



Dan Stone, CFE

Chief Business & People Development Officer

As Chief Business & People Development Officer for Front Burner, Dan Stone is responsible for business matters of the organization related to the areas of human resources, learning and development, franchise development and legal. In this role, Stone focuses on developing Front Burner's most valuable assets – its people, as well as the growth of its brands – The Melting Pot® and potential future affiliated concepts, as well as unaffiliated concepts that the management company supports with select services. Before his promotion to this role in April 2015, Stone served as Front Burner's vice president of franchise development.

Front Burner is a franchise management company headquartered in Tampa, Florida. It is affiliated with dynamic and niche-specific brands including The Melting Pot, the premier fondue restaurant franchise with 125 restaurants in the U.S., Canada, Mexico, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, and has over 10 locations in development internationally.

Prior to joining the organization in 2006 as director of franchise sales for The Melting Pot Restaurants, Inc., Stone was the director of human resources and assistant general manager for Winegardner & Hammons, Inc., a professional hotel management firm that manages multiple hotel franchises nationwide including Marriott and Embassy Suites. Responsibilities included food and beverage, sales, marketing, event planning, revenue management, hotel operations and human resources.

A graduate of Penn State University, Stone earned his bachelor's degree in hotel, restaurant and institutional management. He received his Certified Franchise Executive (CFE) certification from the International Franchise Association (IFA) in February 2010.

In 2014, Stone was honored by Business Observer of Florida as one of its top 40 under 40 Florida business leaders. He has served on the board of directors for the Blossom Montessori School for the Deaf in Clearwater, Florida, since 2008, was a founding steering committee member for the Friends of St. Jude Tampa Chapter and was a key organizer in the IFA FBN Tampa Chapter.

Dan and his partner Joey have been together for more than eight years and have two Cavalier King Charles Spaniels named Maddie and Riley.