363,105	\$	372,183
7		Orange County	\$ 550,000	.00	\$ 300,000	0.00	\$ 850,000	\$	307,500		315,188	\$	323,067
8	https://www.alp	Alpharetta, GA	20	000	17	7500		\$	20,000	\$	17,500	\$	17,938
9	https://www.dek	Dekalb County, Georgia			46	5500		\$	46,500	\$	47,663	\$	48,854
10	https://www.can	Caldwell, Idaho	64	197				\$	64,197	\$	65,802	\$	67,447
11	http://montgome	Montgomery County	65	682	113	3570		\$	65,682	\$	113,570	\$	116,409
12	http://docplayer.	Maricopa County Agencies			\$ 170,	410		\$	170,410.00	\$	178,950.00	\$	187,917.00
13	https://docs.legis	Madison WI	\$ 200,0	000	\$ 102,	000		\$	200,000	\$	89,000	\$	89,000
14	https://dupagepo	Dupage County	200	000	\$ 109,	540		\$	200,000		109,540	\$	112,279
15	https://static.spo	Spokane Municipal Court	\$ 290,000	.00	\$ 123,000	0.00		\$	290,000	\$	126,075	\$	129,227
16	http://www.ct.go	Conneticut	\$ 330,0	000	\$ 77,	300		\$	330,000	\$	77,300	\$	79,233
17	http://www.co.m	Marion County	\$ 340,000			0.00		\$	340,000	\$	118,900	\$	121,873
18		Austin Texas	\$1,025,000	.00	\$ 280,000	0.00		\$	500,000	\$	280,000	\$	287,000
19	http://www.cour	Australia						\$	1,300,000.00	\$	1,332,500.00	\$ :	1,365,812.50
		Humboldt Superior Court	\$5,000,000.00										
20		Lake Superior Court											
		Madera Superior Court											
		Modoc Superior Court											
		Plumas Superior Court		.00	\$2,745,000.00			\$ 4,1	4,100,000	\$	\$ 1,700,000	\$	1,742,500
		Sierra Superior Court											
		San Benito Superior Court											
		Trinity Superior Court											
	cuments/bcp/171	Tuolumne Superior Court											

You can't look at our financial statements and make very good judgments about what's going to happen. - Munger 2017

### Building a \$1 Billion Business (ignoring publishing)

### Multi-channel revenue expansion

- 1. Contracted annual price increases
- 2. Additional licenses from existing clients
- 3. New license and implementation demand
- 4. Consulting and Public Services (e.g. ePay-it, eFile-it)
- SAAS revenues will jump higher in coming years as implementations complete
- Expect \$150m in recurring JTI revenue within 10 years, net margins to exceed 25%
- JTI value over \$600m and net investment portfolio over \$400m within a decade
- DJCO under \$300m Market Cap today will be 3-4x higher within 10 years
- Double digit IRR can continue for decades
  - Every contract that's significant is a major jump. The business is so big > > they're whole states. I mean this is a huge business. Munger 2017

### Phil Fisher Scuttlebutt Analysis – The Qualitative Case

1	✓ Large Market for Sizable Sales Increase	3,000 largely untapped counties with underutilization of government focused software solutions.
2	✓ Determination for New Product Development	Significant new product opportunities including district attorneys, adoption agencies, courts, and others.
3	✓ Effective R&D Effort	Difficult to determine yet management prioritizes coordinating teams with diverse skills, incentivizing productivity and communication. Each aid success of R&D efforts.
4	✓ Above Average Sales Organization	Advertising, sales and distribution all valuable aspects. Sales teams consist of high quality people with low attrition.
5	✓ Worthwhile Profit Margin	SAAS business models exhibits strong profit margin potential. Long term contracts maintain margins during downturns in business cycle.
6	✓ Actively Maintaining or Improving Margins	Low cost focus while delivering high value to customers. Contracts include built in price increases.
7	✓ Excellent Labor and Personnel Relations	Glassdoor.com shows complaints around micromanagement, flat organization, low pay, poor quality of facilities and no 401 (k). These complaints are cause for concern. Management praises employees.
8	✓ Outstanding Executive Relations	Executives and board members are of top quality. However, the board members are elderly and have been running the firm for decades without key executives for replacement.
9	✓ Depth of Management	Top quality management exists today however many known board members lack technology experience. Future leaders are unknown.
10	✓ Cost and Accounting Controls	Management focus on integrity and proper incentives including lack of earnings projections, no quarterly calls or an IR team all bode well for low costs and accuracy and honesty in accounting.
11	✓ Peculiar Advantages Relative to Competition	Board of business titans. Incorporate sustainable moats and execute based on invariant strategies like integrity, differed gratification and win-win relationships.
12	✓ Long-term vs Short Term Profit Outlook	Exceptionally long-term outlook
13	✓ Aversion to Shareholder Dilution	Equity share count is fixed. Access to extraordinarily low cost dept through equity portfolio. Internal financing available through rapid growth in cash flows.
14	✓ Frankness Regarding Negative Developments	Management speaks infrequently but with frankness regarding risks.
15	✓ Management of Unquestionable Integrity	Ethos established over decades is built on a culture of integrity.

6 A company could well be an investment bonanza if it failed fully to qualify on a very few of them. – Phil Fisher 1996



This disclaimer applies to this document and the verbal or written comments of any person presenting it. This document, taken together with any such verbal or written comments, is referred to herein as the "Presentation." Peterson Investment Fund I, LP taken together with its affiliates, is referred to herein as "The Fund," "PIFI," "the Company," "we," "us" or "our."

No offer to purchase or sell securities. The Presentation does not constitute an offer to sell, or a solicitation of an offer to buy, any security and may not be relied upon in connection with the purchase or sale of the fund. Any such offer would only be made by means of formal offering documents, the terms of which would govern in all respects. You are cautioned against using this information as the basis for making a decision to participate in Peterson Investment Fund I, LP or to otherwise engage in an investment relationship with Peterson Capital Management.

You should not rely on the presentation as the basis upon which to make any investment decision. To the extent that you rely on the Presentation in connection with any investment decision, you do so at your own risk. The Presentation does not purport to be complete on any topic addressed.

Information contained in the Presentation includes calculations or figures that have been prepared internally and have not been audited or verified by a third party. In all cases where historical performance is presented, please note that past performance is not a reliable indicator of future results and should not be relied upon as the basis for making an investment decision.

The Presentation is not intended to provide, and should not be relied upon for, tax, legal, accounting or investment advice. Any statements of federal tax consequences contained in the Presentation were not intended to be used and cannot be used to avoid penalties under the Internal Revenue Code or to promote, market or recommend to another party any tax related matters addressed herein.

### **Disclaimer**



# Daily Journal

# Business Fundamentals

Business Fundamentals							
Market Cap	\$300m						
Shares Outstanding	1,380,746 shares						
Ave Daily Volume	1,100 Shares (~\$250k)						
Net Investment Portfolio	\$140m						
PV of JTI value	\$250m						
Newspaper	\$0						
Consulting	\$0						
Public Services	\$0						

Conservative sum of the parts reveals 30% upside today.

Internal qualitative incentives, moats and invariant strategies reveal hidden upside with long-term compounding that can outperform markets for a decade or longer.



### Commentary

### **Valuation**

### Newspaper

- Operating 10 legal papers originating in 1888
- Newspaper business is in a steady decline
- Countercyclical earnings spikes resulting from public notices

**\$0** (value certainly above zero)

### Investment Portfolio (\$141m)

- Portfolio designed by board members Munger and Guerin (superinvestors Buffett identified in 1984)
- In 2018 Buffett and Munger allocated substantial new Berkshire Hathaway capital into financial sector dominating DJCO portfolio
- Portfolio provides capital and size to bid on state wide technology solutions
- Non callable minimal debt with low interest rates
- Deferred tax liability may never be paid and is a form of float (long term zero interest loan from gov)
- RE long term fixed with assets held at cost

#### Hard Assets

- \$9m Cash
- \$188m Common stock portfolio: WFC (~75m), BAC (~56m), USB (~\$6.5m), PKX (~\$.5), Foreign possibly Hyundai (~\$9m) BYD (~\$41m)
- \$16m Real Estate

### Offsetting liability

- \$30m Non maturing margin loan at 2.5%
- \$40m Deferred capital gains tax at 0%
- \$2m Mortgage at 4.66%

**\$141** Net Investment Assets (\$213m - \$72m)

# Journal Technologies

- Future of DJCO business
- Off financial statement value / hidden revenue
- Operating in a huge space with many fragmented competitors
- Significant moats
- Exceptional board of directors
- High margin SAAS business model with sticky revenues

- Financial Figures Are Inaccurate
- Costs inflated and Revenue deferred.
- Path to \$150m in revenue exists over 10 years in a high 25% margin business



### Journal Technologies has a deferred gratification ethos (and moat)

Four years or more required to complete an RFP process, implement and bill for any services.

# City of Austin Municipal Court Case Management System Implementation Extension



Amendment No. 2
to
Contract No. 5600 NC170000035
for
Municipal Court Case Management System
between
Journal Technologies, Inc. (Contractor)
and the
City of Austin

Contacts detailing revenue can be found at the county and state levels by searching public tax budgeting documentation (won't be found on the income statement)

.0 The City hereby extends this contract. This extension option will be June 09, 2018 through June 08, 2019. This contract has not yet been implemented, therefore no addition of funds and Four (4) options still remain. No need for vendor's authorization.

Action	Action Amount	Total Contract Amount
Initial Term: 06/09/2017 - 06/08/2018	\$1,025,000.00	\$1,025,000.00
Amendment No. 1: Modify Section 0400 (Invoices shall contain unique invoice number)	\$0.00	\$1,025,000,00
Amendment No. 2: Extension 06/09/2018 – 06/08/2019	\$0.00	\$1,025,000.00

- MBE/WBE goals do not apply to this contract.
- 3.0 All other terms and conditions remain the same.

You can't look at our financial statements and make very good judgments about what's going to happen. - Munger 2017