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Lightning Labs Team,

Seven years in Bitcoin — Bitcoin IRA, deep community involvement, finally learning to run my own node — I knew very little about Lightning Labs until the Archipelago Foundation asked me to participate in their open-source Web 5.0 project. That's not a criticism. It's something I feel I could positively impact on day one.

The infrastructure you've built is foundational. LND, Taproot Assets, L402 — these are the rails everything else runs on. But if a seven-year Bitcoiner who runs a full node and studies the protocol obsessively barely knew your name, there's a real awareness and BD gap between what Lightning Labs is building and the institutional momentum that should be surrounding it. I know who to call.

I can walk in with a specific introduction on day one: Ken Brock, founder of AdPrompt AI — a revenue-generating, AI-native Bitcoin wallet company building AI-to-AI transaction infrastructure directly on the L402 thesis. Ken is a 20-year digital marketer heading to New York on a capital raise and I mentioned to him that I had been doing research on your firm, and that it appeared that there could be real strategic alignment with where they are at in the startup phase. I told him that if given the chance, I would make a warm introduction to Lightning Labs. Beyond Ken: I have warm relationships on Northwestern Mutual's crypto adoption desk, VanEck's BTC ETF team, Wright Thurston — a first-generation Bitcoin billionaire, former employer, and operator of active node infrastructure in Central America — and Shawn Finnegan, founder of Tax Hive and a VC investor with co-investment ties to Kevin O'Leary's network. These aren't cold LinkedIn connections. They're named relationships I can activate with a phone call.

What I bring is a translation skill that goes beyond vocabulary. Three and a half years at Bitcoin Advizers taught me how to sit across from boomers and Gen X investors — people who had never heard Bitcoin explained without a headline attached — and find the exact connective tissue between their financial reality and Bitcoin's value proposition. The conviction is non-negotiable; it lives at the first-principles level and it doesn't move. The skill is calibration — knowing when to pull back to fundamentals, when to go full-conviction, and how to read the precise register the room needs in between. That methodology moved over a couple million dollars in new client capital in a single year. Joining Northwestern Mutual wasn't a detour — it was a deliberate step inside institutional finance to earn the language from the inside out.

Orange Horizon Wealth — one of the country's leading Bitcoin-forward financial planning firms — runs a monthly Zoom open to financial advisers nationwide. Hundreds of thousands are eligible. Between four and eleven show up. We are barely one pitch into the first inning of converting institutional finance to Bitcoin. A generation that has never walked into a physical bank is inheriting the world — and the advisers who plant their flag in hard money now will be the ones who matter when that wealth transfers. I know how to move that room. Lightning Labs is where that work finds its purpose.

What you're building deserves to be impossible to ignore — in boardrooms, in capital allocation meetings, and across the Bitcoin community at large. I've spent twenty years learning how to open those rooms. I'd welcome the chance to open the right ones for Lightning Labs.

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