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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Port St. Lucie among best in the nation for starting a business and housing market profits

PORT ST. LUCIE – The City of Port St. Lucie is among the top big cities in the nation to start a new business, and it also had one of the most profitable housing markets so far this year, according to recently published studies.

Personal finance outlet WalletHub.com this week named Port St. Lucie as 2017's 14th Best Large City to Start a Business. WalletHub's analysts compared the 150 most populated U.S. cities across 18 key indicators of startup viability. Those metrics included five-year business-survival rate, office space affordability, availability of human capital, industry variety and financing accessibility.

WalletHub ranked Oklahoma City as the top big City to start a business. Port St. Lucie, at number 14, ranked higher than Orlando, which was ranked 19 and was the only other Florida city in the top 20.

The full study can be found at: <https://wallethub.com/edu/best-cities-to-start-a-business/2281/> .

In a separate study, the financial website credit.com last week featured Port St. Lucie in a report on the 20 most profitable housing markets in the U.S. this year. Port St. Lucie ranked 20th in the nation on this list that analyzed cities with the highest percent return on the previous purchase price.

Port St. Lucie was the only Florida city on credit.com's list, which ranked San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara, California as having the most profitable housing market so far this year. According to the study, Port St. Lucie's housing market had an average 30 percent return on investment with an average price gain of \$53,000 in the first quarter of 2017.

This entire report can be found at: <http://blog.credit.com/2017/04/the-20-most-profitable-housing-markets-this-year-171991/> .

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The City of Port St. Lucie is proud to be a hometown where people live, learn, work and play, and celebrate all of life's opportunities. With over 179,000 residents, Port St. Lucie is Florida's eighth largest city by population (South Florida's 3rd largest city). The City occupies an area of 120 square miles in St. Lucie County on Florida's east coast, about 50 miles north of West Palm Beach, half way between Miami and Orlando. The City provides most traditional municipal services including law enforcement, water and sewer, and public works. For more information, please visit: www.cityofpsl.com

