

# Diversity

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**Lawyers of Color  
Salutes Diversity Professionals**



At **Quarles**, a deep commitment to **diversity, equity** and **inclusion** not only is a long-standing part of our history, but it's critical to our future success. We're proud of the progress we've made as we continually strive to fully achieve our vision of creating an inclusive culture in which everyone at our firm is comfortable bringing their authentic selves to work.

To learn more about our Diversity, Equity and Inclusion initiatives, please email [DEI-Firm@quarles.com](mailto:DEI-Firm@quarles.com).

[quarles.com](https://www.quarles.com)

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**Quarles**

Christopher Nelson -  
Gabriela Martinez -  
Kaitlyn Williamson -  
Yolanda Young-

Lawyers of Color is a 501(c)(3) devoted to promoting diversity in the legal profession and advancing democracy and equality in marginalized communities. We celebrate attorneys of color and conduct research and studies regarding the intersection of the legal profession and social justice.

Reception photos that appear throughout were taken by **“Najah K Photography”**



Congratulations to  
Assistant Dean of  
Diversity and Inclusion,  
Jermaine Cruz!

We appreciate all  
that you do for the  
Albany Law School  
community.



ALBANY LAW SCHOOL

# Different. Dynamic. Dedicated.



“Venable’s commitment to diversity is directly tied to its dedication to exemplary client service. The firm recognizes the importance of assigning the best and most diverse teams to every client with which we work. The leadership of the firm is also composed of attorneys and professionals from various backgrounds and walks of life who understand the continuing relevance of the African proverb: If you want to go quickly, go alone; if you want to go far, go together.

- Craig Thompson

Partner, Commercial Litigation, Product Liability and Mass Torts; Member, Firm Board

Additional partners and counsel who are members of the Venable Success Network, an affinity group for African American attorneys, come from a mix of practices and specialties around the firm. We invite you to explore their bios on [Venable.com](http://Venable.com).



**Gueter Aurelien**  
Partner, Corporate Transactions



**Claude Bailey**  
Partner, State and Local DC Government; Chair, Venable Success Network



**William Briggs, II**  
Partner, Commercial Litigation, Entertainment Industry Litigation; Member, Venable Foundation Committee



**Gordon Davis**  
Partner, Real Estate, NYC Land Use and Zoning



**Gregory Gill**  
Partner, Legislative and Government Affairs



**Claudia Lewis**  
Partner, Food and Drug Law; Member, Firm Management Committee



**JaMar Mancano**  
Partner, Product Liability and Mass Torts, Commercial Litigation



**Charles Monterio, Jr.**  
Partner, Intellectual Property Litigation



**Calvin Nelson**  
Partner, Intellectual Property Litigation



**Justin Pierce**  
Partner, Intellectual Property; Member, Firm Management Committee



**Yardly Pollas-Kimble**  
Partner, Legislative and Government Affairs



**Lisa Tavares**  
Partner and Co-Chair, Business Division; Co-Chair, Venable Council on DEI



**Kenneth Thompson**  
Partner, Commercial Litigation



**Nicole King**  
Counsel, Commercial Litigation



**Jerry Moore**  
Counsel, Real Estate, Land Use and Zoning



**Thomasina Poirot**  
Counsel, Product Liability and Mass Torts, Insurance Coverage Litigation

# VENABLE<sub>LLP</sub>

Visit [Venable.com/Diversity](http://Venable.com/Diversity) to learn more about our commitment to creating a more diverse and inclusive workplace.

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## **Bruce Jackson’s Inspiring Journey: From Brooklyn to Hip Hop, Microsoft, and the Law**

In his new memoir, “Never Far from Home; My Journey from Brooklyn to Hip Hop, Microsoft, and the Law,” Bruce Jackson, opens up about his extraordinary life story. From growing up in the colorful neighborhood of Crown Heights, Brooklyn, to working alongside music legends and making a significant impact at Microsoft, Jackson’s journey is as inspiring as it is remarkable.

Jackson’s early years included briefly running a newspaper stealing operation and witnessing the murder of a friend, but shortly after graduating from Georgetown Law he found himself advising some of the biggest stars in music and today he finds himself working with Microsoft’s president, Brad Smith.

Jackson led a team at Microsoft that supported a \$20 billion business, comprising individuals from diverse backgrounds, including women and people of color. His commitment to excellence and diversity has earned him the admiration of colleagues, who recognize the rarity and significance of being part of such an inclusive team.

“I think we had a probably a \$20 billion team, and we had about 15 women, seven were black. We also had three black men, two Asian men, and two Latino men, so it was a very diverse team,” said Jackson.

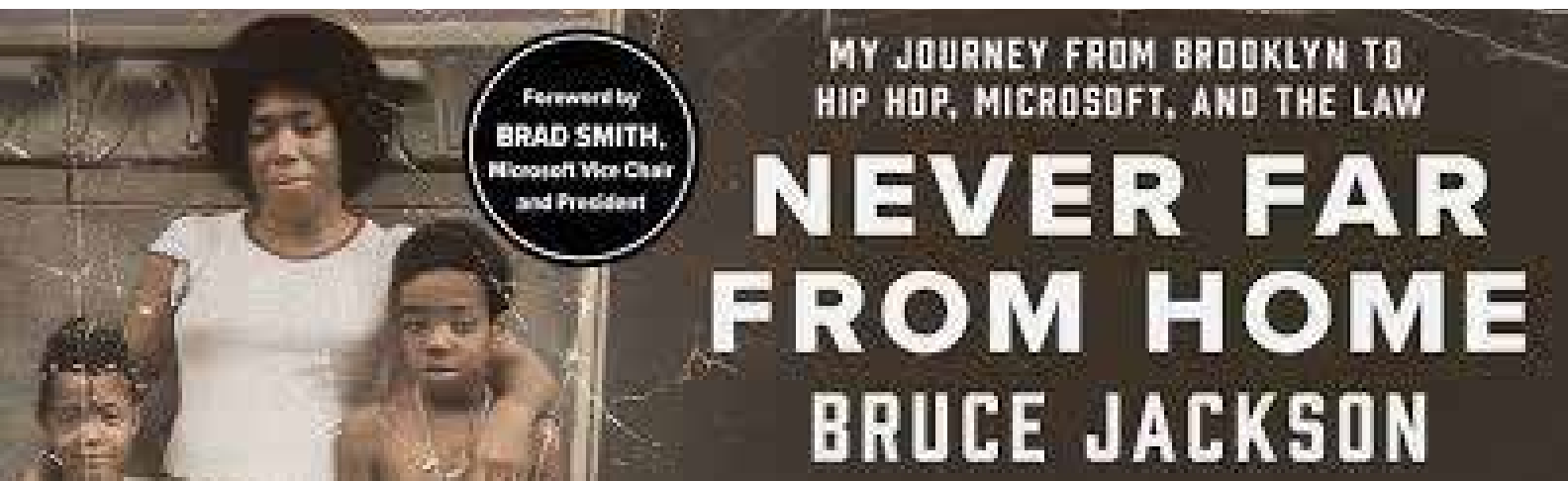
This commitment to diversity stems from his time at Georgetown Law where Jackson recalled feeling a sense of disconnection from his peers, both black and white, and sought solace at Howard University, where he spent most of his time after the first year of law school. In Jackson’s view, it is crucial to seize the opportunity to promote diversity and inclusion while you can. He believes that true commitment to diversity can be measured by the impact it has on an organization, rather than just the activities or initiatives undertaken.

“We have these score cards, but what I’m advocating for is a carve out where diversity and diversity and inclusion represents 5% of people’s compensation. And that’s when you’re gonna see the difference. If you impact people’s money, whether they want to actually do anything, they’re gonna do it because let’s face the fact, not everyone cares about this diversity thing,” said Jackson.

When it comes to law firms, Jackson stresses the need for pressure from corporate clients to drive change. He suggests that companies should hold law firms accountable for his diversity efforts and consider consequences for firms that do not prioritize diversity and inclusion.

Jackson emphasizes that the struggle for equity extends beyond urban areas and affects people in rural communities as well. He highlights the importance of unity and fighting against biases that pit different groups against each other. By recognizing shared struggles and lack of support from society, Jackson advocates for collaboration in overcoming these challenges.

Jackson’s journey serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of resilience, sacrifice, and advocacy in creating a more inclusive and equitable world.





## **Lawyers of Color thanks WUSA9 anchor Larry Miller for serving as emcee at the Diversity Awards reception.**

Larry Miller joined the WUSA9 morning team in February 2015 and after serving in multiple positions, he became a Get Up DC anchor in October 2022. He holds a Master of Arts in Journalism and Mass Communication from Point Park University and a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from the University of Pittsburgh. Larry is also a proud graduate of Montgomery College (Rockville Campus) where he received an Associate of Arts degree. In addition, Larry is also an adjunct professor at Prince George's Community College. He teaches speech communication.



**Lawyers of Color’s Industry Leader Diversity Award was given to law firms which satisfy all of the criteria below.**

**Lawyers of Color’s Aspire Diversity Award was given to law firms that satisfy two of the following three criteria below:**

- Have at least one staff member with the word “equity,” “diversity,” or “inclusion” in their title
- Have at least one attorney of color who is a managing partner, executive/management committee member, or practice group head
- Have at least 4% Black attorneys



Akerman LLP

Baker & Hostetler LLP

Barnes & Thornburg LLP

Bass Berry & Sims PLC

Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey & Leonard

Bryan Cave LLP

Crowell & Moring LLP

Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP

Davis Wright Tremaine

Fenwick & West LLP

Fisher & Phillips LLP

Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP

Gibbons PC

Greenberg Traurig LLP

Hogan Lovells LLP

Ice Miller LLP

Jackson Lewis P.C.

Kasowitz Benson Torres LLP

Kelley Drye & Warren LLP

Mayer Brown

Paul Hastings LLP

Robinson, Bradshaw & Hinson

Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP

Step toe & Johnson LLP

Venable LLP

White & Case LLP

Williams & Connolly LLP

Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP

Wilmer Hale



Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP

Arent Fox LLP

Ballard Spahr LLP

Berry Appleman & Leiden

Blank Rome

Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP

Bowman and Brooke LLP

Bricker & Eckler LLP

Brooks Kushman

Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck LLP

Burr & Forman LLP

Butler Snow

Carlton Fields Jordan Burt, LLP

Chapman and Cutler LLP

Cooley LLP

Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP

Debevoise & Plimpton LLP

Dentons US LLP

Dickinson Wright PLLC

DLA Piper LLP

Duane Morris LLP

Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner, LLP

Foley & Lardner

FordHarrison LLP

Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz

Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer

Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP

Goodwin Procter LLP

Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani LLP

Gunderson Dettmer Stough Villeneuve Franklin & Hachigian, LLP

Hall Booth Smith

Haynes and Boone LLP



Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP  
Holland & Knight LLP  
Hunton Andrews Kurth  
Kean Miller LLP  
Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP  
Latham & Watkins LLP  
Lathrop GPM LLP  
Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP  
Linklaters LLP  
Litchfield Cavo LLP  
Littler Mendelson P.C.  
Locke Lord LLP  
Loeb & Loeb LLP  
Manning & kass, Ellord, Ramirez, Trester  
McGuireWoods LLP  
Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone PLC  
Moore & Van Allen, PLLC  
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP  
Munger, Tolles & Olson LLP  
Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP  
Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart P.C.  
Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP  
Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP  
Perkins Coie LLP  
Phelps Dunbar LLP  
Quarles & Brady LLP  
Reed Smith LLP  
Ropes & Gray LLP  
Segal McCambridge Singer & Mahoney, Ltd.  
Shearman & Sterling LLP  
Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP  
Shipman & Goodwin LLP



Shook, Hardy & Bacon  
Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP  
Smith, Gambrell & Russell LLP  
Smith, Anderson, Blount, Dorsett, Mitchell & Jeringan  
Stinson  
Stoel Rives LLP  
Sullivan & Cromwell LLP.  
Swift, Currie, MaGhes & Hirs  
Taft Stettinius & Hollister  
Taylor English Duma  
Thompson Coburn LLP  
Thompson Hine LLP  
Troutman Sanders LLP  
Ulmer & Berne LLP  
Vinson & Elkins LLP  
Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP  
Wiley Rein LLP  
Winston & Strawn LLP  
Young Conaway Stargatt & Tayer

# Diversity Organizations in the Legal Profession

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Diversity Organizations in the Legal Profession

American Bar Association - Diversity

"Association of American Law Schools  
Diversity, Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action"

Association of Law Firm Diversity Professionals

Black Entertainment and Sports Lawyers Association

Corporate Counsel—Women of Color

Diverse Lawyers

Hispanic National Bar Association

Latina Lawyers Bar Association

Leadership Institute for Women of Color in Law

Lesbian and Gay Lawyers Association

Minority Corporate Counsel Association

National Asian Pacific American Bar Association

National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum

National Association of Minority and Women Owned Law Firms

# Diversity Organizations in the Legal Profession

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National Association of Women Judges

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National Association of Women Lawyers

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National Association for Law Placement

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National Bar Association

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National Bar Association of African American Attorneys

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National Black Prosecutors Association

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National Conference of Black Lawyers

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National Conference of Women's Bar Associations

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National Hispanic Prosecutor Association

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National LGBT Bar Association

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National Native American Bar Association

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National Black Pre-Law Conference

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North American South Asian Bar Association

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Society of American Law Teachers (SALT)

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# Law Firms

DIVERSITY PROFESSIONALS





## Aaron V. Burrell

### Dickinson Wright

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Co-Chair

Aaron V. Burrell is the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Co-Chair for Dickinson Wright. Previously, he was Director Board Of Directors for Western Michigan University Cooley Law School and Oakland County Bar Association.

Aaron attended Western Michigan University Cooley Law School for Juris Doctor, Magna Cum Laude. He received his Master of Science in Administration, Legal and Political Systems (emphasis) from Central Michigan University.



## Ada Ejikeme

### Dentons US

Head of Diversity and Inclusion

Ada Ejikeme is the Interim Head of Diversity and Inclusion for Dentons US LLP. Previously, she was Diversity Coordinator for White & Case LLP.

Ada attended Columbia law School and Texas Southern University.



## Adrian Thompson

### Taft Law

Partner-in-Charge/Chief Diversity Officer (Cleveland)

Adrian provides counsel for private sector clients on issues including equal employment opportunity litigation, wage-hour problems, employment of the disabled, federal housing, and other labor matters. Co-partner-in-charge of the Cleveland office, Adrian is also a member of the firm's executive and participation committees and serves as Taft's chief diversity officer. He helps to drive the firm's commitment and strategy regarding diversity and inclusion across our offices and in the communities that we serve.



## Adrienne M. Hamilton

### Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner, LLP

Diversity & Inclusion Specialist

Adrienne M. Hamilton is the Diversity & Inclusion Specialist for Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner, LLP.

Adrienne attended Howard University and University of Maryland Global Campus (Communication and Media Studies).



## Alana Hudley

### Hogan Lovells

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Coordinator

Alana Hudley is the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advocate for Hogan Lovells. Previously, she was Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Coordinator for Vinson & Elkins and Attorney Development and Recruitment Assistant for Mayer Brown LLP.

Alana attended University of Maryland and received her Bachelor's degree, Psychology and Criminology/Criminal Justice.



## Aleš Rudišar

### White & Case LLP

Global Director of Diversity and Inclusion

Aleš Rudišar is the Global Director of Diversity and Inclusion, White & Case LLP. Previously, he served as Law Firms Relationship Manager - Legal Function Management/External Engagement Team for Barclays Investment Bank and Sales & Marketing Manager for GUARANT International.

Aleš attended Prague University of Economics and Business for Master, International Trade & Tourism and Copenhagen Business School International Relations, CEE Studies.



## Alexandra Metzl

**Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck LLP**  
Member, Committee on Diversity, Inclusion and Equity

Alexandra Metzl is the M&A and Corporate Shareholder and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Chair for Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck where her representative matters include mergers and acquisitions for private equity funds, their portfolio companies and founder-backed companies across a range of industries, including consumer products and hospitality. Previously, she served as Associate at Kirkland and Ellis LLP.

Alexandra attended New York University for Doctor of Law (J.D.). She did her B.A. in Modern American History from Brown University.



## Alexis P. Robertson

**Foley & Lardner**  
Director of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Alexis Robertson is the Director of Diversity & Inclusion for Foley & Lardner LLP, where she provides firm-wide strategic direction and oversight on all diversity and inclusion related matters, working closely with the firm's Recruiting, Professional Development, Business Development, and Human Resources departments, as well as supervising the DEI team. Previously, she was North America Manager of Diversity and Inclusion for Baker McKenzie and Legal Recruiting Director for The Partners Group.

Alexis attended University of Michigan Law School and American University.



## Aliette Rodz

**Shutts & Bowen LLP**  
Partner and Chair of the Cuba Task Force, The Diversity Committee, and The Focus on Women Group

Aliette Rodz is the Partner and Chair of the Cuba Task Force, The Diversity Committee, and The Focus on Women Group for Shutts & Bowen LLP.

Aliette attended University of Florida - Fredric G. Levin College of Law Juris Doctor.



## Alisa Goodwin

**Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP**  
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Leader

Alisa Goodwin is the Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion for KPMG US. Previously, she was Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion for Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP and Director of Business Management (promoted from Associate Director of Business Management) for Baker McKenzie.

Alisa attended Georgetown University Law Center J.D. She received her BA, American Studies from The George Washington University.



## Alison Foster

**Lathrop GPM LLP**  
Women's Initiative Network Co-Chair; Counsel

In her role with the firm's Women's Initiative Network, Alison aids in addressing issues of concern to women attorneys and providing support, firmwide networking and mentoring for women attorneys. Alison focuses her practice on the energy sector, working primarily on the preparation of title opinions and other complex oil and gas matters. In addition, she works with the firm's wealth strategies practice, consulting on mineral ownership issues.



## Allen Estes III

**Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani (GRSM)**  
Co-Chair Leadership Equality and Diversity Program

Allen W. Estes, III advises clients on construction, public procurement, commercial, and renewable energy matters. In his construction practice, Estes advises developers, engineers, general contractors, subcontractors, suppliers and sureties in all phases of project administration and delivery on public and private projects to include bidding issues, contract drafting/negotiation, contractor licensing issues, project performance, project disputes, project closeout and warranty issues on transportation, infrastructure, marine, waste water/water, power and renewable energy projects. His litigation experience includes.



## Alvin C. Lin

Morrison Cohen LLP

Chair, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee



Alvin focuses his practice on litigating a wide variety of business disputes involving trademark, copyright, trade secrets and patents, commercial real estate construction, insurance defense, employment, and IP portfolio management and non-litigation intellectual property issues. Chair of the DEI Committee, Alvin has spearheaded the adoption of updated practices and policies relating to hiring and promotion to address inclusion from historically underrepresented groups and has coordinated events and educational outreach to promote awareness of racial equity and inclusion.

## Amanda K. Huynh

Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP

Diversity Manager



Amanda K. Huynh is the Chief of Staff | Office of the Chair & Managing Partner for Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP. Previously, she was Student Prosecutor for Suffolk County District Attorney's Office and Legal Intern, Fair Labor Division for Massachusetts Attorney General's Office.

Amanda attended Georgetown University for B.S.F.S., Culture and Politics: International Development and Conflict Resolution.

## Amanda Nugent

Carmody Torrance Sandak & Hennessey LLP

Director of Talent & Diversity



Amanda Nugent is the Director of Talent & Diversity for Carmody Torrance Sandak & Hennessey LLP, where she serves as the co-chair of the firm's Diversity & Inclusion Team alongside the firm's managing partner, Rick Street.

Amanda attended Boston College Law School for Juris Doctor, Law. She received her Bachelor of Arts (BA), Journalism from New York university where she was recipient of Founders Day Award, recognizing consistent evidence of outstanding scholarship.

## Amie Santos

Cooley LLP

Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion



Amie Santos is the Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion for Cooley LLP, where she oversees the development of innovative strategies to increase diverse representation and weave inclusion into all areas of the business, resulting in more diversity of thought and perspective, enhanced client services, and increased competitiveness. Previously, she was Global Senior Diversity Coordinator for Baker Botts LLP and Recruiting and Development Coordinator for Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP & Affiliates. Amie attended University of Virginia for Graduate Certificate, Leadership in Human Resources. She received her Bachelor of Science, Political Science.

## Amy Flint

Davis Wright Tremaine

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Engagement Senior Manager



Amy Flint is the Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Engagement Senior Manager for Davis Wright Tremaine LLP, where she co-manages Diversity, Equity & Inclusion budget of \$950K for the entire firm, including both internal and external events, initiatives, memberships, and sponsorships diversity-related events. Previously, she was People Ecosystems Intern for Avanade and MBA Board Fellow for Equal Rights Washington. Amy attended University of Washington - Michael G. Foster School of Business for Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.), Business Administration and Management, General. She received her Bachelor's Degree, Sociology.

## Amy Justine Kallal

Mound Cotton Wollan & Greengrass

Partner and Diversity Equity & Inclusion Director



Amy Justine Kallal is the A Partner and Diversity Equity & Inclusion Director for Mound Cotton Wollan & Greengrass. Previously, she was Associate for Kennedy, Covington, Lobbell, & Hickman, L.L.P., now K&L Gates and Mound Cotton Wollan & Greengrass. Amy attended Syracuse University College of Law Doctor of Law (JD). She received her Master of Public Administration (MPA), Public Finance from Syracuse University - Maxwell School and Bachelor of Arts (BA), English Literature from Michigan State University.

## Ana Eliza Bauersachs

Capehart Scatchard  
Diversity Committee Member



Ana Eliza Bauersachs is the Shareholder and Diversity Committee Member for Capehart & Scatchard where she represents employers, self-insured companies, and insurance carriers in workers' compensation defense matters. Previously, she was Law Clerk at First DCA and Fellowship - Legislative Analyst for Insurance Committee for Florida House of Representatives

Ana attended Florida State University College of Law for J.D law.

## Ana Portillo

Hawkins Parnell & Young  
Diversity Committee Co-Chair



Ana Portillo is the Co-Chair of the Diversity & Inclusion Committee for Hawkins Parnell & Young, LLP. Previously, she was Partner at Jackson Jenkins Renstrom LLP and Senior Counsel for Jackson & Wallace.

Ana attended Arizona State University College of Law J.D., Law. She received her Bachelor of Arts - BA, Comparative Literature from University of California, Berkeley.

## Angela Hsu

Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner  
Partner, Lawyers of Color Affinity Group Co-Chair



Angela Hsu represents a range of public and private companies both domestic and international as a trusted advisor. In addition to acting as outside general counsel, she handles a broad range of transactional matters, including commercial real estate, joint ventures and acquisitions and divestitures. Over the course of her professional career, she has been deeply invested in the Atlanta Region and the Asian American community, previously serving on the board of the Regional Leadership Foundation, as President of the Georgia Chapter of the Organization of Chinese Americans, as Chairman of the Board of the Georgia Commission on Equal Opportunity.

## Angela Quiles Nevarez

Jackson Lewis, P.C.  
Co-leader of Jackson Lewis' Hispanic Attorney Resource Group



Angela is committed to increasing the firm's visibility among Hispanic and other minority attorneys, as well as mentoring the firm's minority attorneys to assist in their training and development.

In her legal practice, Angela routinely uses her Spanish language skills to the advantage of her clients. Her ability to quickly build rapport and understand cultural contexts has allowed her to obtain critical information and key testimony from Spanish-speaking employees.

## Angie Cavallo

Jackson Lewis, P.C.  
Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion



Angie manages DEI programs and oversees Attorney Resource Groups. Angie collaborates with a multidisciplinary team on mentoring, learning and development, human resources, talent acquisition, and professional and business development. Angie trained in Diversity & Inclusion Management and was recognized by the National LGBTQ+ Bar as a Best LGBT Lawyer Under 40 in 2017. Angie is a board member for Philadelphia Diversity Law Group and is a member of the National LGBTQ+ Bar, MCCA, and the Association of Law Firm Diversity Professionals.

## Ann Jenrette-Thomas

Stinson LLP  
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Executive | Board Director



Ann Jenrette-Thomas, Esq. is the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Executive for Stinson LLP., where she was hired as Stinson's first Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer to build the DEI business unit from the ground up; establish diversity, equity, and inclusion as a staple of the firm's strategic plan; direct DEI initiatives; and oversee the implementation of a Diversity Action plan. Previously, she served as CEO and Founder of Esquire Coaching Inc. and Associate for Venable LLP.

Ann attended Western New England University School of Law J.D.

## Anna Brown

**Baker & McKenzie LLP**  
Chief Inclusion & Diversity Officer



Anna Brown is the Chief Inclusion & Diversity Officer for Baker McKenzie. Previously she served as Special Attorney/Director of Global Diversity & Inclusion for Shearman & Sterling LLP and Associate General Counsel for Continuum Health Partners.

Anna attended Howard University School of Law JD, Law.

## Anna Lesa Calvert

**Hodgson Russ LLP**  
Manager of Professional Development and Diversity



Anna Lesa Calvert is tManager of Professional Development and Diversity for Hodgson Russ LLP. Previously, she was in National Facilitation Team for U.S. Soccer Foundation and Executive Director of Algonquin Sports for Kids.

Anna attended St. Bonaventure University Master's , Strategic Leadership. She received her BA, Psychology and History from University at Buffalo.

## Anna Lisa Butler

**Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner**  
Inclusion & Diversity Advisor - US



Anna Lisa manages inclusion and diversity events including heritage month programming and diversity workshops, diversity client and benchmarking survey submission and analysis, and affinity group communications. She continues her work in the community as the president of the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis Young Professionals.

## Annie Flores

**Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP**  
Diversity & Inclusion Supervisor



Annie Flores is the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Supervisor for Skadden. Previously, she served as Diversity & Inclusion Associate for AccruePartners at TIAA/nuveen for TIAA and Diversity and Inclusion Coordinator for Morrison & Foerster LLP.

Annie attended John Jay College (CUNY) Bachelor's degree, Legal Studies, General. She received her Bachelors Degree (transfer), Organic Chemistry from St. John's University.

## Arleen Longoria

**Holland & Knight LLP**  
Diversity and Inclusion Assistant



Arleen Longoria works closely with members of the Diversity Council to support the development and implementation of diversity, equity, and inclusion programs and initiatives at Holland & Knight. She is a member of the Association for Law Firm Diversity Professionals.

## Ashley Bennett Ewald

**Lathrop GPM LLP**  
Women's Initiative Network Co-Chair; Partner



In her role with the firm's Women's Initiative Network, Ashley aids in addressing issues of concern to women attorneys and providing support, firmwide networking and mentoring for women attorneys. She is an experienced intellectual property litigator and also focuses on trademark prosecution and portfolio management. In addition, Ashley provides copyright, advertising, and social media law counseling. She is a volunteer attorney for Children's Law Center, representing children and youth in the Minnesota foster care system.

## Ashley DeBrino

Kasowitz Benson Torres

Professional Development & Diversity Specialist



Ashley D. DeBrino collaborates to advance the firm's diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) goals. She compiles metrics to evaluate the success of the firm's DEI initiatives and benchmark firm initiatives against best practices in the legal industry. Ashley also manages the firm's training programs.

## Ashley Holloway Black

Porter Hedges

Diversity & Inclusion Manager



Ashley Holloway Black, MS, PHR is the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging Manager at Porter Hedges LLP and Marketing Manager. Previously, she served at Haynes and Boone, LLP as Marketing and Business Development Specialist and Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP as Event Coordinator.

Ashley attended Florida State University for MS, Integrated Marketing Communications. She received her BS, Marketing from Clemson University and Diversity and Inclusion for HR Certificate from Cornell University.

## Ashley T. Mollenthil Fiore

Capehart Scatchard

Diversity Committee Member



Ashley Mollenthil Fiore is the Partner and Diversity Committee Member for Capehart & Scatchard where she represents the practice focused in the representation of employers, self-insured companies, and insurance carriers in workers' compensation defense matters. Previously, she was Associate for Margolis Edelstein and Celentano, Stadtmauer, & Walentowicz, LLP

Ashley attended Rutgers Law School for J.D. She received her B.S., Major: Industrial and Labor Relations. Concentration: Law and Society from Cornell University.

## Ashley Vernick

Rutan & Tucker LLP

Co-Chair Diversity



Ashley (Pearson) Vernick is the Co-Chair Diversity for Rutan & Tucker, LLP, where she guides corporate clients through their business matters, including reviewing and understanding contracts, identifying potential liabilities, understanding and abiding by corporate compliance programs, properly handling investigations, and improving training and related policies and procedures. Previously, she served as an Associate for Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP and Jenner & Block.

Ashley attended University of Chicago Law School for Doctor of Law (J.D.)

## Avanti Bakane

Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani (GRSM)

South Asian Affinity Group Co-Chair



Avanti Bakane has global perspective that allows for understanding of diverse viewpoints and the value of her clients' time. Publicly traded and smaller companies alike retain Ms. Bakane in areas such as complex class action, antitrust, breach of contract, and general commercial litigation with a focus upon consumer class action defense. As a Certified Information Privacy Professional (CIPP) and co-chair of the firm's Cyber, Privacy & Data Security group, Ms. Bakane's practice consists of representing businesses and creative professionals in software and e-commerce development, data privacy, data loss, licensing, and copyright infringement disputes.

## Ayelén Rodriguez

Venable

Associate



Ayelén Rodriguez focuses her practice on bankruptcy and creditors' rights. Ayelén has experience drafting memoranda on a variety of issues and conducting extensive legal research. In addition to receiving her J.D. from Fordham University School of Law, she earned an LL.M., magna cum laude, from the Panthéon-Sorbonne University. Prior to attending law school, Ayelén worked for a multinational investment bank and financial services holding company, where she worked with the legal and compliance division to ensure all communications between Fixed Income Division (FID) traders and clients were compliant with Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA).

## Baldwin Lee

Allen Matkins Leck Gamble  
Mallory & Natsis LLP  
Diversity Committee Co-Chair



Baldwin Lee is Partner, Head of Employment Law Group for Allen Matkins LLP, where he leads Employment Law Group. Previously, he was Employment/Labor Attorney at Paul Hastings Janofsky & Walker and Employment Attorney/Co-Chair of Employment Group at Farella Braun & Martel.

Baldwin attended University of Chicago School of Law and Stanford University, where he received J.D., and A.B., in History.

## Bernhard Rebecca

Dorsey & Whitney LLP  
Diversity & Inclusion Partner



Rebecca Bernhard is the Partner and former Co-Chair Firmwide Diversity and Inclusion for Dorsey & Whitney LLP. Previously, she was Adjunct Professor for Mitchell Hamline School of Law and Consultant for NeuVest.

Rebecca attended University of Minnesota Law School (JD, Law) She received her BSS, Labor Studies from San Francisco State University.

## Bimali Walgampaya

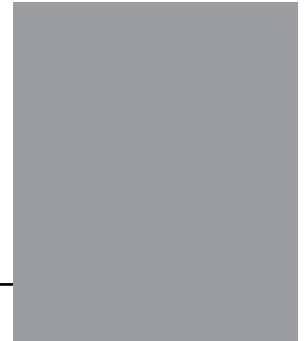
Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani (GRSM)  
South Asian Affinity Group Co-Chair



Bimali Walgampaya is a Partner in the San Diego office of Gordon & Rees and is a member of the Employment Law practice group. Her practice focuses in employment law, including FEHA claims and Wage and Hour claims. She also handles a large volume of collection matters, including judgment debtor exams and other collection avenues. With a multidisciplinary skillset, Ms. Walgampaya provides counsel to businesses regarding employment-related issues and compliance with California employment laws. She has handled both plaintiff and defense employment cases from their inception to trial preparation. Ms. Walgampaya's knowledge in discovery.

## Bobby Codjoe

Morrison Cohen LLP  
Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion



Bobby Codjoe is responsible for driving initiatives that help establish a positive, diverse, equitable, inclusive and welcoming work environment and for fostering connections with organizations that represent the firm's values. An expert in the Mansfield Rule, Bobby is leading the firm's efforts to achieve its Mansfield certification. He also leads the firm's mentorship program initiative to accelerate the personal and professional development of mentees. Bobby is known for his creativity in the DEI space and his ability to put his ideas into practice. He works with Operations and the DEI Committee to implement strategies.

## Breanna Schmidt

Husch Blackwell  
Legal Talent Management & Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Professional



Breanna Schmidt is the Director of Culture & Talent Integration for Husch Blackwell. Previously, she served as Director of Talent Development & Diversity for Stoel Rives LLP and Professional Development Consultant as an Independent Contractor.

Breanna attended Arizona State University for B.S., Justice Studies.

## Brenda Carr

Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP  
Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer



Brenda Carr is Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer for Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP where she leads work with internal and external stakeholders to create and execute the Firm's DEI strategy and goals, ensuring that they remain in alignment with the Firm's business strategy and core values. Previously, she was Diversity & Inclusion Manager for DLA Piper and Litigation Associate for Ropes & Gray LLP. Brenda attended Boston University School of Law for Doctor of Law (J.D.) Brenda received her M.A Educational Studies & Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Spanish and History from Tufts University where she was Magna Cum Laude.

## Brian S. Choi

Kasowitz Benson Torres  
Partner, Member of Asian Affinity Group



Brian S. Choi is a leading commercial litigator who represents companies, boards of directors, and individuals under investigation by the United States Department of Justice, the Securities Exchange Commission, and other regulatory enforcement agencies. He also has significant experience representing clients in a broad spectrum of commercial litigation matters in federal and state courts, including securities fraud, antitrust and breach of contract cases.

## Brian Sogol

Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton  
& Garrison LLP  
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Director



Brian Sogol is the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Director for Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP. Previously, he was Global Director of Lateral Partner Recruiting & Integration for Dechert LLP and Senior Alumni Manager for Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP.

Brian attended Cardozo School of Law J.D. He received his B.A., American Studies (Film) from Yale University.

## Briana Wright

Hancock Estabrook, LLP  
Attorney and Professional Development and Diversity Officer



Briana Wright is the Attorney and Professional Development and Diversity Officer for Hancock Estabrook, LLP. Previously, she was Executive Editor for Notes and Comments for Albany Law Review and Summer Associate for Hancock Estabrook, LLP.

Briana attended Albany Law School of Union University.

## Brita A. Horvath

Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP  
Director of Diversity & Inclusion



Brita A. Horvath is the Director of Diversity & Inclusion for Faegre Drinker, where she manages the firm's diversity programs, develops initiatives and strategies to further the firm's ongoing commitment to diversity through its recruitment, retention, development and advancement efforts. Previously, she was Director of Sections for the Indiana State Bar Association.

Brita attended Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law (J.D.). She received her B.A. with high distinction from Indiana University.

## Brittany McCants

Bass Berry & Sims  
Counsel



## Brittney Lee

Barnes & Thornburg LLP  
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Director



Manages Barnes & Thornburg's ongoing efforts to offer conscious programming that builds and sustains an inclusive, respectful and open culture within the firm.



## Bryan Minier

### Lathrop GPM LLP

Diversity and Inclusiveness Partners in Charge, Partner in Charge of the Lathrop GPM Chicago Office

In his role with Lathrop GPM's Culture, Diversity & Inclusion Committee, Bryan works to foster an atmosphere of inclusion and aid in the recruitment, advancement, and retention of diverse employees. Bryan concentrates his practice on corporate reorganizations, creditors' rights and bankruptcy. He also handles a variety of commercial litigation matters. His clients include financially troubled entities, secured lenders, trustees, receivers, unsecured creditors, official creditor and equity committees, commercial landlords, sellers, purchasers, shareholders and investors.



## Cara Newby

### Taft Law

Manager of Legal Recruiting and Diversity (Detroit)

Cara supports attorney recruiting efforts for Taft's Detroit office and assists the Chief Diversity Officer to help drive the firm's conversation, commitment, training, and action plans to foster diversity and inclusion in our firm and within the communities that we serve. Cara supports the firms' efforts to improve the work experience of our teams, and enhance productivity, retention, and client engagement.



## Carlos Dávila-Caballero

### Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP

Director of Diversity & Inclusion

Carlos Dávila-Caballero is the Diversity and inclusion leader and advocate Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP. Previously, he served as Director of Diversity and Inclusion for Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP and Assistant Dean for Career Development and Diversity Initiatives for Tulane University Law School.

Carlos attended Tulane University Law School Doctor of Law (JD). He received his BA, Economics from University of Central Florida.



## Carmen White

### Greensfelder, Hemker & Gale, P.C.

Director of Diversity and Community Relations

Carmen White is the Director of Diversity and Community Relations at Greensfelder, Hemker & Gale, P.C. Previously, she was Senior Policy Analyst for City of Tacoma and Management Fellow for City of San Antonio.

Carmen attended Indiana University Bloomington for Master of Public Administration (MPA), Local Government Management; Public Management. She received her Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Political Science and Government from University of Missouri-Columbia.



## Carol Currie

### Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP

Diversity & Inclusion Coordinator

Carol Currie is the Diversity & Inclusion Coordinator for Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP. Previously, she was Legal Administrative Assistant III for Tegic Communications (AOL Wireless) and Administrative Assistant III for AOL.

Carol attended Texas A&M University.



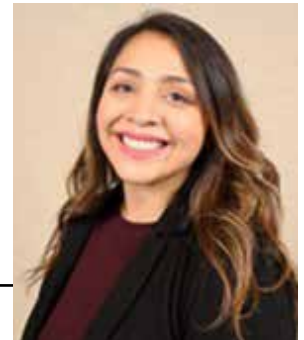
## Catalina Mejia

### Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom

DEI Project Analyst

Catalina Mejia is the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Project Analyst at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP. Previously, she worked as Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Specialist and Public Affairs & Community Relations Assistant at Total Wine & Moore.

Carol attended Texas A&M University.



## Chanille Carswell

Brooks Kushman

Chief Diversity Officer & Co-Chair Litigation



Chanille Carswell as Chief Diversity Officer is dedicated to advancing DEI within Brooks Kushman and the greater legal community. As a part of these efforts, she facilitates the firm's participation in the Wolverine Bar Association's Summer Clerkship Program. She was a 2015 Fellow and is now active alumni of LCLD. Chanille has served as the Membership Chair for the Michigan IP Inn of Court. She is also a regular supporter of Alternatives for Girls, an organization that serves homeless and at-risk girls and women in Detroit.

## Chara O'Neale

Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP

Director of Talent Management and Diversity & Inclusion



Chara O'Neale is the Director of Talent Management and Diversity & Inclusion at Parker Poe Adams & Bernstein LLP.

Chara attended William & Mary Law School J.D. She received her B.A from University of Virginia.

## Chelsea Mullarney

Brown Rudnick LLP

Diversity & Inclusion Leader

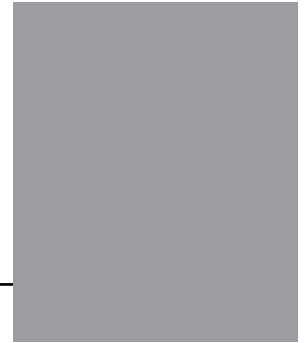


Chelsea Mullarney is the Diversity & Inclusion Leader and Advocate for Brown Rudnick LLP where she represents clients in all aspects of litigation and arbitration matters focusing on contract and business disputes, financial services, unfair competition, and complex commercial litigation.. Previously, she served as Litigation Associate for Day Ptney LLP and Intern at United States District Court for the District of New Jersey. Chelsea attended Fordham University School of Law Doctor of Law (J.D.). She received her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Government Economics from Wake Forest University.

## Christina Lannuzzi

Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP

DEI Project Specialist



Christina Lannuzzi is the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Project Specialist at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP and Affiliates. Previously, she worked as Senior Events Manager and Corporate Event Specialist for National Museum of Women in the Arts and Administrative Assistant at The Law offices of Charles R. Lannuzzi.

Christina attended The Catholic University of America for B.A , Psychology.

## Christina M. Jepson

Parsons Behle & Latimer

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Director



Christina Jepson is the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Director for Parsons Behle & Latimer, where she is the Chair of the firm's Employment and Labor Law Department. She primarily represents employers in lawsuits brought by employees. Christina also provides training, counseling, and investigation services. Besides employment law, her practice also includes commercial litigation. Previously, she was Adjunct Professor of Law, S.J. Quinney College of Law for University of Utah. Christina attended University of Utah S.J. Quinney College of Law for J.D. She received her Bachelor of Science, Political Science from University of Utah.

## Christine Alden

Buchanan

Shareholder and N.O.W. Affinity Group Co-Chair



Christine provides customized immigration solutions for a global clientele. As a naturalized citizen herself, she recognizes the importance of U.S. citizenship and the opportunities and security it brings. She is also able to identify with each and every one of her clients, no matter the situation or walk of life. Christine serves as Co-Chair of the firm's N.O.W. (Network of Women) affinity group for employees that identify as women.

## Christopher M. Chu

Capehart Scatchard

Diversity Committee Member



Christopher M. Chu is the Partner and Diversity Committee Member for Capehart & Scatchard where he focuses his practice in the representation of employers, self-insured companies, and insurance carriers in workers' compensation defense matters. Previously, he was Referee for U.S. Soccer Federation and Associate Attorney for Law Office of Charles H. Nugent, Jr. Christopher attended Widener University School of Law for Doctor of Law (JD), Law. He received his bachelors in History, Concentration in International Studies; Minor in Political Science from Rowan University.

## Christopher S. Auguste

Kramer Levin

Partner; Chair, Diversity Committee; Co-Chair, Pro Bono Committee



Christopher S. Auguste is a trustee on the board of Phillips Academy and is the chair of the firm's Diversity Committee. Chris counsels and represents clients in the private placement or public offering of debt and equity securities. Chris represents underwriters and issuers in initial and secondary public offerings, private investment funds in their investment in public and private companies, and investment banks in structuring PIPEs, SPACs, shelf offerings and equity line transactions. He counsels private investment funds and funds of funds in connection with their structure and formation, and provides advice and analysis regarding their portfolio investments.

## Cindy Caranella Kelly

Kasowitz Benson Torres

Partner, Managing Partner (Administration), Co-Chair of the Diversity & Inclusion Committee, and Co-Chair of the Women's Initiatives Committee



Cindy Caranella Kelly is one of the nation's leading commercial litigators representing major financial institutions, creditors' committees, energy companies, and individuals in a wide range of complex civil litigation matters, including cases involving state and federal securities laws, corporate governance, antitrust laws, breach of contract and fraud.

## Cindy-Ann L. Thomas

Little Mendelson P.C.

International Employment Attorney \* DE&I Strategist



Cindy-Ann L. Thomas is the International Employment Attorney \* DE&I Strategist for Littler. Previously, she was an International Labor & Employment Attorney for Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP.

Cindy-Ann attended University of Windsor Faculty of Law/University of Detroit Mercy School of Law for Bachelor of Laws - LLB. She received her Bachelor of Arts - BA, Political Science and Government from McGill University.

## Clifford E. Barnes

Epstein Becker & Green, P.C.

Vice Chair, Diversity & Professional Development Committee; Co-Chair, Minority Attorneys Forum



Clifford (Cliff) Barnes is a Member of the Firm at Epstein Becker Green who has practiced health care law since its inception. Cliff is Vice Chair of the firm's Diversity & Professional Committee and Co-Chair of the firm's Minority Attorneys Forum.

## Colby A. Fraschilla

Shipman & Goodwin LLP

Director of Professional Development



Colby A. Fraschilla is the Director of Professional Development and Diversity for Shipman & Goodwin LLP. Previously, she served as Professional Development Manager for Wiggin and Dana LLP.

Colby attended Quinnipiac University School of Law for Juris Doctor (J.D.). She received her B.A., Criminal Justice from University of Delaware.

## Connie Nichols

### Munck Wilson Mandala

Chair of Diversity & Corporate Culture Training Practice



Connie Nichols is a partner at Munck Wilson Mandala and a professor of law at Baylor Law School. With more than 20 years of legal experience in IP, cybersecurity, and data privacy, Connie helps clients protect their business. Connie also trains organizations on DEI and she is leading her law firm's practice focused on diversity and corporate culture training.

When not teaching or practicing law, Connie enjoys hiking, and participating in community and church activities.

## Cory J. Person

### Hill Ward Henderson

Diversity & Inclusion Shareholder



Cory Person is the Diversity & Inclusion Shareholder for Freeman Mathis & Gary, LLP. Previously, he was Diversity & Inclusion Shareholder for Hill Ward Henderson and Partner for Butler Wehmuller Katz Craig LLP

Cory attended University of North Carolina School of Law Doctor of Law (J.D.). He received his Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Political Science from Methodist University.

## Courtne Bolden

### Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP

Associate, Litigation Department



Courtne Bolden assists in the firm's representation of clients in litigation matters. She is experienced in conducting legal research, drafting research memoranda, and providing additional support in various areas of the firm's litigation practice. She has assisted in matters related to a variety of practice areas, including employment, bankruptcy, healthcare, redevelopment and land use, and higher education

## Dana Larsen

### Greenspoon Marder LLP

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion



Dana Larsen is the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion for Greenspoon Marder LLP. Previously, she was Executive Assistant for Confidential and Language and Cultural Department - La Comunidad De Madrid.

Dana attended California State University San Marcos and received Bachelor's Degree in Criminology and Justice Studies, Minor in Sociology.

## Daniel J. Kavanaugh

### Holland & Knight LLP

Associate



Daniel Kavanaugh served for more than a decade in the U.S. Army and co-chairs Holland & Knight's Veterans Group. Mr. Kavanaugh's recognitions include being named a Rising Star by Florida Super Lawyers magazine (2022) and among the Florida Legal Elite by Florida Trend magazine (2021). He was also named a Holland & Knight Pro Bono All-Star (2021).

## Daniel L. (DL) Morriss

### Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP

Commercial Litigation Partner, Diversity & Inclusion Partner



Daniel L. (DL) Morriss is the Diversity & Inclusion Partner for Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP, where his practice concentrates on the representation and defense of regional and Fortune 500 financial institutions in commercial litigation claims involving tort, contract and statutory violations involving complex commercial foreclosure, guaranty and loan liability actions, as well as post-judgment collections. Previously, he was 2016 Fellow at Leadership Greater Chicago and Law Clerk for DePaul University Office of the General Counsel.

## Danyale Price

Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton  
& Garrison LLP

Chief Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer

**D**anyale Price is the Chief Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP. Previously, she worked as Director of Career Planning and Personal Development for National Basketball Players Association (NBPA) and Associate, Firmwide Diversity Recruiting for Goldman Sachs.

Danyala attended University of Virginia School of Law for JD-Law. She received her Bachelor's degree in Economics, Management & Organization from Spelman College.

## Darlene Austin

Quarles & Brady LLP

Director, Diversity, Employee Relations & Corporate Social Responsibility

**D**arlene Austin has an extensive leadership and background within Quarles and has been instrumental in the execution of the firm's strategic DEI initiatives for the promotion, recruitment, retention, and development of its attorneys and business professionals. Her long standing commitment to DEI and vast HR experiences are highly sought after in the implementation of many of the firm's historic programs, i.e., Business Resource groups, associate mentoring, as well as policy creation. Certified Professional in Human Resources Member.



## David A.W. Wong

Barnes & Thornburg LLP

Diversity Chair

**D**avid A. W. Wong is a partner with Barnes & Thornburg where he is a member of the Intellectual Property Department and Chairman of the Internet and Technology Law Group. David serves on the Board of Directors for the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Indiana, the Board of Directors for the Asian American Alliance, and as the Co-Chair of the Barnes & Thornburg Asian Pacific American Affiliate Group.



## David Spaulding

Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck LLP

Member, Committee on Diversity, Inclusion and Equity

**D**avid Spaulding is the Counsel at Mayer Brown LLP where he advises clients on matters related to nonqualified and tax-qualified benefit arrangements including ERISA, IRC Section 409A and multidisciplinary issues involving corporate and tax laws relating to employee benefits. Previously, he served as Associate at Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck and Manager for Deloitte & Touche. David attended University of Denver Sturm College of Law for LLM Taxation. He did her J.D Law from Tulane University. He received his B.B.A from Loyola University, New Orleans.



## Dawn R. Rosemond

Barnes & Thornburg LLP

Firm Diversity Partner

**D**awn Rosemond serves as Barnes & Thornburg's full-time Firm Diversity Partner. In this role, Dawn is charged with activating the firm's longstanding commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion. Through the creation and implementation of deliberate programming and strategic initiatives, Dawn leads the charge for cultivating and maintaining an environment that boldly promotes the training, sponsorship, empowerment and promotion of all firm talent, regardless of background.



## Dawn Siler-Nixon

Ford & Harrison LLP

Global Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Chair; Diversity Consultant

**D**awn Siler-Nixon is the Equity Partner and Diversity and Inclusion Partner for Ford & Harrison LLP. Previously, she was Employment and Labor Defense Litigator, Diversity & Inclusion Partner, Equity Partner for Dawn Siler and Director at USAmeribank.

Dawn attended University of North Carolina School of Law. She received her BA, Industrial Relations from UNC-CH".



## Deborah R. Edwards

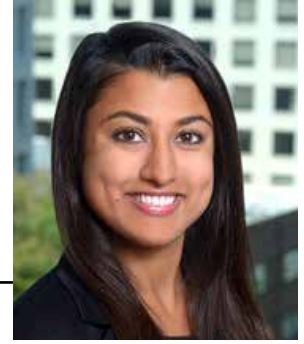
Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor, LLP  
Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion



Deborah R. Edwards, Esq. joined Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor in Wilmington, Delaware in February 2021 as the inaugural Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. In this role, Ms. Edwards is responsible for leading the firm's diversity, equity and inclusion efforts for attorneys and staff, including implementation of strategy, best practices, programs, initiatives, culture and training. Prior to this, Ms. Edwards served as the Assistant Dean for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at Seton Hall Law School in Newark, New Jersey from August 2017 to January 2021.

## Deepika Ravi

Harris, Wiltshire & Grannis LLP  
Diversity and Inclusion Partner



Deepika Ravi is the Diversity and Inclusion Partner for Harris, Wiltshire & Grannis LLP. Previously, she was Adjunct Professor, Professional Responsibility for Georgetown University Law Center and Ethics and Compliance Team member for Biden-Harris Transition Team.

Deepika attended Stanford Law School Juris Doctor (J.D.). She received her Bachelor's Degree, Political Science (Major); History (Minor); Latin American and Caribbean Studies (Certificate) from Duke University.

## Demetrius O. Holloway

Stites & Harbison, PLLC  
Member, Diversity Head



Demetrius Holloway is the Member Diversity Head for Stites & Harbison, PLLC. Demetrius attended Louis D. Brandeis School of Law at the University of Louisville Law Juris Doctorate, Law. He received his B.A., Political Science from University of Louisville.

## Denina Quezada

Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP  
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Coordinator



Denina Quezada is the Diversity Equity and Inclusion Specialist for Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP where she collaborates with Firm management and cross department to develop and implement guiding principles for diversity, equity and inclusion that are aligned with the Firm's philosophy and values. Previously, she was Research Assistant for Dean Margaret Turano, St John's University School of Law and Legal Assistant for Beattie Padovano, LLC.

## Denise Smith

Kelley Drye & Warren LLP  
Director of Diversity and Inclusion



Denise Smith is the Director of Diversity and Inclusion for Kelley Drye & Warren LLP. Denise attended Georgetown University Law Center JD. She did Industrial and Labor Relations from Cornell University.

## Dennis Quinio

Allen & Overy LLP  
Chief Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer - Americas



Dennis Quinio is Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer for Allen & Overy where he leads diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) for an AmLaw 20 global law firm with approximately 1,000 attorneys. Previously, he was Director of Associate Diversity and Inclusion for Milbank LLP and Senior Diversity & Inclusion Specialist at Proskauer Rose LLP.

Dennis attended Harvard University and Cordozo Law School Doctor of Law where he was Dean's Distinguished scholar.

## Devin Carter

**Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner**  
Director of Inclusion & Diversity



Devin directs and advances BCLP's I&D initiatives. Devin has 16 years of diversity and recruiting experience. For almost two years, she was the Americas D&I Lead at AlixPartners. During her seven-year tenure at Baker McKenzie, Devin increased diverse hires year-over-year and partnered with the D&I team on strategy. Prior to Baker McKenzie, she worked at McKinsey & Company, ZS Associates, and Allstate Insurance Company.

## DiNoua Avery

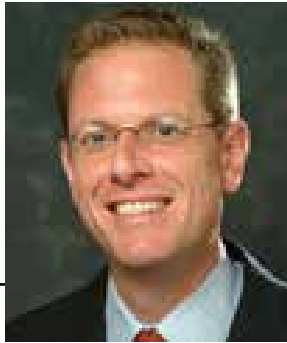
**Van Ness Feldman LLP**  
Recruiting and Diversity Coordinator



DiNoua Avery is the Recruiting and Diversity Coordinator for Ulmer & Berne LLP.

## Dominic Campodonico

**Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani (GRSM)**  
LGBTQ+ Affinity Group Co-Chair



Dominic Campodonico is a partner in the San Francisco office. He has more than 20 years of experience serving as national litigation coordinating counsel, regional counsel, and local counsel in mass tort, product liability litigation. He has represented manufacturers and distributors of a variety of pharmaceutical/medical device and laboratory products as well as personal care/consumer products in litigations as well as risk assessments. He has been involved in many California Judicial Council Coordinated Proceedings and has served as Defense Liaison Counsel. Mr. Campodonico's experience also extends to other industries including automobile parts.

## Donna L. Key

**Quarles & Brady LLP**  
Diversity & Law School Recruiting Specialist



Donna Key's role within the firm allows her to be instrumental in promoting the firm's DEI focus by collaborating with law schools and other external partners on a variety of initiatives to improve its recruitment of the underrepresented population. She has become an invaluable resource by working with the various business resource groups, associate mentoring program, or other DEI leaders within the firm supporting the retention, development, and promotion of our diverse attorney talent. Member - NALP Member - ALFDP .

## Dustin O'Quinn

**Lane Powell PC**  
Co-Chair, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee



Dustin serves as Co-Chair of the Lane Powell Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee which fosters DEI at all levels of the firm. His DEI efforts also extend to our communities, through his service as a Board Member of the QLaw Association which supports the LGBTQ+ legal community, and the Greater Seattle Business Association, Washington's LGBTQ+ and allied chamber of commerce. As a Lane Powell Partner, his practice focuses on immigration law throughout numerous industries.

## Dwight J Draughon, Jr.

**Stephoe & Johnson LLP**  
Partner, Investigations & White Collar Defense; Co-Chair, Black Lawyers Affinity Group



Dwight Draughon defends corporations and individuals in white-collar criminal cases and government investigations, focusing on matters related to public corruption, the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA), and fraud. He also assists companies in internal investigations. Clients benefit from his impressive trial experience gained during his four-year tenure as an Assistant US Attorney for the District of Maryland. Additionally, Dwight is highly active in pro bono work.

## Edmund F. Brown

### FisherBroyles, LLP

Partner/Chair-Diversity Equity & Inclusion Committee



Edmund founded and chairs FisherBroyles' Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee and practices in the litigation and cyber & privacy practice groups where he routinely serves as incident response counsel for clients experiencing cyber security and/or data privacy incidents. Edmund advises organizations experiencing crisis in various industry sectors, but particularly in the public entity, education, wealth management, professional services and healthcare industries. Edmund prides himself on his professionalism in expeditiously responding to cyber events as quickly as possible, while maintaining compliance with all federal and state laws and regulations.

## Ellen L. Shapiro

### Herrick, Feinstein LLP

Partner, Co-Chair of Diversity Committee and Diversity Partners' Program



Ellen Shapiro (<https://www.herrick.com/ellen-l-shapiro/>) is a partner in Herrick's Real Estate Department, Real Estate Hospitality co-chair and co-chair of Herrick's Diversity Committee & Diversity Partners' Program. She concentrates her practice on complex commercial real estate finance, hospitality and leasing transactions. As co-chair on the D&I Committee, Ellen guides diversity participation from Herrick employees at all levels, and in 2023 has focused efforts on driving diversity in recruiting, mentorship and community outreach. Much more can be found here: <https://www.herrick.com/diversity>.

## Ellen Schulhofer

### Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck LLP

Member, Committee on Diversity, Inclusion and Equity



Ellen Schulhofer is the Shareholder & Las Vegas Office Managing Partner for Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck LLP where she serves as managing partner of the Las Vegas office, member of the firm's Executive Committee. Previously, she served as Associate for Schneider, Goldberg, Rohatiner & Yuen (fka Nagler & Schneider).

Ellen attended University of California, Los Angeles - School of Law (Juris Doctor (J.D.)). She received her Bachelor's Degree in International Relations from Stanford University.

## Emily K. Dotson

### Resnick & Louis PC

Shareholder/Diversity Committee Member



Emily K. Dotson is a Shareholder in the Phoenix office of Resnick & Louis, P.C. Her practice is primarily focused on multi-party complex civil litigation in the areas of insurance law, professional liability, first party property and liability insurance coverage, bad faith defense, automobile liability, surety, bodily injury defense, construction law, construction defect, SIU insurance fraud defense, and general civil litigation. Emily is licensed to practice law in the states of Arizona, New Mexico, and Florida.

## Erika Shao

### Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani (GRSM)

LGBTQ+ Affinity Group Co-Chair



Erika Shao is a partner and trial attorney in Gordon & Rees's Los Angeles office and a member of the Employment, and Tort & Product Liability practice groups. Ms. Shao specializes in litigating single and multi-plaintiff employment cases in state and federal court for a wide range of business clients, including large corporations, public entities, and non-profit organizations. Ms. Shao has significant case management experience, including complex case evaluations, depositions, motion practice, and trials. She routinely works to develop defense and trial strategies from the onset of litigation. In addition to an active civil court practice, Ms. Shao has also successfully.

## Evan Richard

### Blank Rome

Senior D&I Specialist



Evan Richard is the Senior Diversity and Inclusion Specialist for Blank Rome LLP. Previously, he was Director of Community Culture for St. Agnes Academy and Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion for Gilmour Academy

Evan attended Tufts University for Masters of Diversity and Inclusion Leadership. He received his Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Sociology Pre-Law from Ohio University.



## Farrell, Sherrie L.

Dykema Gossett PLLC  
Member, Office Managing Member



A proven problem-solver and business advisor, Sherrie counsels and defends businesses including closely-held corporations, real estate companies, insurance and financial institutions, automotive and other manufacturers on all aspects of business disputes and complex litigation matters. Her experience includes successfully implementing risk management strategies related to litigation, commercial and policy disputes. With a focus on providing practical business and legal advice, she has provided counseling, bankruptcy and litigation advice to a wide array of businesses and organizations through innovative legal strategies.

## Felicia Leborgne Nowels

Akerman LLP  
Partner, Board Member



Felicia serves as co-chair of Akerman's Hispanic & Latino Network Group. She is affiliated with Law 360 and was appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Commerce to serve on the Florida District Export Council. Felicia is a member of the Florida Bar where she serves as the International Law Section, Customs and International Trade Committee vice chair. She is board certified in international law and was listed in Best Lawyers in America 2023 in Florida for FDA Law.

## Feroze, Bob H.

Dykema Gossett PLLC  
Member



Bob Feroze provides comprehensive counsel to clients in the real estate industry. He focuses his practice on acquisitions, dispositions, development, construction, financing, and leasing. The transactions on which Bob works encompass all property types, including industrial, office, commercial, multifamily, retail, hotel/hospitality, and residential developments. In real estate projects, time is of the essence. Bob is keenly attuned to client expectations regarding responsiveness, meeting deadlines, and delivering results. He is personally involved with every aspect of any transaction he handles.

## Figueroa, Rodrigo J.

Dykema Gossett PLLC  
Member



Rodrigo Figueroa understands power. As the leader of the firm's alternative and renewable energy practice, Rodrigo plays an indispensable role in facilitating the development and operation of major utility and energy projects throughout Texas. His industry knowledge, negotiating and relationship-building talents, and comprehensive understanding of the complicated regulatory framework in which utilities operate have made Rodrigo go-to counsel for clients with energy sector interests. Business-minded and practical, Rodrigo relishes his role as a seasoned counselor whom energy and utility clients entrust with their most complex.

## Francine Rosado-Cruz

Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP  
Chief Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer



Francine leads Davis Polk's efforts to attract, retain, and promote diverse talent, create an inclusive environment and educate and engage firm leaders, employees and clients on issues relating to diversity and inclusion. Francine has over 15 years experience in the DE&I space, including, prior to joining Davis Polk, serving as Director, Global Diversity & Inclusion at Microsoft. She is on the Board of Trustees for the College of the Holy Cross and The Ursuline School.

## Franz Hardy

Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani (GRSM)  
Diversity Committee Co-Chair



Franz Hardy is a trial attorney with a focus on business and insurance litigation, including commercial disputes, directors and officers liability, coverage, and employee benefits. Hardy is also recognized as an accomplished professional liability practitioner. He maintains an active state and federal trial court practice, in addition to handling numerous appeals. Hardy has held various leadership positions within in the legal community. He is a past president of the Denver Bar Association, former chair of the University of Colorado Law School Alumni Board, and past president of the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Colorado.

## Genhi Givings Bailey

Perkins Coie LLP  
Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer



Genhi Givings Bailey is the Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer for Perkins Coie LLP, where she works closely with firm leadership as well as recruiting, human resources, professional development and marketing to develop and implement programs designed to increase diversity within the firm and to promote a culture of inclusion. And Legal Placement and Diversity Consultant at Ajilon Legal. Previously, she was Director of Diversity and Inclusion for DLA Piper and Legal Placement and Diversity Consultant for Ajilon Legal.

## George D. Medlock, Jr.

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP  
Director of Inclusion and Diversity



George D Medlock is the Partner and Director of Inclusion and Diversity in Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP. Previously, he served as Vice President, Patents and Deputy General Counsel at Comcast and Partner (Intellectual Property Litigation Attorney) for Alston & Bird LLP.

George attended Harvard Law School JD. He received his BS Electrical Engineering and BA Spanish from University of Alabama at Birmingham.

## Georgina Voogd

Eversheds Sutherland  
Diversity & Inclusion Client Engagement and CR Manager



Georgina Voogd is the Diversity & Inclusion Client Engagement Manager for Eversheds Sutherland (International) LLP. Previously, she was Trainee Solicitor for Eversheds.

Georgina attended The University of Law (LPC). She received her LLB Law from University of Plymouth.

## Gerald Miele

Higgins Cavanagh & Cooney, LLP  
Administrator, Financial Officer and Director of Diversity and Inclusion



As an Administrator and Financial Officer with extensive litigation, administration and computer systems experience, Gerald Miele has a proven record of accomplishment in bringing about efficiency improvements and achieving operational excellence. Currently, his responsibilities encompass the oversight all business aspects for the firm, including but not limited to dealing with, AR/AP, vendors, clients, HR and staffing issues. His record speaks to his ability to effectively implement operations improvements that directly impact bottom-line revenues. In addition, Gerald Miele strives to ensure the firm is up to date with the latest technologies.

## Gigi Gutierrez

Resnick & Louis PC  
Associate



Upon completing her law school studies in Sacramento and passing the California bar, Ms. Gutierrez garnered extensive trial experience as a deputy district attorney prosecuting juvenile, misdemeanor and felony offenses for nearly a decade. After relocating to southern California, she transitioned to civil litigation, building a practice heavily-rooted in the defense of individual and commercial clients in disputes involving personal injury, premises liability, HOA, landlord-tenant, breach of contract, construction defect, habitability, fraud and workers' compensation.

## Gillian P. Yee

Jackson Lewis, P.C.  
Co-leader of Jackson Lewis' Asian American Attorney Resource Group and Principal



Passionate about DEI, Gillian is looking forward to supporting and developing Asian American attorneys and other minority attorneys.

Outside of work, Gillian is active in the Michigan Asian Pacific American Bar Association (MAPABA), which she played an integral role in revitalizing in 2010 after several years of inactivity, serving as its vice president through 2014 and president through 2016.

## Giovanni Camacho

Resnick & Louis PC  
Associate



Giovanni Camacho is an Associate Attorney in the Denver office of Resnick & Louis, P.C. and has represented clients in all phases of personal injury, insurance bad faith, skier liability, SIU/EUO, employment law, construction defect, and premises liability litigation. During his career, Giovanni has achieved significant victories for his clients, including resolving multiple significant personal injury and consumer protection cases through motions practice. In 2021, Giovanni secured a defense verdict in a disputed liability case where the plaintiffs were seeking millions.

## Gnanadesigan, Abirami

Dykema Gossett PLLC  
Member



The attribute that distinguishes Abi Gnanadesigan from other commercial litigators is her perspective. Besides her substantive and procedural legal knowledge and superior advocacy skills, she is a model of service-oriented professionalism. Each client's interests are her interests, and she appreciates the roles and needs of the people with whom she works closely. Abi represents clients of various sizes and industries in state and federal courts and arbitration and mediation proceedings across the U.S. Among other clients and cases in her class action practice, she defends automotive manufacturers against product liability claims.

## Gonzalo Go

Mayer Brown LLP  
Chair, LGBTQ2IA+ Subcommittee, ABA Business Law Section's Diversity & Inclusion Committee



Gonzalo Go advances membership diversity within the American Bar Association's (ABA) Business Law Section. He furthers LGBTQ2IA+ advocacies in general, promotes networking and collaboration among diverse attorneys, and advocates diverse representation in continuing legal education trainings on various business law issues. G has been selected as ABA Business Law Fellow (2022-2024) and sits as a member of Mayer Brown LLP's New York Pro Bono Committee as the Corporate and Securities associates' representative.

## Greg Tomlinson

Robinson Bradshaw  
Training & Development Coordinator



Greg Tomlinson is the Training and Development Coordinator at Robinson Bradshaw. His responsibilities include communicating with managers to identify training needs and mapping out development plans for departments and individuals. Greg is also responsible for managing, designing, developing, coordinating and conducting all training programs. With over 25 years of experience in information technology and training, Greg has familiarity with instructional methods, coaching and skill development which he uses to ensure all employees are working efficiently and to company standards. He co-chairs the firm's Multicultural Staff Alliance affinity group.

## Gregory G. Guice

Reminger Co. LPA  
Co-Chair, Diversity & Inclusion Committee



Gregory Guice is a shareholder in Reminger's Cleveland office and is the Chair of Reminger's Retail & Hospitality Practice Group. He currently serves on the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association (CMBA) Diversity and Inclusion Committee. He is the Co-Chair of the CMBA's Minority Clerkship Program Subcommittee and Chair of their Diversity Career Fair Subcommittee. He recently completed a two year term as the CMBA's Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion where he worked on initiatives that promoted diversity and inclusion within the legal profession, the judicial system, and the wider community. He has completed several terms as a member of CMBA's Board.

## Griffin, Sean C.

Dykema Gossett PLLC  
Member



Whether as a business litigator or a leader in data privacy, Sean spots issues and anticipates contingencies to craft effective litigation and cybersecurity strategies. Clients, including government contractors, transportation companies, and law firms, turn to Sean to protect and advance their interests in a wide range of disputes. Leveraging his experience and insights as a former Department of Justice trial attorney, Sean is particularly sought after in matters that intersect with the federal government, including government contract claims, False Claims Act litigation, internal corporate investigations, and subpoena responses.

## Hedieh Fakhriyazdi

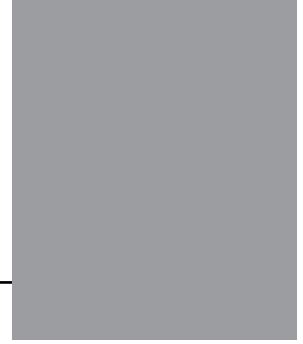
White & Case LLP  
Chief Diversity Officer



Responsible for developing and execution of a world-class D&I management strategy to further accelerate the Firm's D&I efforts to build a diverse work environment and to nurture a culture of inclusion on a global platform. Works with Firm leaders (Legal and Business Services) to achieve these objectives. Serves on the BCCCC Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advisory Board. Member of the Iranian American Women's Foundation. Recipient of the Innovation Award from the New York Law Journal (2021).

## Ilan Rosenberg

Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani (GRSM)  
Hispanic/Latino Affinity Group Chair



Ilan Rosenberg, a partner in the Philadelphia office, concentrates his practice in the areas of complex international commercial litigation and arbitration. He serves as Director of the Firm's Commercial Litigation Practice Group for the Eastern Region. For more than twenty years, Mr. Rosenberg has prosecuted and defended claims on behalf of foreign and domestic corporations in federal and state courts, as well as in arbitration, throughout the United States and Mexico. He has first-chaired trials and arbitrations resulting in multi-million dollar verdicts and awards for his plaintiff clients, and obtained defense verdicts for clients in actions filed by both private.

## Irene Hsieh

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith and Davis  
Partner, Employment Law and Litigation Departments



Irene Hsieh concentrates her practice in commercial litigation. Her experience encompasses employment discrimination and retaliation actions and includes the representation of both plaintiffs and defendants in employment-related matters. She represents clients in commercial business disputes and has also handled litigation in the areas of construction law and trusts and estates. Asian Pacific American Lawyers Association of New Jersey; Secretary (2022-2023; 2021-2022); Board of Directors (2020-2021) Appointed to the New Jersey Supreme Court Special Civil Part Practice Committee as designee of the Asian Pacific American Lawyers Association.

## J. Felicia LeRay

Hall Booth Smith, P.C.  
Partner/Shareholder & Co-Chair DEI Committee



J. Felicia LeRay is the Partner/Shareholder & Co-Chair DEI Committee for Hall Booth Smith, P.C. Previously, she was Assistant Attorney General, Medicaid Fraud Control Unit for State of Georgia and Attorney At Law for Law Office-Sole Practitioner.

J. Felicia attended Mercer University - Walter F. George School of Law Doctor of Law (JD), Law. She did Juris Doctor, Law from Texas Southern University. She received her Bachelor's Degree, Registered Nursing/Registered Nurse from Hampton University.

## J. Rita McNeil Danish

Taft Stettinius & Hollister  
Trusted Legal Advisor, DEI Champion, & Business Leader



J. Rita McNeil Danish, Esq. is the Chief Executive Officer for Signal Ohio. Previously, she served as Partner & Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Strategic Business Partner and Principal and founder of JD<sup>2</sup> Strategists LLC.

J. Rita attended The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law Doctor of Law - JD, Law. She received her Bachelor of Business Administration - BBA, Marketing from Howard University.

## James D. Blumenthal

Bennett Bricklin & Saltzburg  
Member, Diversity Committee



James D. Blumenthal is the member and the managing attorney for Bennett Bricklin & Saltzburg. Previously, he served as assistant district attorney in Bucks County.

James attended college at the University of Pennsylvania and then American University's Washington College of Law J.D.

## James Wiltraut, Jr.

### Buchanan

Senior Principal and B.R.A.V.E. Affinity Group Chair



Jim brings a passion to his work with a focus on making things better for those he represents. Sometimes that means working with the U.S. military and veterans and sometimes that means working for the companies that supply them or for the non-profits that take up their causes. Jim serves as Chair of the firm's B.R.A.V.E. (Buchanan's Recognition of Active and Veteran Employees) affinity group for employees who are veterans or currently serving in the armed forces.

## Jana Simon

### Wiggin and Dana

Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer



Jana Simon is the Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer for Wiggin and Dana LLP. Previously, she served as Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion for Jackson Lewis P.C and Senior Business Development Coordinator for Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner LLP.

Jana attended Georgetown University School of Continuing Studies for Executive Certificate in Strategic Diversity & Inclusion Management. She received her Bachelor of Arts, African American Studies from Emory University.

## Jason C. Gavejian

### Jackson Lewis, P.C.

Co-leader of Jackson Lewis' Hispanic Attorney Resource Group and Principal



Jason C. Gavejian is a principal in the Berkeley Heights, New Jersey, office of Jackson Lewis P.C. and co-leader of the firm's Privacy, Data and Cybersecurity practice group. Jason is also a Certified Information Privacy Professional (CIPP/US) with the International Association of Privacy Professionals. As co-leader of Jackson Lewis' Hispanic Attorney resource group, he is committed to increasing the firm's visibility among Hispanic-American and other minority attorneys, as well as monitoring the firm's attorneys to assist in their training and development.

## Jean Tom

### Davis Wright Tremaine LLP

Partner, Co-Chair of Attorneys of Color Affinity Group



Jean is responsible for building a strong and vibrant community for diverse attorneys at DWT, curating and coordinating educational, professional development and social events, running bimonthly affinity group meetings, reaching out and connecting our diverse summer associates with affinity group attorneys, and advocating on behalf of attorneys of color within the firm. Jean also sits on our Executive Committee, our highest governing body at the firm. Outside of the firm, Jean serves on multiple nonprofit boards, from Giffords Law Center Against Gun Violence, to Waterman's Community Center, and the Fund of Community Change.

## Jehan Moore

### Lathrop GPM LLP

Diversity and Inclusiveness Partners in Charge



In her role with Lathrop GPM's Culture, Diversity & Inclusion Committee Jehan works to foster an atmosphere of inclusion and aid in the recruitment, advancement, and retention of diverse employees. Jehan focuses her practice on business disputes and employment litigation, including breach of contract, business torts, lender liability, loan enforcement, class actions, consumer protection, discrimination claims, FLSA, wrongful discharge, wage disputes, trade secret litigation, and enforcement of non-competes.

## Jenn Reddien

### Venable

Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer



Jennifer Reddien has spent her career pursuing diversity and inclusion (D&I) efforts. Jennifer's background, personal experiences, and passion for equity make her an invaluable leader as Venable's inaugural chief D&I officer. In expanding Venable's diversity initiatives, Jennifer will monitor progress and hold the firm accountable for results. She will also stress education by training attorneys on topics like implicit bias and serving on outside panels. Previously, Jennifer served as director of D&I at global law firm Haynes and Boone.

## Jennifer Bruton

Venable

Partner-in-Charge, Washington, DC



Jennifer Bruton is a real estate attorney representing clients in all aspects of sophisticated commercial real estate finance, acquisition, disposition, development, and leasing projects. Jennifer has significant experience in capital formation for real estate investments, including joint ventures, mezzanine financing, commercial loans and securitized financing transactions, EB-5 financing, and preferred equity transactions. She assists clients in the acquisition, development, and financing of a variety of real estate projects in multiple asset categories, including residential and commercial developments, office buildings, retail.

## Jennifer Davda

Loeb & Loeb

Chief Diversity Officer



Jennifer (Ganesh) Davda is the Chief Diversity Officer for Loeb & Loeb. Previously, she was West Coast Diversity Director for Sidley Austin LLP and Diversity Manager for Munger, Tolles & Olson LLP.

Jennifer attended University of Chicago Law School for J.D Law. She received her BS, Business Management from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

## Jennifer Hunkler Shumaker

Jones Day

Firm Diversity Manager



Jennifer Hunkler Shumaker is the Firm Diversity Manager for Jones Day. She has been in different roles in Jones Day since joining the firm in 1998.

Jennifer attended University of Notre Dame JD, Law. She received her BS, Finance from Rutgers University.

## Jennifer M. (Mitchell) Reddien

Venable LLP

Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer



Jennifer M. (Mitchell) Reddien is the Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer at Venable LLP. Previously, she served as Director of Diversity and Inclusion for Hanyes Boone LLP and Executive Director for The Chicago Committee.

Jennifer attended University of Michigan Law School for JD, Law. She received her Master of Business Administration (MBA) from University of Notre Dame - Mendoza College of Business and Bachelor of Arts - BA from Duke University.

## Jennifer Marie Martinez

Hanson Bridgett LLP

Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer



Jennifer Marie Martinez is the Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer for Hanson Bridgett LLP. Previously, she was Attorney for Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati and Legal Intern at Public Advocates.

Jennifer attended Stanford Law School Doctor of Law (JD). She received her Bachelor of Arts (BA), from University of California, Los Angeles.

## Jennifer Mercado

Kasowitz Benson Torres

Senior Professional Development & Diversity Manager



Jennifer Mercado partners with firm leadership, attorneys, and business professionals to design and implement Kasowitz Benson Torres LLP's diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) initiatives. She provides thought leadership on DEI strategies and serves as an ally and resource to underrepresented groups. Jennifer also supports the diversity pipeline by mentoring diverse students interested in a legal career.

## Jeremiah DeBerry

### Mayer Brown

Partner, Director of Diversity & Inclusion



Jeremiah DeBerry is the Partner, Director of Diversity & Inclusion for Mayer Brown, where he is responsible for leading a global law firm in its effort to create and maintain a diverse, supportive and inclusive work environment, where everyone has an equal opportunity to succeed and reach their full potential. Previously, he was Director of Diversity for Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP and Chief Legal Officer and Head of Business Affairs for UV Media, LLC. Jeremiah attended University of Virginia School of Law Juris Doctor, Law. He received his B.A., Economics from Tufts University. He did Executive Training Program.

## Jeremy S. Johnson

### Bremer Whyte LLP

Diversity Committee member/Partner



Jeremy S. Johnsons is the Attorney at Bremer, Whyte, Brown & O'Meara, LLP. Previously, he served as Associate Attorney Reid & Hellyer, APC

Jeremy attended University of San Diego -J.D, Law and received his B.A in Political Science from California State University San Bernardino.

## Jessica Lee

### Shearman & Sterling LLP

Senior Manager, Diversity & Inclusion



Jessica Lee is the Senior manager, Diversity & Inclusion for Shearman & Sterling LLP. Previously, she served as Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Consultant for EY and Outsourcing Coordinator for Samsung SDS (North America).

Jessica attended Rutgers University for BA, Political Science, Psychology.

## Jessica Rancie

### Kirton McConkie

Chair, Diversity and Women's Committee



Jessica Rancie is the Shareholder for Kirton McConkie, where she advises clients through all stages of commercial and residential real estate transactions. She specializes in master plan development projects, residential PUDs, and commercial developments. Her practice involves all aspects of negotiating and structuring development projects, acquisitions, land use planning, and leasing.

Jessica attended BYU Law School for Comparative Law. She received her Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Arts: Journalism from James Cook University.

## Joanne Correa Millard

### Fenwick & West LLP

Director, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion program



Joanne Correa Millard is the Director, Staff Recruiting & HR Business Partner and Director of Staff Talent Acquisition, Diversity & Inclusion for Fenwick & West LLP. Previously, she was Human Resources Coordinator for DLA Piper and Office Manager for Jungo.

Joanne attended Santa Clara University for B.S., Sociology.

## Joel Clymer

### Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP

Partner, Employment Law and Litigation Departments



Mr. Clymer primarily focuses his practice on employment litigation and counseling. His litigation experience encompasses the investigation, evaluation and litigation of discrimination and retaliation. He provides representation from pre-litigation status through trial in state and federal court, including the defense of clients in appellate court proceedings. Mr. Clymer is a member of the firm's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Leadership Team. He serves as secretary for the Garden State Bar Association and is listed in Super Lawyers - New Jersey Rising Stars the Employment Litigation: Defense and Business Litigation practice areas.

## John M. Iino

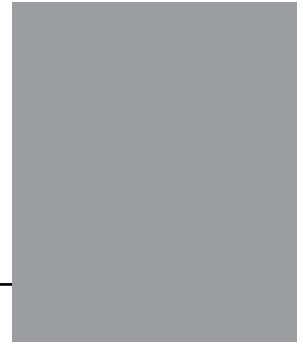
Reed Smith LLP  
Chief Diversity Officer



John Iino, ACC, CDP, NACD.DC is the Collaborative Innovator of Organizational Change | Chief Diversity Officer | NACD Certified Corporate Director | Recognized Leader Certified Executive Coach in Reed Smith LLP, where he acts as a change agent for Reed Smith's efforts to sponsor and achieve diversity and inclusion in the legal community. He is a member of the firm's Global Leadership Team and an ex-officio member of the Talent Committee of the firm's Executive Committee. Previously he was Managing Partner at Los Angeles, He was Founder and CEO of Cumbre Alta Advisors. & Member, Board of Trustees in University of Southern California.

## John R. Beaulieu

Akerman LLP  
Special Counsel



John serves as chair of Akerman's Native American Network Group and is a member of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe. John is a member of the National LGBT Bar Association and the National Native American Bar Association.

## Jolene Nembhard

Kaplan Hecker & Fink LLP  
Director of Recruiting and DE&I



Jolene Nembhard is the Director of Recruiting and DE&I for Kaplan Hecker & Fink LLP. Previously, she was Lawyer Professional Development Coordinator for Hunton & Williams LLP and Associate Development Coordinator for Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP.

Jolene attended LIU Post for Bachelor of Arts, Political Science.

## Jolie N. Havens

Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP  
Health Care Partner and Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer



Jolie N. Havens is the Health Care Partner and Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer for Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP.

Jolie attended The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law J.D. She received her BA, Political Science, History from Ohio Wesleyan University.

## Jonathan Blakley

Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani (GRSM)  
African American Affinity Group Co-Chair



Jonathan B. Blakley enjoys a varied litigation practice, in both state and federal courts, with emphasis on health care law, general liability for higher educational institutions, professional liability for insurance agents and brokers, product liability, employment law, and environmental/toxic tort matters. He has experience in all phases of high-exposure and/or complex litigation: from initial evaluation, through trial/arbitration, and appeal.

## Joseph West

Duane Morris LLP  
Partner and Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer



Joseph West is the Partner and Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer for Duane Morris LLP, where he serves as a member of the firm's Partners Board and serves as the firm's Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer, manages Duane Morris' comprehensive firm-wide diversity and inclusion program and chairs the firm's Diversity and Inclusion Consulting Practice. Previously, he was President & CEO of Minority Corporate Counsel Association and Associate GC for Walmart Stores, Inc. Joseph attended Tulane University Law School (Juris Doctor). He received his Bachelor's Degree, Journalism from Southern University.



## Joshua Headley

### Buchanan

Counsel and C.A.R.E.s Affinity Group Co-Chair



Josh concentrates his practice on advising high-net-worth individuals on sophisticated estate planning matters. He also works with executors and trustees on large, complex trust and estate administration and tax compliance matters. Josh co-chairs Buchanan's C.A.R.E.s Affinity Group, supporting employees who are caregivers or working parents. He is also an active volunteer with Wills for Heroes, a nonprofit organization providing essential legal documents free of charge to the nation's first responders, including wills, living wills, and powers of attorney.

## Joy Fossel

### Varnum

Diversity & Inclusion Counsel



Joy Fossel is Diversity & Inclusion Counsel for Varnum, LLP. Previously, she served as an adjunct professor/pretrial skills for Thomas M. Cooley Law School and board member of Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park.

Joy attended Stanford University for BA, English.

## Juan Pablo Chavez

### Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP

Associate, Corporate and Litigation Departments



Mr. Chavez concentrates his practice in intellectual property, bankruptcy, and general commercial litigation. His experience includes assisting in the firm's representation of clients in trademark applications, trademark enforcement and brand protection matters. His work includes conducting trademark searches, preparing trademark opinion letters, filing U.S. trademark applications and renewals with the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office (USPTO), assisting in the transfer of ownership of intellectual property, and responding to office action letters. Mr. Chavez is a member of the firm's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Leadership Team.

## Julie Sebastian

### Smith, Gambrell & Russell LLP

Diversity Attorney



Julie Sebastian is the Diversity Attorney for Smith, Gambrell & Russell.

Julie attended University of Tennessee College of Law J.D., Law. She received her B.A., Business Administration from Hope College.

## Justin Outling

### Brooks Pierce

Partner and Director of Diversity and Inclusion



Justin Outling focuses his practice on business litigation and white-collar criminal defense. He helps businesses and professionals in a variety of industries, and has successfully brought and defended lawsuits in a myriad of matters. Justin also serves as the firm's Director of Diversity & Inclusion. Continuing his work with the firm's established Diversity & Inclusion Committee, Justin is responsible for originating, leading and supervising all of Brooks Pierce's diversity and inclusion efforts.

## K. Martine Cumbermack

### Swift, Currie, McGhee & Hirs

Partner Swift, Currie, McGhee & Hiers | Litigator | Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Professional | Strategic Program Manager | Operational Excellence



K. Martine Cumbermack is the Partner & Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Professional for Swift, Currie, McGhee & Hiers. Previously, she served as Associate for Moore Ingram Johnson & Steele and Staff Legal Counsel for Zurich Insurance.

K. Martine attended University of Florida - Fredric G. Levin College of Law J.D. She received her B.A., Criminology from University of Florida.

## Kaluza, Kristina H.

Dykema Gossett PLLC  
Member



Kristina Kaluza has represented companies and individuals in state and federal courts and focuses her practice on general commercial litigation, employment law, and financial services litigation. Kristina also dedicates a significant portion of her time to pro bono efforts. Her commercial and business litigation experience includes contract claims, fraud claims, negligence claims, and products-liability claims. In the area of financial services, Kristina represents lenders and mortgage servicers in a broad range of disputes arising under state and federal law, including contested foreclosures, FDCPA, and FCRA disputes.

## Kate Fitzsimmons Adams

Litchfield Cavo LLP  
Partner and Chairperson of the Diversity & Inclusion Committee



Kate Fitzsimmons Adams is the Partner and Chairperson of the Diversity & Inclusion Committee for Litchfield Cavo LLP. Previously, she was an Associate for Regnier, Taylor, Curran & Eddy.

Kate attended University of Connecticut School of Law J.D., with honors. She received her B.A., magna cum laude, with honors, political science from Boston College.

## Kate Harrison

Bodman PLC  
Manager of Diversity and Talent



Kate develops and implements strategies to achieve the goals outlined in Bodman's DEI Strategic Plan, including attracting, hiring, and developing a diverse workforce. She also collaborates with the firm's committees, leadership, and marketing team to communicate the firm's diversity commitment and activities, both internally and externally. Kate is a member of the Association for Law Firm Diversity Professionals and the Detroit Bar Association's Diversity and Inclusion Committee.

## Kate Richardson-Moore

Linklaters  
Director, Diversity & Talent



Kate Richardson-Moore is the Director, Diversity & Talent for Linklaters, where she is a Senior HR Leader and member of the Partnership Board, responsible for driving the firm's people strategy with a specific focus on Diversity & Talent to build talent pipeline and meet diversity targets. Previously, she was HR Business Partner for State Street and HR Advisor for NatWest.

Kate attended University of Glasgow for Master of Arts (MA), English.

## Katerina Kat Taylor

Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP  
Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion



Katerina Taylor is the Director Diversity Equity and Inclusion at Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough. Previously, she was Executive Director, Senior Vice President Workforce Development for WorkSource City of Atlanta, Invest Atlanta and Executive Director for City of Atlanta.

Katerina attended Argosy University Atlanta for MBA in Finance. She received her B.B.A degree from Texas Wesleyan University in Marketing.

## Katherine Catlos

Kaufman Dolowich & Voluck, LLP  
Partner, Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer



Katherine Catlos is the Partner, Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer for Kaufman Dolowich & Voluck, LLP. Previously, she was Partner at Lewis Brisbois and Associate with predecessor firm Larson & Burnham for Burnham Brown

Katherine attended University of San Francisco School of Law Juris Doctor, Law. She received BA, Rhetoric, Business Administration from University of California, Berkeley.

## Kathy Bowman-Williams

Baker Botts LLP

Global Director of Diversity Equity and Inclusion



Kathy Bowman Williams is the Global Director of Diversity Equity and Inclusion in Squire Patton Boggs. Previously Kathy served as Member Board Of Directors Tri-State Diversity Council & Head of Diversity and Inclusion in Baker Botts. Kathy received her B.A. in Political Science from Buffalo State College and her Master of Business Administration-MBA from Syracuse University - Martin J. Whitman School Of Management.

## Kelly Fullwood

Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer

Senior Manager, Diversity & Inclusion



Kelly Fullwood is the Senior Manager, Diversity & Inclusion for Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer US LLP, where she leads the firm's diversity and inclusion strategy in the United States, collaborates with stakeholders across the enterprise to support the development and implementation of key strands of the firm's diversity and inclusion initiatives globally. Previously, she was Senior Manager, Diversity & Inclusion for McGuire-Woods LLP and Workplace Solutions Manager, Southeast/Atlantic Region for KPMG. Kelly attended Virginia Commonwealth University - School of Business and received her Bachelor of Science (BS), Business Administration and Management, General.

## Kelly Neal

Buchanan

Shareholder and C.A.R.E.s Affinity Group Co-Chair



Kelly concentrates her practice in bankruptcy, creditors' rights and commercial litigation. Specifically, she focuses on the representation of secured and unsecured creditors, including financial institutions, special servicers, equipment finance companies and commercial landlords. Kelly serves as Co-Chair of the firm's C.A.R.E.s (Caregiving Assistance and Resources for Employees) affinity group for employees who are caregivers and working parents.

## Kelynn Carter Poinsette

Resnick & Louis PC

Associate



Kelynn Carter Poinsette is an associate in the Houston office of Resnick & Louis, P.C. where she focuses her practice primarily on the representation of insurance defense and general civil litigation. Kelynn was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio. She attended Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia where she earned a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, and thereafter returned to Cleveland for law school where she practiced law until she moved to Texas with her family. She is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, and spends a lot of her time giving back and serving her community.

## Kendall Minter

Greenspoon Marder LLP

Of Counsel



Kendall Minter is an internationally renowned entertainment attorney and pioneer in the industry, with over 40 years of experience. Being one of the co-founders of BESLA, Kendall is commonly referred to as the "OG" of entertainment law by paving the way for young black lawyers to build legal careers. As a notorious leader, Kendall serves on the Board of Directors and the Diversity and Inclusion Committee at SoundExchange, the Board of Directors of Rhythm & Blues Foundation, and Living Legends Foundation among many other organizations. Kendall is inducted into the Knights of Malta, O.S.J., recognized by the National Bar Association.

## Kenneth E. Sharperson

Weber Gallagher

Partner, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Director



Kenneth E. Sharperson serves as the firm's first Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Director. In 2019, Kenneth was recognized by the New Jersey Law Journal as one of the Diverse Attorneys of the Year. In 2020, he was recognized by the New Jersey Law Journal as one of the Trailblazers in Law for his efforts to diversify the legal profession. In 2021, Kenneth received the Oliver Randolph Award from the Garden State Bar Association. This honor is in recognition of Sharperson excelling in his professional endeavors and exhibiting an unwavering commitment to service.

## Kenneth Williams

Segal McCambridge Singer & Mahoney  
Shareholder | Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Co-Chair



Kenneth Williams defends corporations in complex coverage, property, product liability and commercial litigation matters, including coverage consulting and counseling for cybersecurity and insurers. His experience also includes rideshare coverage and injury litigation and representing insurers in bad faith and declaratory relief lawsuits in cases involving general liability, homeowner, auto and E&O policies. Ken is a national conference speaker educating insurance carriers and claim representatives in matters and best practices relating to litigation.

## Khasim Lockhart

Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz  
Associate and Racial Justice Task Force Co-Chair



Khasim Lockhart is an associate in the Litigation Group. He is recognized by Lawyers of Color in their 2022 Hot List. Mr. Lockhart represents clients in a variety of areas. His practice focuses on entertainment, intellectual property, employment, legal ethics, and professional responsibility. He has substantial commercial litigation experience and has worked on issues involving securities, real estate, insurance, and general commercial contract disputes. Mr. Lockhart received his J.D. from Fordham University School of Law with a concentration in Intellectual Property. He is an adjunct professor at Fordham University School of Law.

## Kia Scipio

Ropes & Gray LLP  
Director of Diversity & Inclusion



Kia Scipio is the Director of Diversity & Inclusion for Ropes & Gray LLP. Previously, she served as Diversity & Inclusion Manager for Fish & Richardson P.C. and Director, Small & Medium Firms and Diversity & Inclusion Initiatives for Georgetown University Law Center.

Kia attended The George Washington University Law School Juris Doctor, Law. She received her Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Sociology and Anthropology from Spelman College.

## Kim Walker

Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP  
Partner, Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer



Kim Walker is the Partner, Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer for Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP. She attended Columbia Law School.

## Kimberly (Bullock) Gatling

Fox Rothschild LLP  
Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer and Partner



Kimberly (Bullock) Gatling is the Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer and Partner for Fox Rothschild LLP. Previously, she was Attorney at Smith Moore Leatherwood LLP and MacCord Mason PLLC.

Kimberly attended The George Washington University Law School Doctor of Law (J.D.). She received her Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Electrical and Electronics Engineering from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University.

## Kimberly A. Hulseley

Locke Lord LLP  
Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer



Kimberly (Kelly) Hulseley, J.D. is the Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer for Locke Lord LLP, where she develops and implements the overall plan and vision for the Firm's diversity and inclusion efforts. Previously, she was Managing Director, In-House Practice & Member Diversity & Inclusion & Belonging Leadership Council for Major, Lindsey & Africa and VP Government and Legal Affairs for Scripps Networks Interactive.

Kimberly attended Cornell University for Diversity & Inclusion Certificate, DE&I.

## Kimberly A. McKelvey

Kutak Rock

Director of Inclusive Engagement



Kimberly A. McKelvey is the Director of Inclusive Engagement for Kutak Rock, where she serves as a convener and facilitator to Kutak Rock's attorneys, whether in one-on-one conversations or in working groups, departments, national practice groups or committees. Previously, she was a trainer, Board member and Chairperson for the National Coalition Building Institute-Missoula. Kimberly attended University of Montana School of Law, with Honors (J.D.). She received her B.A. from University of Montana, High Honors and B.M. from University of Iowa, High Honors.

## Kimberly Sheridan

Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani (GRSM)

African American Affinity Group Co-Chair



Kimberly Sheridan is a partner in the Commercial, Construction, Environmental/Toxic Tort, Professional Liability and Employment Litigation practice groups. Ms. Sheridan is a seasoned litigator, who handles matters from pre-suit investigation through trial. She has experience representing clients in complex, high-stakes litigation throughout the Southeast. As a litigator, Ms. Sheridan focuses on an early assessment of the client's goals and needs, while thinking creatively to reach the most efficient matter resolution. Gordon & Rees is also proud to support her mediation practice, backed by more than fifteen years of hands-on litigation experience.

## Kimberly Talley

Constangy, Brooks, Smith & Prophete

Co-Chair, Diversity Steering Committee



For over 25 years, Kimberly has devoted her practice to management-side labor and employment law. She is favorably regarded in the legal community as an effective advocate in arbitrations, negotiations, hearings and administrative proceedings, in all phases of litigation and at trial. Within Constangy, she helps lead the firm's internal diversity committee, which includes sub-committees focused on recruiting and retention, firm culture, and pro-bono/community support for DEI initiatives.

## Kimberly Wolf Price

Bond, Schoeneck & King PLLC

Development and Diversity Officer



Kim Wolf Price is the Attorney Professional Development & Diversity Officer for Bond, Schoeneck & King PLLC, developing strategies to promote an inclusive environment and advance diversity initiatives within the firm and the communities where we live. Building training and leadership opportunities for the 250+ attorneys at Bond, Schoeneck & King PLLC across Bond's twelve offices, including eight offices in New York State. Previously, she was Director of Externship Programs for Syracuse University College of Law and Of Counsel for Bottar Leone, PLLC.

## Kimya S.P. Johnson

Jackson Lewis, P.C.

Chief Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer and Principal



Kimya advises clients on a range of DEI matters in their workplaces. She is well-practiced in conducting DEI assessments, building organizational DEI structures and creating DEI strategic action plans.

In her current role, Kimya leads a team of fully dedicated DEI professionals and collaborates with leadership, stakeholders and multiple departments across Jackson Lewis' 60+ offices. She promotes the firm's positive work culture and ensure DEI's core pillars - culture, colleagues, clients and communities - translates to all.

## Koh, Jin-Kyu

Dykema Gossett PLLC

Member, Department Director



Clients come to Jin-Kyu Koh looking for guidance and practical answers to their problems, and he treats those problems as if they were his own. Jin works relentlessly to identify solutions that remove obstacles, minimize risk, and help clients reach their business goals and objectives. A business and corporate lawyer who often serves as outside general counsel, Jin represents public and private clients in many industries, including healthcare, financial services, information technology, casino gaming, sports and entertainment, and cannabis. Known and respected for his creative insight and advice, he is dedicated to understanding clients' ambitions.

## Kristen Matha

Ice Miller LLP

Director of Diversity and Inclusion



Michigan State University College of Law Doctor of Law (JD) 2003 - 2006.

Saint Mary's College

Bachelor's degree, Political Science & Women's Studies

1999 - 2003

## Kristin Greene

Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP

Senior Manager, Diversity & Inclusion



Kristin Greene is the Senior DEI Consultant (2019-Present); Senior Manager, Global DEI Initiative (2004-2019) for Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP, where she oversees numerous high impact programs that support the recruitment, professional development, retention, work/life balance and promotion of diverse lawyers and staff in Orrick's twenty-eight offices world-wide. Kristin attended San Francisco State University for B.A., Studio Art. She received her Paralegal Certificate, UC Berkeley Extension from University of California, Berkeley.

## Krystal Studavent-Ramsey

Blank Rome LLP

Director of Diversity and Inclusion



Krystal Studavent Ramsey is a high-performing, social impact, and business leader who marries work experience and skills to passion, leveraging her abilities to develop people and grow business to modernize the legal industry and make it more inclusive and equitable, ensuring everyone has the opportunity to thrive. With 15 years of experience at the intersection of law and business, and strengths in DEI and growth strategy, change management, marketing, and BD, Krystal leverages her background to drive positive change and culture innovation, and to create sustainable and equitable systems.

## Kyle Elliott

Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

Counsel, Diversity and Inclusion



Kyle Elliott is the Counsel, Diversity and Inclusion for Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP. Previously, he was Legal Counsel, Litigation at Bell and Student at Law for Aird & Berlis LLP.

Kyle attended York University - Osgoode Hall Law School Doctor of Law where he was received Dean's Gold Key Award and Student Honour Award. He received his Bachelor of Arts Honor, Law from Carleton University.

## Kyle J. Kolb

Herrick, Feinstein LLP

Partner, Co-Chair of Diversity Committee



Kyle Kolb (<https://www.herrick.com/kyle-j-kolb/>) is a partner in Herrick's Restructuring & Finance Litigation Department and co-chair of Herrick's Diversity Committee. Kyle has significant experience in complex commercial, corporate finance, and securities litigation matters in both federal and state courts. As co-chair on the D&I Committee, Kyle guides diversity participation from Herrick employees at all levels, and in 2023 has focused efforts on driving diversity in recruiting, mentorship and community outreach. For more info visit: [www.herrick.com/diversity/](http://www.herrick.com/diversity/).

## Kyra E. Laursen

Sullivan & Cromwell LLP

Director, Legal Talent Office - Diversity, Equity & Inclusion and Talent Development



Kyra Laursen leads S&C's Diversity Management Department ("DMD") and works directly with the Firm's senior leaders to foster a diverse, equitable and inclusive work environment. Under her leadership, DMD developed an interactive Allyship Learning Curriculum, for which they received Profiles in Diversity Journal's 2021 Diversity Team Award. Kyra is an active member of several professional organizations, including the National Association for Law Placement and the Association of Law Firm Diversity Professionals.

## Ladene Mendoza

**Barnes & Thornburg LLP**  
Associate, Co-Chair of BTLatinx



Ladene Mendoza is an associate at Barnes & Thornburg in the product liability mass tort and toxic tort practice groups. She is a mentor to students at Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law and was awarded the Champion of Diversity in 2020. She is the co-chair of BTLatinx, which serves as a forum for the exchange of ideas and information relevant to the advancement, support, and empowerment of her Hispanic and Latinx teammates.

## LaTonya D. Brooks

**Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP**  
Senior Manager of Diversity and Inclusion



LaTonya D. Brooks is the Senior Manager, Diversity and Inclusion for Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP. Previously, she was Manager of Diversity and Inclusion for Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP and Litigation Associate at Litigation Associate for Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy LLP.

LaTonya attended Hofstra University School of Law for Juris Doctorate. She received her Bachelor of Science (B.S.) from University of Maryland.

## LaToya Merritt

**Phelps Dunbar LLP**  
DEI Committee Chair



LaToya is the firm's inaugural DEI committee chair, the first african american female leader of a practice group and the first african american female on the firm's highest governing board.

## Laura De Santos

**Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani (GRSM)**  
Diversity Committee Co-Chair



Laura De Santos is Co-Managing Partner of the Houston office. She has extensive experience representing corporate clients in state and federal courts in Texas and throughout the United States. In addition to her trial experience, she defends her employers in arbitration and administrative proceedings, as well as all forms of alternative dispute resolution, including mediations. Ms. De Santos represents employers on matters involving discrimination, wrongful termination, harassment, and retaliation brought under state and federal statutes, including for example Title VII, FMLA, ADA, FLSA, ADEA, USERRA, and the state Workers Compensation Act.

## Laurel McGiffert

**Plunkett Cooney**  
Director of Diversity & Inclusion



In 2018, Laurel F. McGiffert was named Plunkett Cooney's first Director of Diversity & Inclusion. Since then, she has become a leadership powerhouse for D&I in the firm and metro Detroit legal community. A founding member of the African American Partners Collaborative, which includes leaders from the region's largest law firms, Laurel is currently guiding Plunkett Cooney through the Mansfield Rule Certification process, and she recently unveiled an updated and extensive D&I plan for the firm.

## Lauren Calogero

**Davis Wright Tremaine**  
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Coordinator



Lauren Calogero is the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Coordinator for Davis Wright Tremaine LLP. Previously, she was Lab Administrative Coordinator for American Fruits and Flavors, LLC and Program Coordinator for Big Sunday.

Lauren attended Claremont McKenna College for Bachelor of Arts - BA, Psychology and International & Intercultural Studies.

## Lauren Clairicia

### Latham & Watkins LLP

Director of Global Attorney Diversity & Inclusion



Lauren Clairicia is the Director of Global Attorney Diversity & Inclusion for Latham & Watkins. Previously, she was a Director of Global Attorney Training and Corporate Associate for Latham Watkins.

Lauren attended University of California, Berkeley - School of Law J.D.

## Lauren Jenkins

### Crowell & Moring LLP

Manager, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion



Laura Jenkins is the Manager, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion for Crowell & Moring LLP, where she has performed duties in different roles for past seven since joining. Previously, she was Diversity and Inclusion Officer for Proskauer Rose LLP and Director of Diversity and Legal Recruiting for Day Pitney LLP.

Laura attended The George Washington University - Graduate School of Education and Human Development for Master of Arts - M.A., Organizational Leadership & Learning. She received her Bachelor of Arts - B.A., Government from University of Virginia.

## Leah Carlson

### Venable

Diversity and Inclusion Manager



Leah Carlson has spent over a decade working in the legal industry. After law school, she worked at the Center for Legal Inclusiveness, a Denver-based non-profit focused on increasing diversity in the legal profession. She went on to work in marketing and professional development, where she saw how diversity, equity and inclusion impact all aspects of the business of law. In her role at Venable, she is now able to focus her energy to developing and growing the DEI efforts of the firm.

## Leah Fisher

### Baker & Hostetler LLP

Director of Inclusion and Diversity



Leah (Smith) Fisher is Director of Inclusion and Diversity at BakerHostetler. Previously, she was Legal Professional Development Manager at Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner LLP and Legal Recruiting and Assistant Director at Georgia State University College of Law.

Leah received her J.D from Georgia State university College of Law and Bachelor Of Arts in History from Hampton University.

## Leah Marra Maxie

### Massey & Gail LLP

Chief Marketing & Diversity Officer



Leah Marra Maxie is the Chief Marketing & Diversity Officer for Massey & Gail LLP. Previously, she was Marketing & Business Development Manager for Bartlit Beck LLP and Paralegal for Segal McCambridge Singer & Mahoney.

Leah attended Purdue University Bachelor of Arts, Major: Law & Society Minors: Political Science and Psychology.

## Lenora Ausbon-Odom

### DLA Piper LLP

Chief Talent Development & Inclusion Officer



Lenora Ausbon-Odom is the Chief Talent Development and Inclusion Officer for DLA Piper. Previously, she was Global Section Learning and Sector Specialist for Ernst & Young for thirteen years.

Lenora attended University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School for Juris Doctor, Tax Law/Taxation. She received her Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), American History (United States) from University of Pennsylvania.



## Leslie C. Overton

Axinn

Partner and Chief Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer



Having previously served in senior positions at the US DOJ Antitrust Division, Leslie Overton offers clients a valuable combination of experience and insight. She also serves as Axinn's Chief DEI Officer. Leslie guides companies through merger reviews, civil non-merger investigations, cartel investigations, and litigation involving federal, state, and/or foreign antitrust authorities. She also represents clients in matters concerning anticompetitive conduct and consolidation by competitors, suppliers, or customers. Furthermore, she designs and supports compliance programs.

## Leslie Richards-Yellen

Debevoise & Plimpton LLP

Director of Global Diversity & Inclusion



Leslie Richards-Yellen is the Director of Global Diversity & Inclusion for Debevoise & Plimpton. Previously, she was Director of Inclusion-Americas and Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer | Partner at Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP.

Leslie attended Cornell Law School for Doctor of Law (J.D.). She received her Bachelor of Fine Arts (B.F.A.) from Drake University.

## Lindsay M. Gehman

Coblentz Patch Duffy & Bass LLP

Chair of Diversity & Inclusion Committee



Lindsay M. Gehman is the Partner, Chair of Diversity & Inclusion Committee for Coblentz Patch Duffy & Bass LLP, where she serves as outside general counsel to a variety of technology companies, fashion and lifestyle companies, and advertising and marketing agencies, and advise business teams on a host of diverse and complex corporate and securities law matters, including entity formation, corporate governance, corporate finance, mergers and acquisitions, commercial contract issues, advertising and marketing issues, social media and privacy issues and intellectual property issues. Previously, she was Corporate Associate for Stradling Yocca Carlson & Rauth.

## Lisa E. Davis

Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz

Partner and Diversity Committee Co-Chair



Lisa E. Davis is a partner in the Entertainment Group. She serves on the firm's Policy Committee and is Co-Chair of the firm's Diversity Committee. She represents businesses and celebrities in the film, television, publishing, music, theatre, and sports industries. She advises on a full range of transactional matters - focusing on film (both feature and documentary), television, publishing, live stage and branded entertainment. Lisa has been ranked as a New York-area "Super Lawyer" since 2007 and was featured on the cover of Super Lawyers magazine in a piece on her career and advocacy for racial justice.

## Lisa Harris

Sheppard Mullin

Labor and Employment Partner



Lisa Harris is a partner in the Labor and Employment Practice Group in the firm's Orange County and New York offices. Ms. Harris counsels and represents management in both employment and traditional labor matters. In addition to her experience as outside counsel, Ms. Harris has several years of experience as in-house counsel both on a full-time and seconded basis. This experience gives her specific insight into the challenges and issues faced by in-house employment counsel.

## Lisa Taveras

Venable

Chair, Business Division



Lisa Taveras, co-chair of Venable's Business Division, advises clients on Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) and tax requirements applicable to retirement plans and non-qualified arrangements, health and welfare benefits, and fringe benefit arrangements. Lisa represents governmental employers on Internal Revenue Code (IRC) and other benefit plan issues related to governmental plans. She regularly assists with government correction programs, such as the Employee Plans Compliance Resolution System (EPCRS), the Department of Labor (DOL) Voluntary Compliance Program (VCP), and the Voluntary Closing Agreement Program.

## Lloyd Freeman

Buchanan

Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer



Lloyd is responsible for advancing diversity throughout the firm and across the broader legal industry. Lloyd develops and drives the firm's diversity initiatives related to attorney hiring, retention and advancement. He oversees the firm's D&I Council and promotes equitable policies, mentorship and sponsorship as key retention initiatives. He has received countless awards related to his D&I work including the Philadelphia Business Journal's Diversity in Business award and the Legal Intelligence's Best Diversity Initiative award.

## Lloyd Stephenson

Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner

Global Director of Inclusion & Diversity & Recruitment



Lloyd is responsible for BCLP's global I&D and recruitment strategies, advancing the firm's portfolio of award-winning talent attraction, inclusion and diversity initiatives. With more than 20 years of strategic and operational HR experience, with a focus on diversity and resourcing, across the legal and financial services sectors. Lloyd has an MSc Organizational Behaviour from the University of London and a BA in Economics and Econometrics from university of Manchester.

## Lois Durant

Sheppard Mullin

Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer



Lois Durant is Sheppard Mullin's Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer, responsible for leading the firm's internal and external diversity and inclusion efforts as well as the development, implementation and leadership of talent management programs and initiatives. She works closely with the Firm Chair, D&I Chair, Chief HR Officer, and others in firm leadership to advance diversity and inclusion strategic objectives and meet talent management goals.

## Lolly Cerda

Shook, Hardy & Bacon L.L.P.

Director of Strategic Diversity Initiatives



Lolly Cerda is the Director of Strategic Diversity Initiatives for Shook, Hardy & Bacon L.L.P.

Lolly attended Ottawa University for Master's degree, Business Administration and Management, General.

## Lonnie, Dommond E.

Dykema Gossett PLLC

Member, Executive Board



Known for his work in automotive liability cases and his defense of original equipment manufacturers. He has represented numerous domestic and foreign businesses and has substantial product liability experience involving crashworthiness, airbags and restraints, fires, suspensions, tires, rollovers, brakes, and fuel systems. Dommond's work in such cases has earned him recognition by Legal 500 US 2021 as one of the top six lawyers in the United States for automotive litigation. Dommond develops productive working relationships with opposing counsel that facilitate early, efficient resolutions and minimize avoidable, costly, and tangential disputes.

## Lopez, Abad

Dykema Gossett PLLC

Member, Assistant Practice Group Leader



Abad's strategies are designed to minimize risk and reduce the likelihood of employment claims. His close client relationships and understanding of their businesses facilitate his development of practical and tailored employment policies, protocols, and training programs they can successfully implement. Abad's employment practice also includes counseling on disciplinary actions and investigations, negotiating severance and executive employment agreements, and reviewing employment practices. He regularly represents clients throughout the country in class action and multi-plaintiff employment discrimination and harassment lawsuits.

## Lou Brezo Scholl

Greenberg Traurig, LLP  
Director of DEI Communications

As Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion - Communications at Greenberg Traurig, LLP, Lou Brezo Scholl is for the development and implementation of targeted, efficient, and effective corporate communications strategies at this Am Law 100 firm.

Lou attended University of Miami for BA, Mass Communication.



## Lynda Blair

Troutman Sanders LLP  
Diversity & Inclusion Manager

Lynda Blair is Diversity & Inclusion Manager for Troutman Pepper LLP. Previously, she served as Manager, Diversity & Inclusion for Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton and Manager, Talent Sustainability & Inclusion for Pepsi Co.

Lynda attended Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, College of Law JD. She received her MBA, Finance from Tampa College. She did BS, Business Administration from Tuskegee University.



## Lyndsey C. Heaton

Sideman & Bancroft LLP  
IP Litigator, Partner, and Diversity Committee Chair

Lyndsey (Cholak) Heaton is the Partner, Diversity Committee Chair for Sideman & Bancroft LLP. Previously, she served as Associate for Hosie Rice LLP and Litigation Associate for Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP.

Lyndsey attended Columbia Law School J.D. She received her BA, Economics from University of California, Berkeley.



## Lynnette Espy-Williams

Cozen O'Connor  
Shareholder and Chief Diversity Officer

Lynnette Espy-Williams is the Shareholder and Chief Diversity Officer for Cozen O'Connor. She attended University of Maryland Baltimore for J.D. She received her BA, Economics from Spelman College.



## Madeline B. Gayle

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP  
Associate, Litigation Department

Ms. Gayle assists in the firm's representation of clients in litigation matters, including research and analysis of case law, statutes and legislative history related to various areas of the law. Her experience encompasses drafting of legal memoranda and briefs. She provides support in all aspects of the litigation discovery process, including drafting document requests and oversight of document production protocols. She also provides support during trials and in all phases of trial preparation. Ms. Gayle is a member of the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey. She serves as trustee and secretary for the Rutgers Law School Alumni Association.



## Madina Axelrod

Segal McCambridge Singer & Mahoney  
Shareholder | Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Co-Chair

Madina Axelrod defends companies in high-stakes product liability, toxic tort and commercial litigation matters. She is co-chair of the firm's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee formulating and shepherding firm's activity pertaining to Diversity, Equity & Inclusion. Madina serves as national coordinating counsel, regional counsel and local counsel for multinational equipment manufacturers and other companies in asbestos litigation. Madina understands the financial and reputational damage claims can bring, and she advocates to resolve issues as quickly as possible.



## Maia T. Woodhouse

Adam & Reese LLP  
Diversity Committee Member



Maia Woodhouse concentrates her practice on trademark, trade dress, patent, trade secret and copyright disputes, with a primary focus on litigation and enforcement. She has extensive experience practicing in federal courts across the country and before the United States Trademark Trial and Appeal Board. An experienced trademark litigator, Maia has particular proficiency in prosecuting and defending against motions for temporary restraining orders and preliminary injunctions in “bet-the-company” IP and technology disputes.

## Maisa Frank

Lathrop GPM LLP  
Diverse Professionals Network Chair; Partner



In her role with the Lathrop GPM Diverse Professionals Network, Maisa helps serve the professional and personal goals of BIPOC attorneys and other professionals by encouraging networking, professional development, and engagement to build and grow impactful business, cultural, and social relationships. She represents clients in a variety of dispute resolution matters, including franchise disputes, unfair competition and deceptive trade practices claims, and compliance with the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act.

## Malaika Lindo

Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP  
Senior Director of Diversity and Inclusion



Malaika Lindo is the Senior Director of Diversity and Inclusion for Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP. Previously, she was Director of Diversity and Inclusion for Eversheds Sutherland and East Coast Regional Manager of Professional Development and Training for Sidley Austin LLP.

Malaika attended Touro University Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center for Doctor of Law (J.D.). She received her Master of Arts (M.A.), Political Science and Government from LIU Post and Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Economics from University of Virginia.

## Mamie Ling

Armstrong Teasdale  
Senior Associate



Mamie Ling represents clients in a variety of industries through all phases of litigation, including investigations, discovery, trial, and post-trial procedures and appeals. Her experience includes working with clients in retail and hospitality, real estate, construction and transportation, as well as with public entities. Mamie is a fluent Mandarin speaker and member of the Asian Pacific American Bar Association, Colorado Women’s Bar Association and Colorado Lawyers Committee.

## Maria H. Ruiz

Kasowitz Benson Torres  
Partner, Member of Hispanic/Latinx Affinity Group



Maria H. Ruiz represents major companies in high stakes litigation ranging from complex commercial, medical malpractice to products liability in state and federal courts throughout the United States. She has been recognized as a Top Latino Lawyer by Latino Leaders Magazine for her professional achievements and community involvement.

## Maria Lewis

Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP  
Chief Diversity Officer



Maria Lewis is the Chief Diversity Officer for Faegre Drinker. Previously, she was Associate Pastor for Enon Tabernacle Baptist Church and Chief Diversity Officer for Drinker Biddle & Reath.

Maria attended Harvard Law School (Juris Doctorate). She received her Bachelor of Arts, Honors Political Science and History from University of Pittsburgh.

## Marissa Dennis

Allen Matkins Leck Gamble  
Mallory & Natsis LLP  
Diversity Committee Co-Chair

**M**arissa Dennis is Litigation Partner / Office Operating Partner at Allen Matkins Leck Gamble Mallory & Natsis LLP, where she serves as Office Operating Partner of the firm's downtown Los Angeles office, overseeing operations and 130+ attorneys and staff, and is Co-Chair of the firm's Diversity and Inclusion Committee. Previously, she was a Board Member at California Minority Counsel Program and Legal Extern at Western Center on Law and Poverty. Marissa attended Loyola Law School, Los Angeles for J.D. Law. She received MSW, Social Welfare & B.A. Political Science from University of California, Los Angeles.



## Marjan Moussavian

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP  
Associate, Employment Law and Litigation Departments

**M**s. Moussavian concentrates her practice in employment litigation, criminal defense, regulatory compliance, internal investigations, and attorney ethics matters and disciplinary proceedings. Her experience encompasses the representation of public entities, private businesses, and individuals in both state and federal court. Ms. Moussavian is a member of the firm's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Leadership Team. She is also a member of the Women's White Collar Defense Association, New Jersey Chapter and the Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers of New Jersey.



## Mark Kittaka

Barnes & Thornburg LLP  
Co-Chair of BTAPA (Talent Resource Group for Asian Pacific American teammates and allies)

**B**TAPA provides our Asian Pacific American (APA) teammates and allies with opportunities to collaborate with members across the firm and to feel a sense of connection through shared experiences and backgrounds. We take the lead in fostering a community of support, respect, and advancement of the APA talent within the firm. I have been a board member of the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Indiana (APABA-IN) since 2014. I have also been a member of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA) since 2012.



## Mark Y. Liu

Akerman LLP  
Consultant

**M**ark serves as co-chair of Akerman's Asian, South Asian, and Pacific Islander Network Group. He is involved in the following organizations: Asian Business League of Southern California, Board of Directors Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Los Angeles, Member Hong Kong Association of Southern California, Member Honor: The Legal 500 2017, Recommended for Mergers, Acquisitions & Buyouts: MGA National Middle Market.



## Marlo Johnson Roebuck

Jackson Lewis, P.C.  
Co-leader of Jackson Lewis' African American Attorney Resource Group and Member of the firm's Corporate Diversity Counseling group and Principal

**M**arlo is committed to enhancing diversity and inclusion within the firm as co-leader of the firm's African American attorney resource group. As a member of the firm's Corporate Diversity Counseling group, she helps minimize legal liability and enhance diversity programs, performance and profile.



## Marlon Lutfiyya

Neal, Gerber & Eisenberg LLP  
Director of Talent & Diversity

**M**arlon Lutfiyya is the Director of Talent & Diversity for Neal, Gerber & Eisenberg LLP. Previously, he was Director of Inclusion & Professional Development for Husch Blackwell and Attorney for Winston & Strawn LLP.

Marlon attended New York University School of Law for J.D. Law. He received his B.A., Political Science from Yale University.



## Marty Dunn

### Dinsmore & Shohl LLP

Board of Directors, Executive Committee, and chair of the Diversity Committee



Marty is a member of the firm's Board of Directors, Executive Committee, and chair of the Diversity Committee. He is a leader in fostering economic development through entrepreneurial alliances involving for-profit, non-profit and governmental entities. Earlier in his career, Marty had the distinction of serving as the partner-in-charge for the Cincinnati office of a statewide law firm, which made him the first African-American managing partner of a law firm in Cincinnati.

## Matthew Tesfai

### Resnick & Louis PC

Associate



Matthew Tesfai is an Attorney at the San Diego and Irvine offices of Resnick & Louis, P.C.. He focuses his practice on construction defect litigation, professional responsibility, general insurance defense, bodily injury defense, and automobile liability. Prior to joining Resnick & Louis, he developed his legal skills practicing in the areas of employment law, immigration, maritime law, and bodily injury cases for both plaintiffs and defendants. Matthew received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science in 2009 from Emory University, and his Juris Doctor degree from Thomas Jefferson School of Law in 2014.

## Matthew W. Wilson

### Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC

Manager Diversity & Inclusion



Matthew W. Wilson is the Director of Diversity and Inclusion for Pittsburgh Steelers where he is responsible for providing executive leadership and guidance to develop and implement a comprehensive DEI strategy across the Steelers organization. Previously, he was Diversity and Inclusion Manager for Buchanan Ingersoll and Rooney LLP and Associate Attorney for Law Office of James K. Grace, P.C.

Matthew attended Widener University School of Law for Juris Doctor. He received his Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), English, Business from Saint Joseph's University.

## Mayfield, Bonnie

### Dykema Gossett PLLC

Member



Bonnie Mayfield has earned her designation as a seasoned and business savvy trial and appellate lawyer. Bonnie has tried product liability, pharmaceutical, commercial, medical malpractice, labor and employment cases. She also has been selected by several major clients to defend their labor, employment, pharmaceutical and commercial matters and also to be the Responsible Partner managing the client/law firm relationships. As a Responsible Partner, Bonnie assists in the management of the client/law firm relationships and also performs substantive work for those clients. She enhances the client/law firm relationships, facilitates constructive feedback.

## Megan Belote

### Robinson Bradshaw

Associate Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion



Megan Belote is the associate director of diversity, equity and inclusion at Robinson Bradshaw. She is responsible for developing, implementing and promoting the firm's diversity, equity and inclusion strategy, and collaborating with firm leadership, affinity groups and the DEI committee to coordinate and implement initiatives and programming. Megan is also responsible for managing the firm's Mansfield Rule certification process. Upon joining Robinson Bradshaw in 2018, Megan supported the firm's Recruiting and DEI committees as the attorney recruiting & diversity coordinator.

## Megan Lindsay

### Robinson Bradshaw

Associate Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion



Megan Lindsay Belote is the Associate Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion for Robinson Bradshaw. Previously, she served as Talent Mgmt. & Event Logistics Coordinator for Vanguard and Social Media Intern for Sound Partners.

Megan attended East Carolina University for Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Business Administration and Management, General.

## Melissa Berry

Lane Powell PC

Director of Professional Development and Diversity



Melissa provides leadership and strategic direction for Lane Powell's diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging efforts and lawyer professional development. Since joining the firm in 2019, she has led key initiatives, including securing Mansfield Rule Certification Plus, creating a three-year DEI strategic plan, and developing associate competencies. Melissa is a member of NALP's Neurodiversity in the Legal Profession Task Force, the Institute for Well-Being in Law's DEI Committee, and the Association of Law Firm Diversity Professionals.

## Melissa G. Andrieux

Dorf & Nelson LLP

Chief Diversity Officer/ Chief Client Relations Officer



As CDO, Ms. Andrieux oversees and implements the Firm's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion initiatives, both internally and externally. Her duties include organizing the DEI programs and chairing the Firm's Diversity & Inclusion Council. She was featured in 914 Inc. Magazine in recognition of the Firm's contributions towards advocating and educating the community on DEI. As a leading DEI Professional, Ms. Andrieux is regularly called upon to speak on this important subject. Her most recent appearance was at the ChIPs 2022 Global Summit in San Francisco where she discussed the legal industry's efforts to increase and advance diversity, the importance of DEI.

## Meredith Moore

Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP

Global Chief Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer



Meredith Moore is Global Chief Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer for Weil. Previously, she served as Director, Office for Diversity for New York City Bar and Director, Research & Information Services for Catalyst.

Meredith attended Columbia | SIPA for Master of Public Administration (M.P.A.). She received her Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Political Science SUNY Geneseo.

## Merisa S. Lima

Vedder Price P.C.

Director of Diversity and Inclusion



Merisa S. Lima is the Director of Diversity and Inclusion for Vedder Price. Previously, she served as Diversity Manager for Sidley Austin and Diversity Initiatives Coordinator for Mayer Brown LLP.

Merisa attended DePaul

## Mia Kelly

Tyson & Mendes LLP

Chair, Diversity & Inclusion Committee



Mia Kelly is Chair, Diversity & Inclusion Committee for Tyson & Mendes LLP.

Ms. Kelly earned her J.D. from Syracuse College of Law in 2001 where she was a member of the Moot Court Honor Society and an editor of the Law & Technology Journal. She graduated from University of California at San Diego in 1998, where she earned her B.A. in Political Science. Ms. Kelly is an active member of both the California State Bar and New York State Bar.

## Michael A. Battle

Barnes & Thornburg LLP

Michael A. Battle



I am proud to serve on the team as co-chair of BTBlack, a group within the firm consisting of members who identify as Black/African American and allies. I'm extremely excited to learn about the DEI efforts inside Barnes & Thornburg for 2023.

## Michael Caoile

### Resnick & Louis PC

Associate/Board of Director for Filipino-American Lawyers of Orange County



Michael Caoile is an Associate at the Orange County office of Resnick & Louis, P.C. and focuses his practice on the areas of insurance defense, bodily injury defense, automobile liability, premises liability, subrogation, and general civil litigation. In his free time, Michael serves as a board of director for Filipino-American Lawyers of Orange County (FLOC).

## Michael J. Satin

### Miller & Chevalier

Diversity Committee Chair



Michael Satin is the Diversity Committee Chair for Miller & Chevalier Chartered. Previously, he was Trial Attorney & Training Director for Public Defender Service.

Michael attended Cornell Law School, J.D. He received his B.A. from Brown University, magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa.

## Michele L. Bendekovic

### Bass Berry & Sims PLC

Director of Diversity and Inclusion



Michele has been involved in diversity, equity and inclusion, attorney professional development and attorney recruiting for over 30 years. Michele sits on the board and is the board president for Jazz Empowers whose mission is to transform the lives of youth in underserved schools through jazz education. Michele sits on the Executive Committee and board of Advancing Women in Nashville (AWIN) and serves as the Advancing Leaders Chair. AWIN's mission is to advance and develop women leaders as business and community leaders, with special emphasis on the context and needs of the Middle Tennessee region. She recently joined the board of Launch Mentorship.

## Michele Logan

### Gunderson Dettmer Stough Villeneuve Franklin & Hachigian, LLP

Global Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Leader



Michele Logan is the Global Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Leader for Gunderson Dettmer. Previously, she was Co-Founder of JMT Photography & Media and Global Diversity and Inclusion Manager for PGIM.

Michele attended Saint Peter's University for MBA, International Business & M.S.A Accounting. She received her Certificate, Diversity and Inclusion from Cornell University.

## Michelle (Delgado) Parsons

### Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis LLP

Director of Law School Recruiting and Diversity Manager



Michelle (Delgado) Parsons is the Director of Law School Recruiting and Diversity Manager for Holland & Knight LLP. Previously, she served as Recruiting Manager for Clear Diligence and Director of Law School Recruiting for Waller Lansden Dortch and Davis LLP.

Michelle attended Samford University for Juris Doctor. She received her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Marketing, Spanish from Ausburn University.

## Michelle Garvey Brennfleck

### Buchanan

Shareholder and N.O.W. Affinity Group Co-Chair



Michelle is an experienced healthcare attorney who helps healthcare providers, suppliers and innovators achieve their operational and business goals in a challenging regulatory environment. Michelle frequently advises clients regarding major strategic transactions and, with recent developments in virtual healthcare, counsels clients in implementation of telehealth and other digital health initiatives. Michelle serves as Co-Chair of the firm's N.O.W. (Network of Women) affinity group for employees that identify as women.



## Michelle Lynn Del Pino

Resnick & Louis PC  
Associate



Michelle Lynn Del Pino is an Associate at the Miami office of Resnick & Louis, P.C. and focuses her practice on civil litigation, construction defect, and insurance defense. Michelle received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice with a Minor in Psychology from the Florida International University. Michelle went on to graduate Cum Laude from Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad College of Law with her Juris Doctor Degree, where she repeatedly achieved the honor of being placed on the Dean's List and received the Pro Bono Honor Program Bronze Award. Additionally, during her last semester of law school.

## Michelle P. Crockett

Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone PLC  
Chief Diversity Officer



Michelle Crockett is the Deputy Executive Officer; Chief Diversity Officer; Labor & Employment Principal for Miller Canfield. Previously, she was General Counsel for Education Achievement Authority of Michigan and Principal & Diversity Director for Miller Canfield.

Michelle attended Wayne State University Law School, J.D. She received her B.A. from North Carolina State University.

## Monica H. Khetarpal

Jackson Lewis, P.C.  
Co-leader of Jackson Lewis' Asian American Resource Group and  
Principal



Monica co-leads Jackson Lewis' Asian American resource group and is the D&I liaison and mentoring coordinator for the Chicago office. She has served on the Board of the South Asian Bar Association of Chicago and SABA's Foundation. Monica also frequently speaks on topics related to women in law and successful work-life balance, and founded the Chicago chapter of the firm's Practicing and Parenting group to support attorneys who balance their legal practice with raising children.

## Monica P. Schroeck

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP  
Counsel, Environmental Department



Ms. Schroeck concentrates her practice in environmental law, advising both public and private entities on issues associated with real estate and corporate transactions and in environmental litigation. She has extensive experience encompassing a broad range of environmental and land use issues, including those associated with site remediation, environmental due diligence, solid waste disposal, clean air and water regulations, insurance coverage, and environmental health and safety (EHS) compliance. Ms. Schroeck serves as Vice Chair for the New Jersey State Bar Association, Environmental Law Section.

## Monique Hudson

The Hudson Law Group PLLC/Palo Alto  
Networks  
Attorney & Global Diversity and Inclusion Business Partner



Attorney Monique Hudson is the principal attorney at The Hudson Law Group. With over ten years of fostering a strong passion for fighting for others, she started the Hudson Law Group with a mission to seek out justice on workers' behalf and helping small businesses. Having helped fortune 500 companies; small and mid-sized businesses in different sectors such as the medical, oil and gas, education, and technology industries with human capital, risk, and liability solutions; and being a fast-food worker to a fast-food franchise owner herself.

## Monique Watson

Step toe  
Partner, Energy; Co-Chair Diversity Committee



Monique Watson is recognized for her deep knowledge and understanding of energy law, policy, economics, and regulation, with particular focus on oil and natural gas pipeline matters. In her two decades of energy experience, including senior legal roles at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), she has managed legal and policy initiatives involving natural gas, crude oil, and refined petroleum products pipelines. She is also well versed in all facets of natural gas and oil pipeline regulation.

## Monya Bunch

Wilmer Hale

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advocate



**M**onya M. Bunch Battle is the Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at WilmerHale, where she collaborates with firm leadership and key stakeholders, including Department Chairs, Practice Group Leaders, Diversity Committee Chairs as well as the firm's Legal Personnel and Practice Management Departments, to develop and integrate diversity equity and inclusion (DEI) strategy throughout the firm and with an emphasis on professional development, retention and advancement of diverse and women attorneys. Previously, she served as Adjunct Professor (Legal Professions, incorporating DEI principles) for University of Maryland.

## Myraleigh Alberto McGill

Resnick & Louis PC

Associate



**M**yraleigh Alberto McGill is an associate in the Las Vegas office of Resnick & Louis, P.C. Myraleigh began practicing law in the energy industry where she handled corporate governance matters for electric cooperatives and represented the interests of industrial customers before the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada, the Oregon Public Utility Commission, and Bonneville Power Administration. Myraleigh attended law school at the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University, where she focused her studies in the Health Law and Environmental & Sustainability Law Programs under the Center for Law, Science and Innovation.

## N. Christopher Norton

Arent Fox LLP

Chief Diversity Officer



**N**. Christopher Norton is Partner for Arent Fox LLP

Christopher attended University of California, Los Angeles - School of Law and Georgetown University Doctor of Law & BSFS.

## Nacer Aounallah

Resnick & Louis PC

Associate



**N**acer was born in Laredo, Texas but spent much of his childhood in the cities of Sweetwater and Harlingen. He attended what is now the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley and Texas Tech University where he received his bachelor's and master's degrees, respectively. He continued his education at the University of Houston where he earned his Doctor of Jurisprudence. He was licensed in Texas in 2016.

## Nada M. Llewellyn

Kramer Levin

Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer



**N**ada M. Llewellyn leads Kramer Levin's diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives. Nada advises and works closely with senior firm and practice leadership to identify, develop and implement strategies, objectives and opportunities that advance Kramer Levin's long-standing commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion as core values. She works collaboratively with the firm's Diversity Committee, Women's Initiative, Hiring Committee, Associates Committee and affinity groups to ensure workplace policies and culture across all the firm's offices that foster and enhance the hiring, mentoring, advancement, retention and engagement of lawyers.

## Natalie Mark

Taylor English Duma

Construction/Litigation & ADR Partner /Co-chair Diversity & Inclusion Committee



**N**atalie Mark is the Construction/Litigation & ADR Partner /Co-chair Diversity & Inclusion Committee for Taylor English Duma LLP, where she served as Co-Chair of Diversity and Inclusion Committee.

Advised Executive Committee on diversity and inclusion initiatives

Identified and engaged diversity consultants for cultural audits and diversity and inclusion training

o Responded to client diversity questionnaires.

## Natasha Zech

Williams & Connolly LLP

Director of Attorney Recruiting, Diversity and Development



Natasha Zech is the Director of Attorney Recruiting, Diversity and Development for Williams & Connolly LLP. Previously, she served as Associate for Roetzel & Andress and Weiner Brodsky Kider PC.

Natasha attended Georgetown University Law Center for J.D. She received her H.S. Diploma from Georgetown Visitation. She also attended University of Virginia.

## Nicholas Bell

Buchanan

Counsel and P.R.I.D.E. Affinity Group Chair



Nick is a seasoned litigator who is regularly called upon to represent business clients in a variety of complex matters. His practice intersects high-stakes business litigation and complex labor and employment cases. Nick serves as Chair of the firm's P.R.I.D.E. (Promoting Respect, Inclusion and Diversity for all Employees) affinity group for employees that identify as LGBTQ+ and allies. Additionally, Nick serves as chair of the Allegheny County Bar Association's LGBTQ+ Rights Committee.

## Nichole Dotson Olajuwon

Holland & Knight LLP

Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

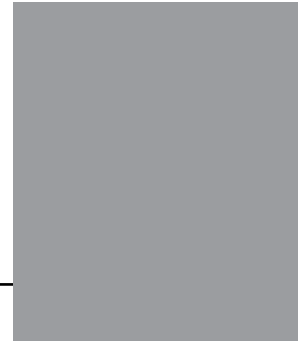


Ms. Olajuwon devotes her efforts to developing and implementing initiatives aimed at fostering a diverse and inclusive workplace; recruiting, retaining, and advancing a diverse workforce; and promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion through client relationships. She currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Joy School and is a past board member of Mental Health America of Greater Houston. She is a member of the Association for Law Firm Diversity Professionals.

## Nicole Harris

Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart P.C.

Senior Diversity & Inclusion Coordinator



Nicole Harris is the Senior Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Coordinator for Ogletree Deakins. Previously, she was Legal Secretary for Baker Sterchi Cowden & Rice, LLC.

Nicole attended Missouri Western State University for Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Political Science and Government.

## Nika Palama

Sheppard Mullin

Corporate Associate



Nika's practice focuses on advising both private and public companies in corporate transactional matters that include mergers and acquisitions, corporate governance, securities compliance and filings and the formation and operation of business entities and EB-5 project finance.

## Nikki Lewis Simon

Greenberg Traurig, LLP

Shareholder and Chief Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer



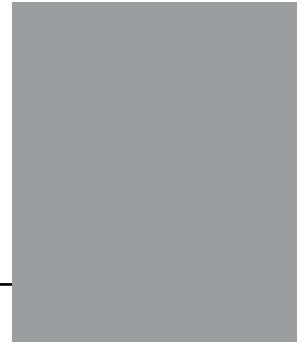
Nikki Lewis Simon, a commercial litigator with more than two decades of experience, primarily serves as the firm's Chief Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer. As such, Nikki designs and guides strategic initiatives and programs to deepen firmwide diversity and inclusion efforts that further enrich client engagements and community investments. Her role is indicative of, and integral to, Greenberg Traurig's core values of collaboration and inclusion – principles that inform the firm's operations and legal business in meaningful, positive ways. Prior to assuming primary responsibilities on the business side of the firm.



## Nimesh M. Patel

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP  
Chief Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer

Nimesh M. Patel is Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer for Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP where he leads diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) for an AmLaw 20 global law firm with approximately 1,000 attorneys. Previously, he was Director of Diversity and Inclusion for WilmerHale and Executive Director (SES), Office of Diversity & Inclusion for U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Nimesh attended The University of Chicago Booth School of Business and The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law.



## Nirvana Dove

Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP  
Assistant Director of DEI

Nirvana Dove is the Assistant Director - Diversity, Equity & Inclusion at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP and Affiliates. Previously, she worked as Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Manager for Thompson Hine LLP and Associate Director - Diversity & International Student Initiatives for Georgetown University Law Center.

Nirvana attended Emory University School of Law for J.D. She received her BA from University of Pennsylvania.



## Norma Jackson

Thompson Coburn LLP  
Director of Diversity, Inclusion, and Professional Development

Norma J. Jackson is the Chief Diversity & Attorney Development Officer for Thompson Coburn LLP. Previously, she served as Director, Diversity Enhancement and Engagement for University of Missouri-Columbia.

Norma attended University of Missouri-Columbia Juris Doctorate, Law. She received her Master of Arts - MA, Human Resources Management/Personnel Administration, General from Webster University and Bachelor of Science - BS from University of Missouri-Columbia.



## Ochoa, Virgil

Dykema Gossett PLLC  
Member

Virgil Ochoa leverages decades of experience and a combination of his knowledge of corporate practice of medicine regulations and extensive buy-sell experience to ensure deals go smoothly so those new relationships will prosper. Whether a client is looking to buy or sell their practice, or transition into an affiliation in a managed services model, taking that next step into a new business entity can be daunting even if it makes good financial sense. Virgil takes the time to build personal relationships with his clients as he counsels professionals in every aspect of a transaction by clarifying the risks and pains of monetizing their practices.



## Ony Beverly

Quarles & Brady LLP  
Chief People and Diversity Officer

Committed to building high-performing, diverse teams. Ony Beverly leads the firm's human resources team and plays a critical role in helping the firm achieve its strategic growth objectives by attracting and developing high-performing talent across its offices and practice groups. She also helps strengthen and deepen the firm's long-standing commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion. Ony has extensive human resources leadership experience in the legal industry, serving as a strategic partner to firm leadership and leading the development and execution of plans for attorney and staff talent management.



## Otieno B. Ombok

Jackson Lewis, P.C.  
Co-leader of Jackson Lewis' African American Attorney Resource Group and Principal

Otieno is co-leader of the firm's Immigration practice group and has been advising employers on business immigration strategy for almost 20 years. His practice covers all aspects of employment-based immigration into the United States. He works closely with employers to structure their immigration programs and develop long-term visa strategies. Prior to Jackson Lewis, Otieno worked with various nonprofit groups running education, democracy and governance programs in Africa.

## Palash I. Pandya

### Akerman LLP

Partner and Co-Deputy Chair, Corporate Practice Group



Palash serves as co-chair of Akerman's Asian, South Asian, and Pacific Islander Network. He is co-chair of the Professional Development Council for the recruitment, retention, and development of associates and is on the Board of Directors.

Super Lawyers Magazine 2014-2016, Listed in New York as a "Rising Star" for Securities & Corporate Finance

Leadership Council on Legal Diversity (LCLD) Fellow, 2015

South Asian Bar Associate of New York; Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund.

## Patrece Simmons

### Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advocate



Patrece Simmons is the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advocate for Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough. Previously, she was Bookkeeper/Office Manager for Children's Trust of South Carolina.

Patrece attended University of South Carolina and received her Bachelor of Arts - BA, English and Bachelor of Arts - BA, International/Global Studies.

## Pearl Brady

### Shearman & Sterling LLP

Coordinator, Diversity & Inclusion



Pearl Brady is the Coordinator, Diversity & Inclusion for Shearman & Sterling LLP. Previously, he served as Employment Contracts Administrator for SAG-AFTRA and Patient Partner Consultant for Dartmouth College.

Pearl attended University of Galway for Master of Arts - MA, Drama and Theatre Studies. He received his Bachelor of Fine Arts - BFA, Dramatic Writing from New York University.

## Philip Lo

### Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani (GRSM)

Asian American Affinity Group Chair



Philip H. Lo is a Partner in the Orange County office of Gordon & Rees. He focuses much of his practice in Litigation. Mr. Lo's core practice is insurance defense, encompassing several areas including Professional Liability. Mr. Lo's practice includes federal and state courts, as well as binding arbitration, trials and administrative hearings. Mr. Lo's Professional Liability practice includes defense of various professionals, including, but not limited to, physicians and medical professionals including hospitals, and treatment and rehabilitation centers, attorneys, architects and engineers, agents and brokers.

## Perna Subramanian

### Mintz Levin

Diversity & Inclusion Strategist



Perna Subramanian is the Diversity & Inclusion Strategist for Mintz. Previously, she was Course Instructor; Selection Committee for MIT Office of Engineering Outreach Programs and Application Reader for Barnard College.

Perna attended Harvard University for Master of Education - MEd, Education. She received her Bachelor of Arts - BA, Psychology from University of Minnesota.

## Priya Vivian

### Lane Powell PC

Co-Chair, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee



Serving as Co-Chair of the Lane Powell Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, Priya helps foster DEI at the firm level, as well as in our communities through her role as a Board Member for the Mother Attorneys Mentoring Association of Seattle, which empowers attorney mothers and encourages their professional success. Priya's practice as a Lane Powell Partner focuses mainly on labor and employment, as she represents employers throughout all phases of the employment cycle.

## Rachel Orr

Lathrop GPM LLP

LGBTQ+ Allies Co-Chair, Partner



In her role with Lathrop GPM's LGBTQ+ Allies Inclusion Network, Rachel works to promote and support a respectful and welcoming work environment for employees to bring their true, authentic selves to the workplace. She focuses her practice on real estate development and capital finance and has substantial state and federal tax credit expertise. Rachel has experience advising clients on transactions involving development and financing incentives and serves as outside general counsel for many clients.

## Rachel Simmonds-Watson

Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP

Director of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion



Rachel Simmonds-Watson is the Director of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion for Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP, where she assess how they work to ensure that they are aligned with their commitment to inclusion and their values of connected community. She provides firm-wide strategic leadership on all diversity, equity and inclusion related matters, and work closely with our Practice Leader and the Professional Development and Recruiting, Human Resources and Marketing and Business Development departments. Previously, she served as Diversity Manager for Debevoise & Plimpton LLP and Manager of Diversity Initiatives for Chadbourne & Parke LLP.

## Rashida MacMurray-Abdullah

Wiley Rein LLP

Chief Diversity Officer



Rashida is responsible for translating Wiley's DEI strategies into pragmatic programming and initiatives to achieve the firm's strategic goals and serving as the firm's thought leader in the marketplace. Rashida is the Vice Chair for the NBA Commercial Law Section, a member of the Association of Law Firm Diversity Professionals, and she was selected as the 2021 Rutgers Jazz for Justice Alumni Awardee and Savoy Magazine's 2023 Most Influential Executives in Diversity & Inclusion.

## Regina Petty

Fisher Phillips

Partner/Chief Diversity Officer



Regina Petty is the Partner/Chief Diversity Officer for Fisher Phillips. Previously, she was Partner for Wilson Petty Kosmo & Turner and Partner, Associate for Gray, Cary, Ames & Frye.

Regina attended Stanford Law School (JD). She received her AB, Economics from Stanford University and Cornell Certified Diversity Professional (CCDP) from Cornell University ILR School.

## Rekha Chiruvolu

Nixon Peabody LLP

Chief Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer



Rekha Chiruvolu is the Chief Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer for Nixon Peabody LLP. Previously, she was Assistant Director of Career Services- Employer Relations for UCLA School of Law and Attorney at Butz Dunn & DeSantis.

Rekha attended New York University for BA, Psychology. She received her J.D from Rutgers Law School.

## Rena Andoh

Sheppard Mullin

BT Partner



Rena has trial and arbitration hearing experience, including acting as lead counsel/first chair trial counsel in complex commercial and class action matters. Rena also maintains an active appellate practice and has argued before the US Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit and the First Department of the NY State Supreme Court, Appellate Division. She has extensive experience litigating in state and federal jurisdictions, particularly in the Commercial Division of the NY Supreme Court system.

## Rhonda Talford Knight

Bricker & Eckler LLP

Chief Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer



Rhonda Talford Knight is the Chief DEI Officer at Bricker & Eckler LLP. Previously, she served as Founder and CEO of The Knight Consulting Group, LL.Diversity, Inclusion, Equity- Strategic Planning, Metrics, Bias & Cultural Competency, Recruiting & Retaining Diverse Talent: Develop and implement strategic plans, workshops, presentations w/handouts. she worked as Vice President Inclusion Manage at Huntington National Bank. Rhonda attended The Ohio State University and received PhD & M.Ed in Social Studies & Global Education and received her B.Ain Public Relations from Otterbein University.

## Robert L. Johnson

Gibbons P.C.

Chief Diversity Officer



Mr. Johnson, also a Corporate M&A Director at Gibbons, oversees the Gibbons Diversity Initiative, focused on promoting and achieving an inclusive workforce and workplace, and strengthening diversity in the legal and local business communities through thought leadership, pipeline programs, engagement with business associations, and supplier diversity. He has been recognized by the New Jersey Law Journal, Institute for Entrepreneurial Leadership, Profiles in Diversity Journal, ROI-NJ, and Lawyers of Color for his diversity efforts and influence.

## Rodriguez-Hatt, E. Carolina

Dykema Gossett PLLC

Member



Carolina's practice focuses on a variety of commercial real estate transactions, including real estate financing, leasing, acquisition and disposition.

## Ronald Fresco

Reminger Co. LPA

Co-Chair, Diversity & Inclusion Committee



Ronald Fresco is the Managing Partner of our Columbus, Ohio office and serves on the firm's Management and Executive Committees. Ron also co-chairs our Workers' Compensation Practice Group. Ron has represented Reminger in the Columbus Bar Association's Managing Partners Diversity Initiative for the last decade.

## Rosa J. Nuñez

Foley Hoag LLP

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Senior Executive



Rosa J. Nuñez is the Chief Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer for Foley Hoag LLP, where she is its first-ever director of diversity and inclusion joining other firms that have taken similar steps with Big Law under pressure to bring in and promote more minorities and women. Previously, she was SVP, Senior Director, Diversity & Inclusion for BCW Global and Head of Diversity & Inclusion for OmnicomMediaGroup USA.

Rosa attended University of Phoenix for Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.), Business Administration and Organizational Development.

## Rosanna Koppelman

McGuireWoods LLP

Director of Diversity and Inclusion



Rosanna Koppelman is the Director of Diversity and Inclusion for McGuireWoods LLP. Previously, she was TCorporate Learning & Development Consultant, Diversity & Inclusion as Independent Consultant and Executive Director, Center for Corporate Education at William & Mary.

Rosanna attended William & Mary - School of Education Doctor of Philosophy - PhD (candidate), Organizational Studies. She received her Master's degree, Management, Public Administration from University of Alaska Anchorage College of Business.

## Roshan Rajkumar

**Bowman and Brooke LLP**  
Chair of Diversity and Inclusion Committee



Roshan Rajkumar is Managing Partner, Minneapolis Office of Bowman and Brooke. Outside of being part of a national products liability and commercial litigation defense practice, Roshan elected to the Minneapolis Office's Managing Partner role on February 1, 2022. Also involved in all aspects of office management, recruiting and hiring, public relations, and crisis management. State. Previously, he served as the Member of Hennepin County Bar Association & Volunteer in Basilica of Saint Mary. Roshan attended University of Minnesota Law School J.D. Law and received his M.A in Political Science & International Studies from Australian National University.

## Rubio, José M.

**Dykema Gossett PLLC**  
Member



Joe Rubio litigates a range of commercial disputes, especially partnership and real estate matters. No matter the nature or scope of the case or the amount at stake, he makes each client feel like they are his only client, earning their trust every day. Joe represents small businesses, middle-market companies, residential and commercial landlords, property owners, and investors. He appears in state and federal courts across Texas to bring and defend cases involving breach of contract, partner and shareholder interests, liens, product liability, oil and gas issues, and probate contests. From pre-suit investigation through discovery, trial, appeal, and resolution.

## Saddiq Abdul

**Kasowitz Benson Torres**  
Associate, Member of Black/African American Affinity Group



Saddiq Abdul's practice focuses on employment-related litigation before federal and state courts, administrative agencies and alternative dispute resolution bodies. He also advises on employment policies and procedure.

## Sal A. Richardson, Esq.

**Testan Law**  
Managing Partner, Florida



Salisu (Sal) A. Richardson is the Managing Partner for Litigation at the Florida office of Testan Law, based in downtown Ft. Lauderdale, FL. A three time graduate of the University of Florida (BS in Finance, JD, MA Real Estate), Sal began practicing at 26 years old in 2002. A member of the UF Trial Team, and always dreaming of being a litigator attorney, Mr. Richardson has taken over 80 cases to Final and/or Evidentiary Hearings. These cases ranged from medical issues to primarily factual concerns such as misrepresentation, causality and subsequent intervening events'

## Sander Weiner

**Wicker Smith O'Mara McCoy & Ford**  
Associate/Diversity Committee member



Sander Weiner is the Associate/Diversity Committee member for Wicker Smith. Previously, he served as Attorney for ILLINOIS FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE LABOR COUNCIL and Attorney At Law for Quintairos, Prieto, Wood, & Boyer, P.A..

Sander attended Chicago-Kent College of Law, Illinois Institute of Technology Doctor of Law (J.D.), Law. He received his Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Philosophy from Northeastern Illinois University.

## Sangeeta Gandhi Shah

**Brooks Kushman**  
Shareholder, Co-Chair Post Grant Practice Group, Chief Diversity Officer



Sangeeta Ghandi Shah is the CEO of Brooks Kushman P.C. Previously, she served as Shareholder, Co-Chair Post-Grant Practice Group and Member of the Management Committee from 2007-2009 and 2012 to date Co-Chair of the Post Grant Proceedings Group. She was Chief Diversity Officer.

Sangeeta Gandhi Shah attended Wayne State University Law School J.D and received her Bachelor's in Chemistry and Economic, cum laude from Kalamazoo College.



## Sanmathi (Sanu) Dev

Capehart Scatchard  
Diversity Committee Chair



Sanmathi (Sanu) Dev is the Hiring Shareholder & Diversity Chair for Capehart & Scatchard where she concentrates her practice on the representation of boards of education and school districts in all areas of education law including: labor and employment, special education, Section 504, student discipline, student records, Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act, School Ethics. Previously, she was Education Law Attorney for Levin Legal Group and Judicial Law Clerk to the Honorable Ronald E. Bookbinder, A.J.S.C. (ret.) for Superior Court of New Jersey.

## Sarah A. Good

Farella Braun+Martel  
Partner, Chief Talent and Inclusion Officer



Sarah Good is the Litigation Partner, Chief Talent and Inclusion Officer for Farella Braun+Martel, where she provides strategic leadership and innovation concerning talent learning and development and the promotion of diversity, equity and inclusion at Farella and in the legal community. Previously, she was Partner, Firmwide Co-Leader Securities Litigation & Enforcement Team for Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP and Partner at Arnold & Porter. Sarah attended University of Virginia School of Law (J.D). She received her A.B from Princeton University.

## Sarah LaFleur

Venable  
Diversity and Inclusion Specialist



Sarah LaFleur is the Diversity and Inclusion Specialist at Venable LLP. Previously, she worked as Human Resources Coordinator at Cafe Milano and Human Resources Assistant for Law Offices of Robert S. Gitmeid & Associates PLLC.

Sarah attended Naveen Jindal School of Management, UT Dallas for her bachelor's degree.

## Sarah Odion Esene

Barnes & Thornburg LLP  
Associate



Co-lead of BT Black; Co-chair of the Racial Justice Committee- Criminal Justice Reform and Member of Black Entertainment and sports Lawyers Association.

## Satra Sampson-Arokium

Dechert LLP  
Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer



Satra Sampson-Arokium is the Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer for Dechert LLP. Previously, she was Director, Diversity & Inclusion for Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP and Director, Diversity and Inclusion for Kaye Scholer LLP.

Satra attended Marist College for Masters of Public Administration (MPA). She received her Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Political Science from University at Albany, SUNY.

## Shannon Burke

Chapman and Cutler LLP  
Director of Talent Development and Diversity



Shannon Burke is the Director of Talent Development and Diversity for Chapman and Cutler LLP, where she facilitates firm diversity initiatives including business resource groups, the sponsorship and scholarship programs, mentoring circles, external presenters, and surveys alongwith her team. Previously, she was Visiting Assistant Professor of Law for Chicago Kent College of Law and Adjunct Legal Writing Professor for Loyola University Chicago School of Law.

Shannon attended Michigan State University College of Law for J.D. She received B.A.

## Sharon E. Jones

### Haynes Boone LLP

Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer

Sharon E. Jones is the Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer and Partner for Haynes Boone LLP. Previously, she was President/CEO of O-H Community Partners, Ltd and CEO of Jones Diversity, Inc.

Sharon attended Harvard Law School (J.D.). She received her B.A Economics from Harvard University.



## Shauna C. Bryce

### Steptoe & Johnson LLP

Chief Legal Talent Officer & Chief Diversity Officer

Shauna C. Bryce is the Chief Legal Talent Officer & Chief Diversity Officer for Steptoe & Johnson LLP. Previously, she served as Principal | Lawyer Coach & Resume Writer | Executive Branding & LinkedIn | Advancement & Transitions for Bryce Legal and Global Chair of Hopkins Alumni in Law (HAIL) | Alumni / Student Leader for The Johns Hopkins University.

Shauna attended Harvard Law School Doctor of Law (JD). She received her Bachelor of Arts (BA), History from The Johns Hopkins University.



## Shellye Pruitt

### Munger, Tolles & Olson LLP

Talent Developer/DE&I Executive

Shellye Pruitt is the Talent Developer/DE&I Executive for Munger, Tolles & Olson LLP, where she leads teams in both attorney professional development and DEI to include all areas of the attorney life cycle, provides strategic advice to the firm on diversity-related issues with an eye toward furthering the firm's DEI efforts and community partnerships; collaborates with firm leadership and various committees to support attorney performance, retention and diversity-related efforts. Previously, she was Director, Attorney Training & Development for Kirkland & Ellis.



## Shiva Karimi

### McLane Middleton

Chair of McLane Middleton's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee

Shiva Karimi is the Chair of McLane Middleton's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee. Previously, she established and directed Karimi & Associates and was chair of the Boston Bar Association's Immigration Law Committee.

Shiva attended Suffolk University Law School for J.D. She received her B.A., cum laude, from Northeastern University.



## Shivani Poddar

### Herrick, Feinstein LLP

Partner, Co-Chair of Diversity Committee

Shivani Poddar ([www.herrick.com/shivani-poddar/](http://www.herrick.com/shivani-poddar/)) is a partner in Herrick's Litigation Department and co-chair of Herrick's Diversity Committee & Diversity Partners' Program. Shivani a seasoned litigator who represents clients in high-profile cases involving complex commercial, securities, real estate and employment disputes. As co-chair of the D&I Committee, Shivani guides diversity participation from Herrick employees at all levels, and in 2023 is focusing efforts on driving diversity in recruiting, mentorship and community outreach. For more info visit: [www.herrick.com/diversity/](http://www.herrick.com/diversity/).



## Shoshanah Shanes

### Lathrop GPM LLP

LGBTQ+ Allies Co-Chair; Associate

In her role with Lathrop GPM's LGBTQ+ Allies Inclusion Network, Shoshanah works to promote and support a respectful and welcoming work environment for employees to bring their true, authentic selves to the workplace. Her practice includes commercial and business litigation, employment litigation, and financial services disputes. Shoshanah regularly acts pro bono as appointed counsel to incarcerated individuals bringing Section 1983 claims and is a former petitioners' advocate in domestic violence courtrooms.



## Smali Constantino

Resnick & Louis PC  
Associate



Smali is a graduate of Stetson University College of Law where he served as an editor of the Stetson Journal of Advocacy and Law. Prior to attending Stetson, Smali earned his Bachelor of Laws and practiced as an attorney in Brazil, handling complex commercial litigation matters and serving as counsel to a Brazilian Congresswoman. In addition to international litigation experience, Smali has worked as a licensed construction contractor which provides an edge in the plan interpretation, liability, damage, and risk transfer issues presented in complex construction matters. Smali is licensed to practice law in Brazil and the state of Florida.

## Smrithi Narayanan

Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP  
Diversity & Inclusion Benchmarking and Sponsorship Specialist



Smrithi Narayanan is the Diversity & Inclusion Benchmarking and Sponsorship Specialist for Faegre Drinker. Previously, she was Data Analyst for Calero-MDSL and Project Assistant for Mathematica Policy Research.

Smrithi attended The George Washington University for Bachelor's degree, International Relations and Affairs.

## Sonia Montenegro Lopez

Paul Hastings LLP  
Senior Manager, Global Diversity & Inclusion

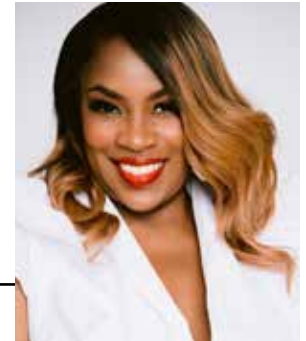


Sonia Montenegro Lopez is the Senior Manager, Global Diversity & Inclusion at Paul Hastings. Previously she served as Manager of Diversity & Inclusion at Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP

Sonia attended DePaul University B.A., English.

## Sonji R. Young

Armstrong Teasdale LLP  
Global Vice President, DEI



Sonji R. Young is Executive Coach | Leadership Development Strategist Freelancer. Previously she was Global Vice President Diversity Equity Inclusion (DEI) at Armstrong Teasdale LLP and Inclusive Excellence Advisor - Talent Acquisition for American Family Insurance. Sonji R. Young attended University of Missouri-Columbia and received Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Communications. She also received Urban League Social Justice and Civic Leadership Training and attended Urban League Young Professionals - Leadership Institute for Leadership Development,

## Stacie Yee

Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP  
Partner, Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer



Stacie Yee is the Partner, Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer at Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP. Previously, she was Partner at Squire Patton Boggs.

Stacie attended University of Southern California Gould School of Law, J.D. She received her B.A., from Claremont McKenna College.

## Stephanie Fernandez

Resnick & Louis PC  
Associate



Stephanie Fernandez is an Associate at the Riverside/Ontario office of Resnick & Louis, P.C. Stephanie was born and raised in southern California, and attended the University of California, Santa Barbara, where she was awarded Dean's Honors for Winter 2013 and Spring 2014. She received her Bachelor of Arts in History and Medieval Studies in 2015. Stephanie then attended Chapman University's Dale E. Fowler School of Law.

## Stephanie Marella Gryder

Moore & Van Allen, PLLC

Manager of Diversity and Community Initiatives



Stephanie Marella Gryder is the Senior Manager of Diversity and Community Initiatives for Moore & Van Allen, PLLC. Previously, she was Diversity Coordinator for Mecklenburg County Bar and Legislative Editor at American Bar Association.

Stephanie attended George Mason University for Master of Public Administration - MPA, Non Profit Management & BA, Government & International Politics.

## Stephanie Marshall

Robinson Bradshaw

Director of Library Services



Stephanie Marshall is an experienced law librarian who serves as the firm's director of library services. She manages all aspects of library services including research training and support, continuing legal education, and overall collection development of the firm's print, digital and database research tools.

Stephanie was a reference librarian for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Library System before joining Robinson Bradshaw.

## Stephanie Noel

Akerman LLP

Director of Legal Recruiting



Stephanie serves as co-chair of Akerman's Black Network Group with over 110 participants. In her role as Director of Legal Recruiting, she works closely with minority owned recruiting firms and organizations focused on diversity.

## Stephanie Quappe

Fried Frank LLP

Director of Diversity & Inclusion



Stephanie Quappe is the Director of Diversity & Inclusion at Fried Frank LLP. Previously, she was Diversity and Inclusion Program Director for The Port Authority of New York & New Jersey and Managing Director for Quappe Associates LLC.

Stephanie attended University of Birmingham for MBA International (distinction), Business. She received her BA, Business and Economics & BA (Licence), Business and Economics from Bergische Universität Wuppertal and University of Paris I: Panthéon-Sorbonne respectively.

## Stu Downing

Cahill Gordon & Reindel LLP

Co-Chair, Diversity and Inclusion Committee



Stuart Downing is the Co-Chair, Diversity and Inclusion Committee for Cahill Gordon & Reindel LLP. Stuart represents leading investment banks, commercial banks and corporations in financing transactions, including debt and equity offerings and bank financings, as well as tender offers and consent solicitations.

Stuart attended Georgetown University Law Center, J.D. He received his B.A from Siena College.

## Susanna Suh

Cahill Gordon & Reindel LLP

Co-Chair, Diversity and Inclusion Committee



Susanna Suh is the Partner & Chair of the firm's Education and Training Committee for Cahill Gordon & Reindel LLP. She has served in various capacities at Cahill, including as Administrative Partner and Co-Chair of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee.

Susanna attended Yale Law School, J.D.. She received her B.A from Cornell University.

## Sylvia James

Winston & Strawn LLP  
Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer



Sylvia James is the Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer for Winston & Strawn LLP, where her responsibilities include collaborating with key stakeholders to develop and implement our firm's diversity and inclusion strategy and initiatives; work with our talent management team to enhance the hiring, advancement, retention, and promotion of diverse lawyers. Previously, she served as Senior Counsel for Holland & Knight and Labor and Employment Associate for Scopelitis, Garvin, Light, Hanson & Feary. Sylvia attended Duke University School of Law J.D., Law. She earned her AB, Political Science from Vassar College.

## Symone E. Martin

Jackson Lewis, P.C.  
Senior Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Specialist



Symone has 10 years of experience in DEI within law firms and is focused on information gathering, analyzing and sharing to support the DEI department initiatives. She is available to provide support to firm attorneys and staff for any current and future DEI programs/initiatives. Symone is a member (and former board member and membership committee co-leader) of the Association of Law Firm Diversity Professionals and is a Certified Diversity Professional through The Society for Diversity.

## Tamara A. Bush

Dykema Gossett PLLC  
Member, Products, Class Actions, And Professional Liability Practice  
Group Leader



Litigation can be overwhelming for many individuals and companies—financially, administratively, and emotionally. To Tamara, getting to know the client, their business, and how they operate are as central to her representation as her exceptional work product, keen judgment, and superior written and oral advocacy talents. In cases she handles directly and as part of a team, she relieves the pressures placed on people and resources, especially during discovery. Tamara actively participates in each stage of a lawsuit, from pre-suit investigation.

## Tamika Walters

Burr & Forman LLP  
Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer



Tamika Walters is Burr & Forman's Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer (CDIO). In this role, she leads initiatives and develops firm-wide policies to both foster a diverse environment and create an inclusive culture where each person, regardless of their background, feels that they belong and have a fair opportunity to succeed. Tamika earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Educational Studies from Brown University. She earned her law degree from Georgetown University Law Center.

## Tamires M. Oliveira

Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP  
Associate, Family Law Department



Ms. Oliveira assists in the firm's representation of clients in the area of family law. Her work encompasses matters related to divorce and separation proceedings, child custody and support, alimony, marital settlement agreements, domestic partnerships, prenuptial and postnuptial agreements, domestic violence cases, the valuation and distribution of marital assets, and post-judgment enforcement and modification applications. She is a member of the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey and the New Jersey State Bar Association: Family Law Section, Young Lawyers Division.

## Tammy Bennett

Dinsmore & Shohl LLP  
Chief Equity and Inclusion Officer



Tammy is an experienced employment attorney who focuses her practice on preventive strategies, Title VII compliance and equity, diversity, and inclusion training and consulting. She frequently conducts training, workshops, lectures, and keynote addresses on diversity and inclusion, gender equity, implicit bias, inclusive artificial intelligence, neurodiversity, inclusive and agile leadership, cultural competence, emotional intelligence and the multigenerational workplace.

## Tanya Massey

Fried Frank LLP

Professional Development and Diversity and Inclusion Specialist

Tanya Massey is the Professional Development and Diversity and Inclusion Specialist for Fried Frank. Previously, she was Senior Legal Personnel, Development and Diversity Coordinator for WilmerHale.

Tanya attended Widener University.

## Tara Pollard

Day Pitney LLP

Director of Diversity and Inclusion

Tara Pollard is the Director of Diversity and Inclusion for Day Pitney LLP, where she provides visionary leadership to Senior Leaders enhancing Day Pitney's employment brand among diversity bar (and other) associations, potential candidates, and clients. Previously, she was Director at Travelers and Recruiter for INROADS.

Tara attended Rensselaer at Work for Master's degree, Business Management/ Communication Technologies. She received her Bachelor's degree, Political Science/ Computer Science from Columbia University.



## Tashia M. Galloway

Conroy Simberg

Diversity Committee Chair

Tashia M. Galloway, a partner in the firm's Jacksonville office, focuses her practice on liability matters including insurance defense, automobile liability, professional liability, general liability, premises liability, trucking/transportation, employment law, SIU/PIP and construction defects. She is admitted to practice in all Florida state and federal courts. Tashia also serves as the Chair of Conroy Simberg's Diversity & Inclusion Committee.

Tashia is a member of the Florida Bar Diversity and Inclusion Committee.



## Taylor Dewberry

Smith Anderson

Attorney and Chief Diversity Officer

Taylor Dewberry joined Smith Anderson in 2017. She is an associate in Smith Anderson's Employment, Labor and Human Resources practice group. Her practice focuses on employment-related counseling and defending employers against claims involving discrimination, wrongful discharge, retaliation, harassment and civil rights claims. She has represented clients in state and federal courts and agencies throughout North Carolina.



## Terri Seligman

Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz

Partner and Racial Justice Task Force Co-Chair

Terri J. Seligman is Co-Chair of the Advertising, Marketing & Public Relations Group at Frankfurt Kurnit. Ms. Seligman is one of the country's preeminent practitioners before the National Advertising Division (NAD), representing both advertisers and challengers in competitive advertising disputes. She also represents companies in disputes and regulatory matters before broadcast networks and state and local enforcement agencies. Terri is a graduate of New York University School of Law (J.D., 1985), and Wesleyan University (B.A., with honors, 1982).

## Thalia M. Bowen

Epstein Becker & Green, P.C.

Diversity Manager

Thalia Bowen is the Diversity & Inclusion Manager for Epstein Becker & Green, P.C., where she is responsible for overseeing, on a national level, the firm's diversity recruitment professional development and retention efforts.

Thalia attended University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill for Bachelor's degree, Labor and Industrial Relations.



## Tiffani Lee

Holland & Knight LLP  
Diversity Partner



Tiffani Lee is the firmwide Diversity Partner for Holland & Knight LLP since 2008, where she she leads the Diversity Council and serves on the firm's Practice & Operations Committee and Partner Compensation Committee. Ms. Lee leverages her DE&I leadership experience and subject matter knowledge to advise management and board members with regard to meeting evolving shareholder and stakeholder expectations for Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) compliance.

Tiffani attended University of Miami School of Law JD, law.

## Timothy J. Downing

Ulmer & Berne LLP  
Chief Diversity Officer



## Tina Hu-Rodgers

Buchanan  
Counsel and B.O.L.D. Affinity Group Chair



Tina focuses her practice on issues related to the approval, regulation, promotion, sale and reimbursement of drugs, medical devices, biologics, dietary supplements, foods and cannabis-related products. Tina serves as Chair of the firm's B.O.L.D. (Buchanan's Organization for Leadership and Diversity) affinity group for employees of color. Additionally, Tina was a member of the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity's 2021 Fellow Class and currently serves as the Washington, DC City Lead.

## Tonya Gaskins

Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner  
Senior Emerging Talent Manager



Tonya is responsible for growing and managing the Emerging Talent department, and identifying opportunities to recruit diverse individuals interested in pursuing a legal career. Tonya has presented on topics involving diversity and student development several times at the NALP Annual Conference and other events, including a well attended Boot Camp presented by Women's Bar Association of DC. She is also the co-author of an article written about diversity initiatives in the wake of the George Floyd tragedy.

## Trevor Mason

Barnes & Thornburg LLP  
Co-Chair Barnes & Thornburg LLP BTBlack Resource Group; Member - Floyd Skinner Minority Clerkship Program Committee



Trevor Mason is an attorney with Barnes & Thornburg LLP and focuses his practice on providing advice for clients with regards to estate planning needs and business formation. He serves the firm as a co-Chair of the BTBlack Resource Group to provide a collaborative and supportive space for Black and African-American business professionals. Trevor also serves as a member of the Floyd Skinner Bar Association Minority Clerkship Program Committee to help provide 1Ls internships to minority law students.

## Valerie Brown

Burns & Levinson LLP  
Diversity | Equity | Inclusion Program Manager



Valerie Brown is the Diversity | Equity | Inclusion Program Manager for Burns & Levinson LLP where she focuses on developing and overseeing the execution of strategies to support and further the Firm's diversity, equity and inclusion efforts. Together with four partner liaisons, she also co-chairs the Firm's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee (DEI Committee). Previously, she was Executive Assistant to Director of Radiology/DEPSI for Brigham and Women's Hospital and Executive Administrative Assistant to Vice President for Catholic Charities Archdiocese of Boston.

## Vanessa A. Bachtell

Goldberg Kohn

Principal, Diversity Committee Head



Vanessa Bachtell is the Principal, Diversity Committee Head for Goldberg Kohn. Vanessa attended Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law.

## Vanessa Vaughn West

Lathrop GPM LLP

Diversity & Inclusion Director



Vanessa has leadership responsibility to design and implement the inclusion and diversity strategy at Lathrop GPM. She is an inclusion and belonging advocate and strategist who is passionate about elevating voices of underrepresented people. Vanessa leverages the firm's inclusion networks, diversity education programs, and executive and firmwide leaders to inspire curious and courageous conversations, partnerships and understanding related to diversity and inclusion within the workplace.

## Victor J. Suane, Jr.

Kean Miller LLP

Partner & Diversity Council Chair



Vic Suane is a partner in the Baton Rouge office of Kean Miller, and Chair of the firm's Diversity Council. He joined the firm in 2007 and practices in the energy and environmental litigation group. Vic is a counselor and litigator for local, regional and national clients in a variety of oil and gas, regulatory, soil and groundwater contamination, wetlands loss, pipeline right-of-way negotiation and expropriation, toxic tort, lost leasing opportunity, commercial, environmental, and general litigation matters. Over his career, Vic has been named the Outstanding Young Lawyer of Louisiana by the Louisiana State Bar Association.

## Victoria Lynch-Draper

Wiley Rein LLP

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Manager



Victoria serves directly under Wiley's Chief Diversity Officer and manages the DEI Department members in implementing strategic DEI initiatives including firm-wide programs, supporting the DEI Committee and Affinity Groups, diversity surveys, and building external relationships. Victoria also advances the firm's community service initiatives and assists Wiley's Pro Bono Partner in managing the Pro Bono Program. Victoria is an Association of Law Firm Diversity Professionals member and obtained her Cornell University DEI Certificate in July 2022.

## Virginia G. Essandoh, JD

Ballard Spahr LLP

Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer



Virginia G. Essandoh is the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer for Ballard Spahr where she is a member of the firm's management team and Expanded Board. Working with the Diversity Council, she is responsible for overseeing, implementing and providing strategic leadership to diversity initiatives. Previously, she was Member of Professional Network for Chief & Senior Consultant at Altman Weil, Inc.

Virginia attended University of Illinois Chicago for Doctor of Law (JD). She received B.A., Political Science from Wilberforce University.

## Wendy Stryker

Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz

Partner and Diversity Committee Co-Chair



Wendy Stryker is a partner and Co-Chair of the Employment Group. She is Co-Chair of the firm's Diversity Committee. She represents marketing services agencies, media and entertainment companies, tech startups, and other sophisticated corporations and individual executives in New York State and Federal courts and before administrative agencies and self-regulatory organizations. She advises on a wide variety of employment issues as they arise, including discrimination and harassment, employee classification, wage and hour, employee discipline, employee use of social media, background checks, interview questions.



## White III, Boyd

Dykema Gossett PLLC  
Member



The individual, collective, and class action disputes Boyd handles for automotive OEMs are complex and hard-fought, often with millions of dollars at stake. Discovery and pre-trial proceedings provide a means to depose parties and witnesses, consult sophisticated experts, and gather the information he needs to tell the story of the case. It's also an opportunity to demonstrate his superior advocacy talents, especially during cross-examination, and show the other side he is genuinely prepared to go to trial, which affects settlement negotiations, arbitration, mediation, and ultimate settlement values. But trial is where Boyd excels.

## White, Eric L.

Dykema Gossett PLLC  
Member, Assistant Practice Group Leader



Eric has represented numerous financial institutions in connection with asset-based lending, leveraged buy-outs, leveraged recapitalizations, subordinated debt investments, equipment and project financings. Additionally, Eric has extensive experience with deals utilizing private equity and junior debt in the capital stack. He has efficiently and swiftly completed deals concerning the acquisition, maturation, and disposition of company platforms in the health care, energy, and manufacturing industries. Eric also advises clients in general corporate matters related to formation, private financings, restructuring, equity-holder distributions.

## Yakiry Adal

Goodwin Procter LLP  
Global Head of Diversity, Equity + Inclusion



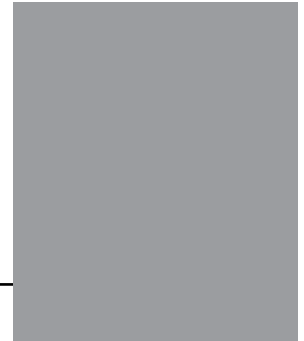
Yakiry Malena Adal is the Global Head of Diversity, Equity + Inclusion for Goodwin. Previously, she was Director of Talent and Inclusion for Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP and Administrative for Credit Suisse.

Yakiry attended Columbia University (MA, Social & Organizational Psychology). She received her Bachelor of Science - BS, Political Science/Psychology from Fordham University.

## Yanira Lopez

Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner, LLP

Diversity and Inclusion Coordinator



As Diversity and Inclusion Coordinator at Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner, LLP, Yanira Lopez assists with program coordination of diversity and inclusion related education and training events. Provides assistance in sourcing and execution of diversity and inclusion-related activities and initiatives and keeps abreast of diversity, equity, and inclusion trends and standards. Yanira attended Penn State University for B.A in International Relations and affairs.

## Yendelela Neely Holston

Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP  
Partner and Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer



Yendelela Neely Holston is the Partner and Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer at Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP, where she develops strategic plan for the firm's diversity program and own implementation of key initiatives across 11 US offices to improve and measure impact on recruitment, promotions and retention. Previously, she was Assistant Vice President - Senior Legal Counsel for AT&T.

Yendelela attended Duke University School of Law J.D. She received her B.S., History and Political Science from Furman University.

## Yusuf Z. Zakir

Davis Wright Tremaine  
Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer



Yusuf Z. Zakir is the Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer for Davis Wright Tremaine LLP. Previously, he was Director of Diversity and Inclusion for Holland & Knight LLP and Manager of Global Diversity, Recruiting & Engagement for Latham & Watkins.

Yusuf attended University of Toronto for Honors Bachelor of Arts, Double Major: Business Management and Philosophy. He received his J.D from Loyola Law School, Los Angeles.

## Z. Ileana Martinez

### Thompson Hine LLP

Partner, Thompson Hine LLP, and Firmwide Chair Diversity & Inclusion Initiative

Z. Ileana Martinez is Firmwide Chair Diversity & Inclusion Initiative for Partner, Thompson Hine LLP. Previously, she served as Shareholder of Alembik, Fine & Callner, P.A.

Z. Ileana attended University of Miami Law School JD, Law. She received her BS, Criminal Justice & Psychology from Florida International University.



## Zakiyyah Salim-Williams

### Gibson Dunn & Crutcher LLP

Chief Diversity Officer

Zakiyyah Salim-Williams serves as Partner and Chief Diversity Officer of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher. Ms. Salim-Williams leads various diversity and inclusion efforts, driving the firm's commitment to being a market leader in DEI efforts and initiatives.

Ms. Salim-Williams has been at the firm for over a decade and played a leading role in launching the firm's successful Women of Gibson Dunn and Black Advancement Initiatives. Both proved to be a success, resulting in an increase of women partners and Black lawyers by over 100%.











**Shitake Quesadillas**  
Roasted Shitake  
Mushrooms with Salsa  
Fresca











**Diversity Award Reception**

**Thursday, 6:00pm - 8:00pm**



**DIVERSITY AWARD**

2022









Law







 Law Firm Diversity Professional Lawyers  
—  
Color





INDUSTRY LEADER  
Diversity Award

*Paula M. ...*



DIVERSITY



Law Firm Div



INDUSTRY LEADER  
Accounting Firm



Law F





Law Firm



# DIVERSITY HONOREE



Law Firm Diversity Professional

Lawyers

Color







Law F



ASPIRE  
Diversity Award  
Award of Honor









VENABLE<sup>LLP</sup>



VENABLE LLP



# In Memoriam: Those We Lost in 2022



## A. Donald McEachin

October 10, 1961 –  
November 28th, 2022

U.S. Rep. A. Donald McEachin '86, a University of Virginia School of Law alumnus who was reelected to his fourth term in Congress this month, died Monday of colorectal cancer. He was 61.

McEachin, a Democrat representing Virginia's 4th District, devoted more than 20 years to serving the people of Virginia.

[Read the full obituary](#)



## Adam Shakoor

August 6, 1947  
March 20, 2022

Adam Shakoor, who made history as the first Muslim to be appointed as a judge in the United States, has died.

Aged 74, Shakoor died Sunday at a hospital outside of his Detroit hometown, according to Deadline Detroit. No official cause of death was reported.

[Read the full obituary](#)



## Anjan Choudhury

June 19, 1979  
April 3, 2022

With immense sadness, Munger, Tolles & Olson LLP announces the death of Anjan Choudhury, our cherished friend, partner, mentor and colleague. Mr. Choudhury passed away on April 3, 2022 from a heart attack.

A partner in MTO's Los Angeles office, Mr. Choudhury led many of our relationships with entertainment clients. Major television and film studios, streaming platforms.

[Read the full obituary](#)



## Browne C. Lewis

1962-  
June 2, 2022

NCCU School of Law family and friends join the family of Dean Browne C. Lewis in mourning a great loss. At the same time, we are thankful and grateful for being a part of Dean Lewis' journey and life's purpose. Her professional accomplishments are only exceeded by her compassion and thirst for justice, fairness and racial equity. Her zeal for excellence inspired students, faculty, staff and so many others across the country.

[Read the full obituary](#)



## Carrasco Lawrence Huerta

August 16, 1924  
May 25, 2022

The University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law mourns the loss of The Honorable Carrasco Lawrence Huerta ('53) who passed away on May 25, 2022. He was 97.

Judge Huerta, a member of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe, was the first Native American to graduate from University of Arizona Law and the first to be licensed to practice law in Arizona

[Read the full obituary](#)



## Cheslie Kryst

April 28, 1991  
January 29, 2022

Hundreds of people gathered at a church south of Charlotte, N.C., on Friday to celebrate the life of former Miss USA Cheslie Kryst.

The New York City Office of Chief Medical Examiner previously confirmed to PEOPLE that Kryst died by suicide on Jan. 30 at age 30.

[Read the full obituary](#)



## Colin A Moore

April 24, 1941  
January 9, 2022

Prominent Caribbean attorney, civil rights advocate, and political and community activist, Colin A Moore, has died. He was 80 years old.

President of the Brooklyn, New York-based Guyana Tri-State Alliance, Inc, Patricia Jordon-Langford said that Moore, who is also best known for the role he played as a lawyer in defending the ‘Central Park Joggers’ trial, “passed away quietly” on Sunday.

[Read the full obituary](#)



## Cora Faith Walker

1984  
March 11, 2022

Former Missouri State Representative Cora Faith Walker died from a heart condition, the St. Louis Medical Examiner confirmed Wednesday.

Walker, 37, died after walking out of her room at the Loews Hotel on March 11. The night before she was seen in social media pictures celebrating St. Louis Mayor Tishaura Jones’ birthday at Neo on Locust.

[Read the full obituary](#)



## Emma H. Pendergrass

June 1, 1928  
July 17, 2022

Resident of Oakland, CA  
Emma H. Pendergrass, a devoted mother and sister, an outstanding attorney, inspirational educator, a consummate travel agent, leader, and friend to many, passed on July 17, 2022 in Oakland, CA. Born in Orangeburg, South Carolina on June 1, 1928, Emma spent her formative years in South Carolina. She later lived in Washington, D.C., where she graduated from high school and college, earning a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from Howard Univ.

[Read the full obituary](#)



## Frances Muñoz

September 17, 1930  
October 17, 2022

Before becoming the first Latina trial judge in California history, Frances Muñoz appeared in an Orange County courtroom as a public defender, representing a young Latino during his arraignment in a criminal case.

Muñoz tried to persuade Judge Ken Williams, who had a reputation as a feisty and irreverent jurist, that her client should be released on his own recognizance

[Read the full obituary](#)



## Frederick P. 'Pope' Charleston Sr

Died Dec. 31, 2022

**F**red grew up in a loving household, the fourth of six children,” said his wife, the former Jeanne Bogle. “As a child and teenager in Indianapolis, he was involved in sports, playing football, basketball and baseball. At Shortridge High School, Fred lettered in two sports — baseball and basketball — and was a member of the school’s marching band and school newspaper.

He attended what was then Southern Colorado State College in Pueblo on a basketball and baseball scholarship.

[Read the full obituary](#)



## Janeen LaSonda Richard

July 26, 1970  
Oct. 20, 2022

**J**aneen LaSonda Richard, 52, of Miami, passed on Oct. 20, 2022. Richard was born on July 26, 1970 to Eddie Lee and Joan White Rivers in Newark, NJ, the youngest child of four siblings, Brenda Joyce, Edward Wayne and Karin Michelle Rivers-Aaron.

In 1975, the family moved to Hillside, NJ, where Janeen attended Walter O. Krumbiegel Elementary School, and Hillside High School. After high school, Janeen went on to attend Spelman College in Atlanta, G

[Read the full obituary](#)



## Jasper Cureton

April 26, 1938  
December 6, 2022

**L**ongtime South Carolina Judge Jasper Cureton, who became the first Black appellate judge in the state in over a century, has died.

Cureton passed away on Tuesday at the age of 84.

In 1983, Cureton was appointed as an Associate Judge on the South Carolina Court of Appeals. He was the first African-American to be selected to that body since Reconstruction in the 1870s. He retired from the bench in 20

[Read the full obituary](#)



## Jenny Do

February 20, 1966  
August 4, 2022

**W**hen Jenny Do arrived in San Jose as one of the first beneficiaries of a pilot project for the Amerasian Homecoming Act, which allowed immigration of children fathered by American men during the Vietnam War, she was 18 with a mother and a younger brother to support.

She knew little English, but she learned fast and got a county job helping low-income people like her.

[Read the full obituary](#)



## Jim Li

September 7, 1955  
March 14, 2022

A participant in the 1989 Tiananmen Square student-led protest who later became an immigration lawyer in Queens, New York, was allegedly stabbed to death on Monday by a client.

Jim Li, 66, moved to the United States in the early '90s after being incarcerated for a year and eight months in Qincheng Prison, a maximum-security prison in Beijing, China.

[Read the full obituary](#)



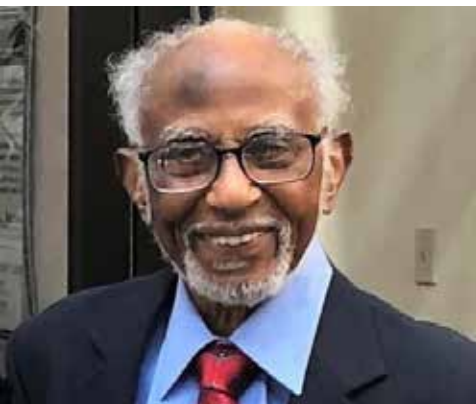
## Joaquin Avila

June 23, 1948  
March 9, 2022

Joaquin Avila, a civil rights lawyer and activist who helped combat voting rights discrimination against Latinos and other minorities, including a successful effort to ensure greater political representation through census counts, died March 9 at his home in Shoreline, Wash. He was 69.

The Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, where Mr. Avila was president and general counsel from 1982 to 1985, announced his death and said the cause was cancer.

[Read the full obituary](#)



## Johnnie A. Jones Sr.

November 30, 1919  
April 23, 2022

Johnnie A. Jones Sr. was 24 years old and a future civil rights lawyer not yet graduated from college when he landed on the beaches of Normandy in the D-Day invasion of 1944.

He nearly died before his ship reached the shore, when the explosion of a mine sent him flying “sky high into the air,” he recalled, and onto an upper deck.

[Read the full obituary](#)



## Keshawna Alderman

June 17, 1995  
December 14, 2022

A native of Harlem, New York, Keshawna was pursuing her juris doctorate degree and Law and Technology Certificate, with interests in entertainment law, trademarks and intellectual property. She was especially passionate about advocating and creating spaces in the legal field for people of color. An active participant on campus and in her local community, Keshawna was a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., the Black Law Student Association and the Intellectual Property Law Society.

[Read the full obituary](#)



## Kimberly Rachelle Willis Gagnier

May 3, 1971  
April 21, 2022

**K**imberly Rachelle Willis Gagnier was a beloved wife, daughter, sister, and friend to many. Her personality and smile were infectious. She was brilliant, tenacious, and humble, offering kindness to everyone she encountered.

She was an outstanding community leader, dedicated to community service and philanthropic causes. A committed champion for positive change in the African American community,

[Read the full obituary](#)



## Kristi Matthews

June 21, 1979  
September 22, 2022

**F**ormer NBA General Counsel, Kristi Matthews dies unexpectedly.

The National Bar Association mourns the “unexpected” death of Past NBA General Counsel, Kristi Matthews.

[Read the full obituary](#)



## Lani Guinier

April 19, 1950  
January 7, 2022

**L**ani Guinier, a civil rights lawyer and scholar whose nomination by President Bill Clinton to head the Justice Department’s civil rights division was pulled after conservatives criticized her views on correcting racial discrimination, has died. She was 71.

Guinier died Friday, Harvard Law School Dean John F. Manning said in a message to students and faculty. Her cousin,

[Read the full obituary](#)



## Marie Leonora Garcia

October 12, 1925  
March 30, 2022

**M**arie Leonora Garcia Garrett 96, died March 30, 2022, after a brief illness. Born October 12, 1925 in Tampa, she graduated from Hillsborough High School and Florida State College for Women (now Florida State University) before earning her law degree from the University of Florida. After a brief stint with the city attorney’s office in Tampa, she and her husband, Howard L. Garrett, founded their own law firm, Garrett & Garrett, in 1953, where they practiced law together until her retirement.

[Read the full obituary](#)





## Mary Claire Lomax

December 28, 1962

May 31, 2022

**M**ary Claire Lomax, 59, of Philadelphia, longtime general counsel and director of human resources at the Chalfont-based Lomax Companies, chief executive officer of the Lomax Family Foundation, trustee and energetic alumna of the University of Pennsylvania, and a 2016 Distinguished Daughter of Pennsylvania, died Tuesday, May 31, of cancer at her mother's home in Hilltown, Bucks County.

[Read the full obituary](#)



## Norman Early

November 14, 1945

May 5, 2022

**N**orman Early, Denver's first Black district attorney and a pioneer of crime victims' rights in Colorado, died Thursday from complications of diabetes.

Early, 76, spent a decade as Denver's top prosecutor, helped to reshape how Colorado treats victims of crime, and strove to increase diversity in the criminal justice system. He was outgoing, a hugger and a charismatic leader, those who knew him said.

[Read the full obituary](#)



## Peter M. Pryor

May 18, 1926

January 17, 2022

**P**eter M. Pryor, a sharecropper's grandson from Georgia who became a trailblazing Black civil rights attorney revered as a towering figure in Albany's long struggle for racial justice, died Monday after a long illness. He was 95.

"It was fitting that he went out peacefully, on his own terms, on MLK Day," his son, Marcus, said.

[Read the full obituary](#)



## Rhonda S. Ferguson

1969

April 17th, 2022

**R**honda S. Ferguson, loved by a host of family & friends. On Easter Sunday April 17th, 2022 she transitioned with her husband, children, parents, siblings and nephews by her side. For the past several years Rhonda courageously battled cancer, winning multiple times and living her life to its absolute fullest throughout. She kept her condition largely private and chose to lean on her faith and family to live precisely the way she wanted.

[Read the full obituary](#)



## RICHARD MAYS, JR

December 1, 1967  
December 18, 2023

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**A**TTORNEY RICHARD MAYS, JR. was born in Little Rock, Ark., on Dec. 1, 1967, to Richard L. Mays, Sr. and Jennifer L. Mays. Affectionately known as “Ricky”. Professionally, Ricky worked as an attorney and public official, although his career started in real estate. Ricky began his law career working with his father, his sister, Tiffany, and long-time family friend, Arkie Byrd. Ricky focused on business, real estate, personal injury, and criminal defense

[Read the full obituary](#)



## Rosa Mroz

—  
February 5, 2022

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**J**udge Rosa Mroz died on February 5, 2022. Born Peng Shao Ching in Taiwan, Rosa immigrated with her family to the United States when she was 7 years old and went on to be an esteemed Superior Court judge. She was a loving and devoted wife, mother, sister, and daughter.

Rosa’s father was a Taiwanese diplomat, and after her family arrived in the United States, they found themselves in Chicago, Illinois, Queens, New York and later Miami, Florida.

[Read the full obituary](#)



## Saron “Sweet” Fessehaye Berhe

—  
Jananuary 17, 2022

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**T**he Howard University School of Law community is deeply saddened by the loss of one of its own – 3L student Saron “Sweet” Fessehaye Berhe, who died Monday, Jan. 17.

Originally born in Asmara, Eritrea, Saron settled as a young girl with her family in Phoenix, Arizona. She came to Howard law after graduating from Arizona State University with degrees in business and political science and then working for several years.

[Read the full obituary](#)



## Sri Hemanth Digumarthi

October 3, 1981  
June 11, 2022

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**S**ri Hemanth Digumarthi passed away at Piedmont Hospital on Saturday, June 11, 2022 at the young age of 40.

Hemanth was born in Visakhapatnam, India on October 3, 1981. He graduated from Edmond Santa Fe High in 1997, and went on to earn a degree in psychology from Oglethorpe University in 2002.

[Read the full obituary](#)



## Theresa Jean-Pierre Coy

August 1, 1980

April 11, 2022

When Theresa Jean-Pierre Coy joined the defense team that would tackle the high-profile case of a white man accused of shooting a Black man in an argument over a parking space, she was taken aback by the personal attacks that came her way.

Some called it shameful that Jean-Pierre Coy, a Black criminal defense attorney, could be part of such a case.

[Read the full obituary](#)



## Tiffany P. Porter

July 4, 1979

May 5, 2022

Gwinnett Tax Commissioner Tiffany P. Porter, Esquire, passed away peacefully today surrounded by family, friends and loved ones.

Ms. Porter, 43, is the devoted mother of four children, Tori, 15, Zoe, 17, Nia, 20, and Brandon, 23. She was known for achieving many firsts in her life. She was also known for surviving multiple hard-fought battles against breast cancer, to which in the end she ultimately succumbed.

[Read the full obituary](#)



## Toni A. Bean

1959

March 19, 2022

Suffolk County Judge Toni A. Bean, a lifelong resident of Amityville who worked hard to champion causes she believed in, died March 19, 2022. She was 62 years old and died from complications from surgery.

Judge Bean was a woman who was intricately involved in her community, serving as a Trustee on the Amityville Village School Board and speaking up frequently on issues that were important to her and the residents of Amityville and North Amityville.

[Read the full obituary](#)

# Companies

DIVERSITY PROFESSIONALS



## Alisia Atwater

Deere

Global Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at John Deere



As global diversity, equity and inclusion lead at John Deere, Alisia Atwater provides strategic leadership to the Global Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion efforts. She is skilled in career counseling · human resources (hr) · executive management · business development · sustainable dei design and implementation · global performance management

## Anna Escobedo Cabral

Navient

Director, Navient



Anna Escobedo Cabral currently serves on the Board of Directors for Navient, as a Trustee for the Jessie Ball duPont Fund, Vice Chair of the Comcast/NBCU Hispanic Diversity Advisory Committee, President of the BBVA Microfinance Foundation Board, and Treasurer of Lideramos, a non-profit that provides leadership training. She is also a partner at the Cabral Group, which offers government consulting services and public speaking engagements.

## Ariyana Randolph Miles

PayPal

Diversity, Inclusion, Equity and Belonging Leader – Corporate Affairs

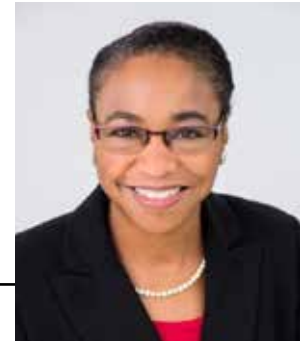


As diversity, inclusion, equity and belonging leader at PayPal, Ariyana Randolph Miles is responsible for corporate affairs.

## Bernice L. Walker, Esq.

Duke Energy

Supplier Diversity Professional



As supplier diversity & engagement manager at Duke Energy Corporation, Bernice Walker supports all aspects of executing Duke Energy's Supplier Diversity Program, ensuring that diverse suppliers have the maximum practicable opportunities to provide products and services to Duke Energy directly and/or as subcontractors. Serves as a liaison between corporation and diverse and local suppliers while supporting and implementing initiatives to increase company-wide inclusion of diverse and local businesses; Analyzes and interprets complex data and creates internal and external reports for verbal and written presentations to key stakeholders.

## Brian Clarke

Maximus

Director- Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

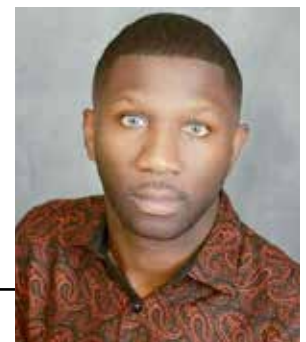


As director of diversity, equity, inclusion, & compliance at Maximus, Brian E. Clarke brings 5+ years of progressively responsible leadership positions, leverages experience overseeing contract drafts, negotiations, and dispute mitigation, drives process improvement initiatives from concept to conclusion, champions mastery of up-to-date company policies and federal regulations and understands value of creating lasting bonds with clients and business leaders.

## Christopher Metoyer

Abbvie

Diversity Recruitment Manager



Christopher Metoyer is diversity recruitment manager at Abbvie.

## Cristina Hernandez

### Synopsys

Equity, Inclusion, Diversity Executive



As equity, inclusion, diversity executive at Synopsys Inc, Cristina Hernandez focuses on understanding the challenges faced by her business partners, developing custom-designed, engaging programs and strategies that aim to create more diverse and inclusive workplaces. Cristina is also a powerful keynote speaker and workshop presenter who can defuse tough topics and inspire participants to see a different and more inclusive workplace.

## D H

### International Paper

Senior Vice President Diversity & Inclusion



D H is senior vice president diversity & inclusion at International Paper.

## Dewayne Walton

### Wells Fargo

Vice President, Technology Governance



Dewayne Walton is an Executive responsible for federal and state regulations of digital applications across the firm. A champion for diversity and inclusion, Walton has co-founded and chaired Employee Resource Groups for Fortune 100 companies. He has been recognized by Wells Fargo and Blue Shield of California as a Corporate Diversity Leader. Walton received the 2023 Top 50 Multicultural Leader award by National Diversity & Leadership Network. Walton sits on the Northern CA Board of the YMCA as chair of Diversity Equity and Inclusion. His leadership guided the Y organization during a tense period influenced by civil unrest locally and across the states.

## Eboni Edwards

### CBRE

Global Supplier Diversity Development Manager



Eboni Edwards is currently the Global Supplier Diversity Development Manager for CBRE Inc. She continuously works to provide growth opportunities for diverse businesses across the world. Her goal is to provide diverse suppliers with equal access to purchasing opportunities. Her work includes over 15 years of procurement experience at the May Company/Macy's Midwest, the Department of Defense, Louisville Gas & Electric and Kentucky Utilities and Te la Inc. She received a Bachelor of Science degree from Florida A&M University and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Texas at Austin.

## Gabby McCoy, Esq.

### Walmart

Senior Manager | Walmart Global Office of Culture, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion



Gabby McCoy is based out of Bentonville, Arkansas, United States and works at Walmart as Senior Manager - Global Office of Culture, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion.

## Gautam K. Sood

### Discovery

Strategic Advisor



As equity, diversity and inclusion postdoctoral scholar at UCLA Anderson School of Management, Gautam K. Sood is focuses on advancing existing research of the pedagogical tools that will most effectively convey, connect, and apply prevailing behavioral science evidence to promote workplace behavioral change for greater equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI).

## GeriAnn Baptista

Microsoft

Diversity & Inclusion Strategy



As global diversity & inclusion | sr. program manager, global identity strategy at Microsoft, GeriAnn Baptista is responsible for developing policies, designing systems, and implementing strategic investments to evolve Microsoft's approach to self-identification in order to foster a diverse workforce and support our internal communities.

## Glenn Williams

Qualcomm

VP, HR and Chief Diversity Officer



As vp, hr and chief diversity officer at Qualcomm, Glenn Williams is responsible for overseeing employee relations, corporate social responsibility, people compliance and diversity, equity and inclusion.

## Janine Morris-Meggett, Esq.

ViacomCBS

Entertainment, Litigation and Discovery Attorney



Janine Morris-Meggett, Esq. is senior counsel, litigation & discovery at ViacomCBS

## Joseph Lee, JD

Southern Company Gas

Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion



Joseph Lee is currently working as director of diversity, equity and inclusion at Southern Company Gas. Joseph is a Multi-state licensed attorney with 10+ years of experience in Human Resources, Diversity Equity & Inclusion, Program Management, and Immigration Law. An advocate for cultural change with a professional and personal commitment to DEI.

## Jovie Calma

Abbott

Senior Talent Acquisition Partner / Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Advocate



Jovie Calma is senior talent acquisition partner / diversity, equity and inclusion (dei) advocate at Abbott

## Joy Monahan

Abbvie

Associate Director, Legal Diversity & Outside Counsel Programs



Joy Lyu Monahan joined AbbVie in June 2020 to lead all diversity initiatives for its Legal function. With her professional background in government, law firms, and nonprofits, Joy provides a unique combination of experience in philanthropy, private business, nonprofits, government, finance, law and other fields to this newly-created position. Joy has been a frequent volunteer speaker on diversity and inclusion on organized industry panels and in informal settings and published author of several articles regarding this subject since she entered the legal profession in 1997. In April 2019,

## Juan Suarez

Southwest Airlines

Vice President Diversity, Equity & Inclusion



As vice president diversity, equity & inclusion at Southwest Airlines, Juan Suarez is responsible for providing legal guidance and maintain legal compliance as it relates to business strategies, corporate initiatives, litigation management, employee and labor relations. Provide legal guidance and maintain legal compliance as it relates to business strateg

## Karl Doss

Freddie Mac

Workforce Diversity Director



As workforce diversity director at Freddie Mac, Karl Doss is responsible for delivering results aligned with the Board-approved DEI strategy and overall program framework by leading and directing workforce diversity efforts.

Responsibilities include:

Lead, coach and actively develop a team of engagement and outreach professionals; Provide governance and leadership of employee diversity ensuring each business area's efforts to identify, develop and retain diverse talent; Partner with each division and HR to define, enhance, and monitor employee diversity practices.

## Kenneth Imo

Adobe

Global Head of Diversity & Inclusion at Adobe



Kenneth Imo is currently head of global diversity and inclusion at Adobe. Kenneth is an executive, author, lawyer, and u.s. air force judge advocate general (jag) corps veteran who promotes organizational change through diversity, equity and inclusion and other strategic human capital initiatives.

## Kristen Jones

McDonald's

Director of Legal Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Counsel



Kristen's initial focus at McDonald's is to bring the in-house legal department in accordance with the Mansfield Rule, which tracks and measures if legal departments demonstrate commitment to increasing diversity for leadership and governance roles, hiring opportunities and outside counsel retention by considering candidate slates of at least 50% women, lawyers of color, LGBTQ+ lawyers and lawyers with disabilities.

## Kristi M.

Visa

Senior Managing Counsel, Employment, Inclusion & Diversity, and Social Impact



Kristen Matthew is the senior managing counsel, employment, inclusion & diversity, and social impact at Visa. Kristen is an experienced senior counsel with a demonstrated history of working in the corporate entities. skilled in corporate governance, employment, inclusion and diversity, social impact, legal writing, leadership, strategic planning, and litigation. strong human resources professional with a doctor of law (j.d.) focused in law from university of california, los angeles - school of law.

## Latoya Asia

Dominion Energy

Director - Talent Acquisition; Workforce Planning; Diversity, Equity & Inclusion



As director - talent acquisition; workforce development & planning; diversity, equity & inclusion at Dominion Energy, LaToya Asia is responsible for developing and driving talent acquisition, workforce development & planning, diversity, equity & inclusion (DE&I), and employee engagement strategies to promote a diverse and inclusive work culture that attracts and retains the best and brightest to the company.



## Liza Merida

Comcast  
Human Resources Leader



As senior director, learning & development, diversity equity & inclusion learning at Comcast, Liza Merida is leading diversity, equity and inclusion learning product strategy creation, understanding and applying market intelligence to maintain and improve portfolio relevance and impact, monitoring industry trends to remain informed, reviewing employee engagement surveys, focus group outputs, and product feedback, to maintain alignment with current/emerging organizational needs.

## Mariana Fagnilli

Liberty Mutual Insurance  
Vice President, Global Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion



As Human Rights and International Law Attorney from Argentina, with over 20 years of experience, Mariana is Vice President, Global Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at Liberty Mutual. Before joining Liberty Mutual, Mariana spent ten years at Johnson & Johnson, where she held roles of increasing responsibility, in legal, diversity & inclusion, advocacy, government affairs and policy, before taking a role as European Head of Policy for Amgen, followed by a global role at bluebird bio as Head of Patient Advocacy. Most recently she served as Global Officer of Diversity & Inclusion at Catalent Pharma Solutions.

## Marli Jefferson, MPA

Primerica  
Senior Representative



Marli Jefferson is currently a senior representative at Primerica.

## Monique Hudson, Esq.

Palo Alto Networks  
Attorney / Diversity Practitioner



As global diversity and inclusion business partner at Palo Alto Networks, Monique Hudson has extensive experience in financial management, business operations, and tax law. dedicated to helping companies develop and transform their human capital.

## Nikki Wright-Smith

Amazon  
Senior Program Manager - Legal Diversity Pipelines



Nikki Wright-Smith is senior program manager, legal diversity pipelines - amazon legal at Amazon.

## Patrice Brown

Yrc Worldwide  
Vice President of Workforce Diversity at Yellow



Patrice Brown is the vice president of workforce diversity at Yellow (YRC)

## R. Fenimore Fisher

Aramark

Vice President - Diversity, Equity and Inclusion



As vice president, diversity & inclusion, R. Fenimore Fisher is serving Aramark's workforce of more than 200,000 people, developing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating enterprise-wide business aligned strategies and initiatives related to diversity, equity and inclusion. A member of the executive leadership council, leads as a subject matter expert and adviser to the CEO, Chief Diversity and Sustainability Officer and executive team. Collaborates with key internal and external stakeholders to advance Aramark's DEI priorities of workforce, workplace and marketplace under Be Well. Do Well, the company's sustainability plan.

## Randi Adkins-Warren

Senior Counsel/Legal Diversity Head

Aflac



Randi Adkins-Warren provides strategic legal counsel, negotiates high-profile transactional matters, and manages the intellectual property portfolio of Aflac Inc. and its affiliates as Senior Counsel. Randi is a servant leader deeply committed to empowering women and promoting diversity and inclusion within the legal profession. Randi is the Head of the Aflac Legal Diversity Initiative. In this capacity, she spearheaded the creation of the Diversity Continuing Legal Education (CLE) series that introduces diverse outside counsel to Aflac Legal and is responsible for increasing diverse students in the Aflac Legal Externship and Internship programs.

## Rhonda Crichlow

Charter Communications

Chief Diversity Officer



Rhonda Crichlow is senior vice president, chief diversity officer and also oversees Charter's Community Impact function, focused on strategic philanthropic investments and employee volunteerism initiatives. Ms. Crichlow joined Charter from Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation, where she served as Vice President, Head of U.S.

## Rudy Metayer

Moody's

Member



Rudy has represented both public and private entities in a broad range of matters involving: bankruptcy; Medicaid fraud; personal injury; insurance defense; construction defects; slip and falls; home health care licensing; Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) policies; school district employment contracts; license revocations for nursing and Medicaid providers; State of Texas procurement contracts; administrative hearings; hotel, amusement services, franchise, motor vehicle, mixed beverage, cigarette, and sales and use tax.

## Saleeta Thomas

Eli Lilly

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Manager



Saleeta Thomas is currently diversity, equity and inclusion manager at Eli Lilly and Company. She has extensive experience designing, implementing and leading measurable and scalable DEI&B programs, employee development, engagement and/or change management programs.

## ShaQuana Lanay Newsom

Salesforce

Sr. Manager, Employee Relations



ShaQuana Lanay Newsom is currently sr. manager, employee relations at Salesforce. She helps organizations by focusing on the employee experience through engagement and business outcomes. This impacts employee inclusion and improves organizational cultural competence.

## Sheri Crosby Wheele

### Fossil Group

Vice President, Global Diversity, Equity and Inclusion



**S**heri Crosby Wheeler currently works as the Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion for Fossil Group, Inc. Fossil Group is a global design, marketing, distribution and innovation company where distinctive watches, accessories and wearables are created for some of the greatest brands in the world.

## Simmy Sharma

### Amazon

Senior Manager at Amazon | Diversity, Equity and Inclusion HR



**A**s senior manager, diversity equity and inclusion, Simmy Sharma is the lead for Amazon World Wide Last and Middle Mile, Supply Chain Optimisation Technologies (SCOT) and Global Transportation .

## Suheily Natal Davis

### McDonald's

Senior Director, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion



**A**s the first in her family to attend law school, Suheily Natal Davis has a passion for encouraging inclusion, fostering mentoring relationships, and having candid conversations on race, class and gender in corporate spaces. Throughout her entire career, Suheily has worked to advance opportunities for women of color and other underrepresented groups.

In her current role she partners with McDonald's U.S. leadership team to drive strategic diversity initiatives. Suheily has been with McDonald's since 2014.

## Suran Samarasinghe

### Bgc Partners

Director of Diversity & Inclusion



**S**uran Samarasinghe is currently director of diversity & inclusion at BGC Partners.

## Tolani Azeez

### Fluor

Executive Director, (Commercial), Fluor Corporation



**A**s executive director for the global office of diversity equity and inclusion at Fluor Corporation, Tolani Azeez has responsibilities of project management · change management · strategic thinking · business planning · commercial management

## Wendell Chambliss

### Freddie Mac

Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer



**W**endell Chambliss is currently senior vice president & chief diversity and inclusion officer at Freddie Mac. He is an experienced deputy general counsel with a demonstrated history of working in the financial services industry. skilled in nonprofit organizations, legal compliance, law office management, regulatory affairs, and government. strong community and social services professional.

# Public Interest

## DIVERSITY PROFESSIONALS



## Cheryl Cofield

### CARE USA

Associate Vice President, Global Diversity, Equity, Belonging & Inclusion



As the associate vice president for global diversity, equity and inclusion at CARE USA, Cheryl Cofield is the organization's architect of global diversity, equity, and inclusion strategic framework and plan. They are a senior thought leader regarding organizational culture, inclusive leadership, cross-cultural programming, and integration of DEI into global business strategy. Prior to this, Cheryl was the director of culture, inclusion & engagement at Georgia Institute of Technology. Cheryl also operates a boutique DEI consulting firm, Culture of Civility International LLC.

## Christine Muthui

### International Rescue Committee

Gender Equality Diversity Inclusion (GEDI) and Safeguarding Manager



As the gender equality diversity inclusion (GEDI) and safeguarding manager at International Rescue Committee, Christine Muthui has dynamic experience in research, capacity building, policy advocacy and program development in the fields of Human Rights, Policy, Child Safeguarding and Protection and Grants Compliance including for Emergency and Relief Response programs with a keen interest in International Development.

## Crislove Igeleke

### American National Red Cross

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Ambassador



As deputy city attorney at City of Las Vegas, Crislove Igeleke does Transactional Law and Redevelopment with the City's Economic Urban Development Department and the Redevelopment Agency. Crislove was recently recognized in the Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada's 2019 Honor Roll and was named the Nevada Legal Services 2019 Champions of Justice Pro Bono Attorney of the Year for her continued commitment to service.

## Dewayne Walton

### YMCA of East Bay

Board Of Directors, Diversity & Inclusion Officer



As vice president, technology governance - chief technology office at Wells Fargo, Dewayne Walton has the ability to work across matrix organizations and build high-performing teams, advocate for diverse and inclusive work cultures, legal and corporate training focused on negotiation and mediation to achieve sizable stakeholder consensus.

## Femi Disu-Oakley

### Planned Parenthood of Greater New York

VP of Equity and Learning

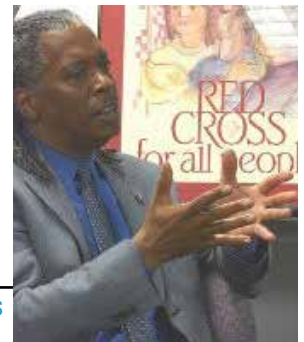


As the vice president of equity and learning at Planned Parenthood of Greater New York, Femi Disu-Oakley is skilled in cross-cultural communication, training and facilitation, anti-racism education, curricular design & strategy, learning and development, strategic planning, change management, coaching, advising, public speaking, organizational development, equal employment opportunity compliance & human rights law, criminal law & litigation.

## Floyd Pitts

### American Red Cross National Headquarters

Senior Vice President & Chief Diversity Officer



As senior vice president & chief diversity officer at American Red Cross National Headquarters, Floyd Pitts is responsible for design, development and implementation of all diversity programming reaching over 20,000 employees and several hundred thousand volunteers and surveyed all departments and unit heads in conducting informal diversity needs assessment.

## Linda Howard

The Assistance Fund

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Executive



Linda is a multi-faceted individual with over 35 years of professional experience in law; compliance; diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI); and multicultural competency. She earned her law degree from the University of Pennsylvania Law School. After graduating from law school, she practiced law as an associate at major New York City law firms and Senior In-House Counsel for big four accounting firm (Ernst & Young). As a compliance professional, roles included Chief Compliance and Impact Officer, Chief Compliance Intellect Officer, AVP Business Ethics, and Privacy Officer.

## Marilee Holmes

Save the Children Federation

Chief Diversity Officer



As Chief Diversity Officer at Save the Children US, Marilee Holmes focuses on diversity, inclusion, and belonging initiatives. Marilee has a background as a business immigration attorney who has transitioned into leadership roles in fashion, entertainment, operations, and philanthropy. She is an experienced lawyer and business executive in the fashion and entertainment industries.

## Natosha Reid Rice

Habitat for Humanity International

Global Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer



As Global Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer at Habitat for Humanity International, Natosha Reid Rice is responsible for managing financing programs and strategies to generate sources of capital that enable Habitat affiliates provide decent, affordable housing to families throughout the country.

Natosha is passionate about providing a voice to the voiceless and opportunities to communities that have been historically disadvantaged. She is a frequent speaker and facilitator for community/civic organizations, churches, colleges.

## Nirali Shah

Obama Foundation

Director of Procurement and Business Diversity



As Director of Procurement and Business Diversity at Obama Foundation, Nirali Shah is responsible for creating opportunities for black and brown people, veterans, women, people with disabilities, and members of the LGBTQ community.

## Patricia Nelson

Catholic Relief Services

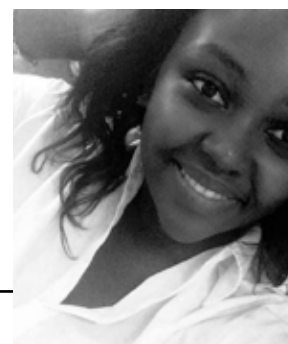
DEI & Compliance SME



## Sophia Sumbi

International Rescue Committee

Gender equality, Diversity and Inclusion Committee Country lead



As Gender equality, Diversity and Inclusion Committee Country lead at International Rescue Committee, Sophia Sumbi is responsible for training staff of Gender mainstreaming and inclusion of Diversity, Equality and Inclusion in program activities. Programs contextualization in Gender sensitive and transformative programming.

## Steve B. Irakoze

Obama Foundation  
Leader Europe



Steve (he/him) is a human rights activist, social impact strategist, and legal advisor with 10 years of experience in migrants' rights in France and Europe. As an advisor with the European Commission on migration policy, Steve leverages his legal expertise to effect change and empower historically underrepresented and marginalized communities. Steve's experience and passion for advocating for immigration reform and LGBTQ+ rights have made him a valuable asset in his work to build coalitions, advise policymakers, and amplify the voices of those who have been silenced. Steve is also a 2018 Fellow with the United Nations' Human Rights Office and a 2023 Leader.

## Valerie (Val) Jensen

Planned Parenthood North Central States  
Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Strategist



As Vice President of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at Planned Parenthood North Central States, Valerie (Val) Jensen is Responsible for identifying, developing and implementing enterprise wide strategies and KPI's. As the first Vice President of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion for a community based health provider with 29 health centers and over 500 employees over five states, she understands how to build connection and belonging across multiple complex sites, developing the organizations first Employee Resource Groups (ERG's); Equity Tool to review all policies and procedures.

# Law Schools

## DIVERSITY PROFESSIONALS



## Akita S. Mungaray

Assistant Dean of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion and Director of Student Affairs

University of Southern California Gould School of Law



Dean Akita Mungaray, an accomplished administrator in higher education, brings 8 years of experience in overseeing law school Student Affairs, Career Development, and Externships units. Her professional experience includes implementing and supporting law school academic and student support initiatives from orientation to commencement. She has also developed co-curricular events, advised student organizations, and created DEIB and wellness pathways and programming.

In her current role, Mungaray is proud to collaborate with the talented group of student affairs professionals and DEI Fellows at the University of Southern California Gould School of Law to create supportive spaces for all students.

Mungaray is committed to advancing DEIB efforts, has been a driving force behind numerous initiatives aimed at creating more inclusive and welcoming environments for students, and is always seeking new opportunities to make a positive impact.

## Alexi Freeman

Associate Dean of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

University of Denver Sturm College of Law



At Denver Law, Alexi Freeman leads their nationally recognized externship program, teaches social change lawyering courses, and oversees a range of efforts dedicated to diversity, equity and inclusion. Freeman was awarded the prestigious Robert B. Yegge Excellence in Teaching Award at Denver Law in 2019, after teaching here for only 6 years, as well as named the University Faculty Career Champion for All Graduate Students (based on student submissions for all faculty across university graduate departments) by the University of Denver Career Services. Freeman is very honored to also regularly be a recipient of the Student Bar Association's mentorship award. She has been the recipient of multiple grants from IRISE and the Center for Community Engagement.

Freeman received a JD from Harvard Law School, where she was recognized for her leadership on campus and public service commitment, and a B.A. in Journalism and Interdisciplinary Studies from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She first became interested in issues of racial and social justice as a child growing up in an interracial and interfaith family. She is also a proud working mother, spending her weekends attending her children's sports games and dance/music lessons.

## Alan K. Haynes

Assistant Dean for Law Student Affairs

St. Mary's University School of Law



Director Haynes works with high school, community colleges and undergraduate students to increase the number of diverse students interested in exploring opportunities in the legal profession.

Before joining St. Mary's University School of Law in 2015 as Assistant Dean for Law Student Affairs, he worked at the University of Minnesota Law School as Director of the Career Center from 2008 to 2015 and as chair of the law school's diversity committee. From 2005 to 2008, he was the associate director of career services and diversity outreach adviser at Brooklyn Law School. In his prior positions, he enhanced the law school experience for many students by bringing interviews on campus, expanding off-campus interview programs in major markets including New York, Washington D.C., Chicago and San Francisco, and counseling those seeking opportunities in the public and private sector. In addition, while in Minnesota, he co-chaired the Minnesota State Bar Association's Self-Audit on Gender Equity and Diversity in 2011 and chaired the Minnesota State Bar Association Diversity Committee in 2012.

Before joining academia, Haynes served as associate counsel for New York.

## Alexis Elston

Director of Diversity and Student Life

University of California, Davis School of Law (King Hall)



Alexis Elston is the Director of Diversity and Student Life at University of California, Davis - School of Law. Previously, she worked as Alumni Application Reader for UC Hastings College of the Law and Employee Rights Advocacy Fellow for National Employment Lawyers Association.

Alexis attended University of California, College of the Law, San Francisco (formerly UC Hastings) for J.D. She received her B.A. Sociology law & Society from UC Riverside.



## Allison N. Antwi

Assistant Dean for Equity, Justice and Engagement

Seton Hall University School of Law

Allison N. Antwi is the Assistant Dean of Equity, Justice, and Engagement for Seton Hall University School of Law. Previously, she worked as Education Consultant for Essex & Oliver, LLC and Associate Dean for Rutgers University.

Allison attended Rutgers Law School for Doctor of Law (J.D)



## Andrea Garr-Barnes

Director of Diversity, Equity, and Engagement

Boston University School of Law



Andrea M. Garr-Barnes, MSW is an Equity and Intersectionality Practitioner, Thought Leader and Equity - Minded Student Success Administrator. Andrea is the sole proprietor of EQ Consultants. EQ Consultants conducts equity audits for institutions of higher education, implicit bias trainings and provides consultation on the development of equity-minded student success strategies for under-represented students.

As a higher education administrator Andrea has served as the inaugural Director, Office of Institutional Diversity and Inclusion at Western Kentucky University and The Director of The Center for Multicultural Affairs at Bridgewater State University. Andrea has a Master of Social Work from Simmons University and a Bachelor of Science in Education - Human Development, from Northeastern University. Andrea has 15+ years creating equity-minded, evidenced based, student centered strategies that promote a sense of belonging and degree completion among students of color, international students, LGBTQIA+ students and first-generation students.

## Angela Smith

Assistant Dean of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Washington University School of Law

Angela Smith is the Assistant Dean of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion at Washington University School of Law.



## Baker, Janice

Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

University of South Carolina School of Law

Jan Baker is a Legal Writing Instructor and Director of the Konduros Leadership Development Program. Baker's courses include Legal Research, Analysis, and Writing I and II, Writing in Law Practice, Consumer Bankruptcy Drafting, and Advanced Legal Writing: Online Civil Litigation Drafting. She also teaches an undergraduate course, Tell Me a Story: Storytelling and Argumentation Ethics in Legal Advocacy, in the South Carolina Honors College.

Baker began her legal career as a Law Clerk to The Honorable George L. Proctor, United States Bankruptcy Judge for the Middle District of Florida. Before joining the Law School faculty, Baker was in private practice with King & Dalrymple, P.A., dedicating her practice to representing consumers and small businesses in personal and corporate bankruptcy cases. Baker is a co-author of The South Carolina Bankruptcy Practice Manual. On the lighter side, Baker also co-authored two coloring books for The South Carolina Bar Association, one addressing the role of lawyers in society and another addressing the sensitive issue of divorce.

## Barraza, Ana

Interim Director, Diversity and Outreach

Roger Williams University School of Law



Ana W. Barraza considers herself a native Rhode Islander. She migrated from Guatemala to Providence's West End with her family in 1974. Her parents still live in the home they moved into at that time. Attending schools in Providence, ultimately graduating from Central High School in 1988, and attending the University of Rhode Island through the Talent Development Program, she earned her Bachelor degree in English Literature with a concentration in African/African-American literature from the University of Rhode Island in 1994 and her Master of Science degree in Human Development and Family Studies with a concentration in College Student Personnel from the University of Rhode Island in 2004.

Ana worked for 10 years in mental health and substance abuse then ultimately transitioned to corporate America prior to pursuing a career in Higher Education. Ana's work in higher education has been primarily focused in access to education for underrepresented populations and mentoring women of color. She has taught in the Minor for Leadership Studies at the University of Rhode Island and served as a tutor and mentor to incoming first year students accepted through the Talent Development program.

## Beverly S. Hamilton

Assistant Dean of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Lincoln Memorial University—John J. Duncan, Jr. School of Law

No info found



## Belinda Dantley, J.D.

Assistant Dean for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Saint Louis University School of Law



Dantley is licensed as a member of the Missouri Bar Association (MoBar) and has been very active in MoBar and the Mound City Bar Association. Dantley has been involved with Mound City Bar Association (MCBA) since her time in law school and has served in many roles including Young Lawyers Division (YLD) Chair and Member At Large. She is excited to continue her service with MCBA as the Law Student Mentor Liaison.

Dantley joined the SLU LAW faculty in 2018 as an adjunct professor teaching Child Advocacy and the Law. In 2019 Dantley joined the SLU LAW faculty full-time as the Director of Inclusion and Diversity Education. Dantley is dedicated to creating and fostering spaces for inclusive learning and diverse viewpoints.

## Bren Sutter

Assistant Dean for Diversity Equity and Inclusion

Capital University Law School

Bren Sutter is the Assistant Dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at Capital University Law School.



## Brianna Leistikow

Assistant Director of Admission and Diversity Initiatives

Drake University Law School

**B**rianna Leistikow is the Assistant Director of Admission and Diversity Initiatives at Drake University Law School



## Bridges, III, Zeke

Vice Dean

Campbell University, Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law

**L**eft Campell university in May 2023



## Bryan Adamson

Associate Dean of Diversity

Case Western Reserve University School of Law

**P**rofessor Adamson is the David L. & Ann Brennan Professor of Law, and Associate Dean of Diversity and Inclusion. His areas of expertise are mass media and First Amendment law, and he has practiced extensively in re-entry advocacy, housing, mortgage lending and consumer protection. Professor Adamson rejoins Case Law from Seattle University School of Law, where he taught for 18 years, including service as Director of its nationally ranked Clinical Program. Professor Adamson has authored scores of articles in publications ranging from Yale Law and Policy Review and Harvard Journal of Racial and Ethnic Justice. His most recent publications include Debt Bondage: How Private Collection Agencies Keep the Formerly Incarcerated Tethered to the Criminal Justice System *Nw. J. L. & SOC. POL'y VOL. 15* (2020), Reconsidering Pre-Indictment Media Publicity: Racialized Crime News, Grand Juries and Tamir Rice *8 ALA. CIV. RTS. & CIV. LIBERTIES L. REV. 1* (2017), and "Thugs," "Crooks," and "Rebellious Negroes": Racist and Racialized Distortions in Media Coverage of Michael Brown and the Ferguson Demonstrations, *32 HARV. J. ON RACIAL & ETHNIC JUSTICE 189* (2016). In 2016, Professor Adamson bestowed the William Pincus Award for Excellence in Clinical Legal Education by the Association of American Law Schools, and that same year was awarded the Provost's Award for Excellence in Research and Scholarship.



## Candice Robbins

Assistant Dean for Advancement

The University of Alabama School of Law

**M**s. Robbins earned her B.A. from The University of Alabama in 2001 and M.A. from The University of Alabama in 2009. Ms. Robbins began her career in institutional advancement at the National Alumni Association in 2001, organizing and executing the University's telemarketing campaigns, and later coordinating and implementing annual fundraising plans for the academic units. Ms. Robbins joined the Law School in 2006 as Manager of the Farrah Law Alumni Society, the alumni support program for the Law School. Appointed Assistant Dean in May 2013, Ms. Robbins oversees fundraising efforts, gift processing and acknowledgement, event planning and execution, and Law School communications.



## Carmen Johnson

Executive Officer for Diversity, Collaboration and Inclusion

Stetson University College of Law



Carmen Johnson is the Executive Officer for Diversity, Collaboration and Inclusion at Stetson University College of Law. She champions the importance and value of a diverse and inclusive university environment and develops effective strategies to create opportunities for collaboration around equity, diversity and inclusion across Stetson's campuses. The position actively engages faculty, staff and students to further diversity, equity and inclusion.

## Carmia N. Caesar

Associate Dean for Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

The George Washington University Law School



Carmia N. Caesar joined GW Law in 2021 as the inaugural Associate Dean for Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion. Associate Dean Caesar brings extensive experience in programming, counseling, and experiential learning having served as the Director of Externships and Experiential Learning and an adjunct professor at Georgetown University Law Center and Howard University School of Law. She was on the Diversity Committees at both law schools, working to expand the DEI infrastructure and programming that met the unique needs of both communities. While at Georgetown, Associate Dean Caesar created the Component Classroom, a field placement seminar model that maximized teaching resources and expanded the program to serve hundreds of JD students each year. At Howard, in addition to externship teaching, she taught Introduction to the American Legal System in the LLM program and Social Justice Lawyering. In practice, Associate Dean Caesar represented clients in civil rights, domestic violence, and housing matters; and at the intersection of education and the juvenile criminal system. She is a graduate of Pomona College and Harvard Law School and was a Leadership Fellow with the Northern California Center of the Coro Foundation.

## Cassandra Williams

Assistant Dean, Admissions

New York University School of Law



Cassandra Williams is the Assistant Dean, Admissions for New York University School of Law.

## Chalak Richards

Dean of Students, Diversity and Belonging

Pepperdine University Caruso School of Law



Chalak Richards is dedicated to bringing diversity, equity, inclusion and a true sense of ownership and belonging to the law. She currently serves on the State Bar of California's Council on Access and Fairness, the NBSA Alumni Advisory Council, the Ms. JD Board of Directors, and is secretary of the OMG WOW Board of Directors. Before working at Pepperdine Caruso Law, Dean Richards worked as an immigration attorney for several years. She was named in 2016 and 2017 as a "Top 100 Lawyer in Las Vegas" for her outstanding work and has won numerous Advocacy and Trial awards. While a law student, Dean Richards was an award-winning member of the Trial Advocacy and Moot Court teams, Western Regional Chair of the National Black Law Students Association, and participated in many volunteer activities in the community. Prior to law school, Dean Richards worked with Urban Promise, a non-profit organization supporting the academic and spiritual development of five to ten year-old children and mentoring teenagers in high-risk communities.

## Cherina D. Wright

Interim Associate Dean of Students and  
Assistant Dean of Diversity, Equity, and  
Inclusion

Suffolk University Law School

Cherina D. Wright is the Interim Associate Dean of Students and Assistant Dean of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for Suffolk University Law School. She helps in creating a diverse, equitable, and inclusive community.



## Courtney Griffin

Assistant Dean, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion  
and Belonging

University of Detroit Mercy, School of Law

Courtney Griffin is a born and raised, proud Detroiter. She is a higher education professional passionate about student success and faculty, student, staff and alumni sense of belonging. With over 10 years of experience in higher education and teaching at the collegiate level she is dedicated to creating spaces where students can see themselves and feel both seen and heard. Courtney's research interest includes students of color in higher education. Her dissertation focuses on the obstacles Black women endured at predominately White institutions and how they overcame those obstacles.

Courtney is a current member of the National Association of Diversity Officers in Higher Education, as well as the American Association of College and Universities. She is also on the board for a couple of Detroit youth-based non-profits.



## Crystal Rae Coel

Assistant Dean for Student Affairs and  
Diversity

University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law

Crystal Rae Coel, Esq. is the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs and Diversity for the University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law. She joined Louisville Law in May 2020 after 25 years at Murray State University, where she held a variety of leadership positions, including the Head of Elizabeth College and the Director of the multiple national award-winning Speech and Debate Union.

Dean Coel has a resume that speaks to a career of student-focused service. Before coming to Kentucky in 1995, she was an award-winning lecturer at the University of Wisconsin at Platteville where she taught Communication Law, Business Communication, Public Address and Broadcast Performance. She was the Executive Producer of student-produced cable television productions, the adviser of the Student Senate and the Assistant Director of Speech and Debate. She has also taught at the University of Louisiana at Monroe and the Community College of Philadelphia. Her experience has given her the wisdom to understand that students not only thrive in an atmosphere that challenges them but one that also respects their opinions. She believes that disagreements don't breed animosity. Contempt is born from a failure to listen.



## Danielle Boardley

Assistant Dean for Diversity, Inclusion and  
Student Life

Drexel University Thomas R. Kline School of Law

Danielle Boardley is the Assistant Dean for Diversity, Inclusion and Student Life at Drexel University Thomas R. Kline School of Law. Boardley is in the unique position of having started her tenure at Kline Law shortly after its founding in 2006, and she has served in a variety of roles throughout her time at the school.

Prior to her new role, Boardley served as the inaugural director of diversity, inclusion, and student belonging as well as a variety of leadership roles in the Kline Law Admissions Office. Through her work in admissions, Boardley helped create a variety of initiatives seeking to increase diversity and inclusion at the law school"



## Danny Murphy, Jr.

Senior Assistant Dean of Community Engagement & Operations/Chief Diversity Officer

University of Kentucky J. David Rosenberg College of Law

**D**anny Murphy, Jr., Senior Assistant Dean of Community Engagement & Operations/Chief Diversity Officer, is a 1998 graduate of the University of Kentucky J. David Rosenberg College of Law. Prior to joining the administration in 2010, he was Counsel at the law firm of Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs, LLP in its Lexington office, and was formerly a member in the law firm of McMurry & Livingston, PLLC, in Paducah, Kentucky, where he focused primarily in the area of real estate law.

Dean Murphy oversees day-to-day nonacademic operations at the Rosenberg College of Law, including supervision of Marketing & Communications, Information Technology, the Continuing Legal Education departments, alumni affairs, and capital project management and building operations. Dean Murphy serves as the College's liaison to the University in overseeing the law school's major rebuild and expansion construction project. Dean Murphy also serves as the College's diversity officer, oversees the voluntary student pro bono program and efforts to engage the College with the university, the community-at-large, the Commonwealth and across the nation.



## Darrel J. Papillion

Chair, Diversity Committee

LSU Louisiana State University, Paul M. Hebert Law Center

**D**arrel J. Papillion is a prominent Louisiana trial lawyer who handles complex, multi-party, commercial and other contested cases. Mr. Papillion has extensive trial experience and has been appointed to serve as Special Master in a number of high-profile commercial disputes. Most recently, he was hired as co-counsel with the Perkins Coie, LLP firm in Johnson v. Kyle Ardoin, 3:18-cv-00625 (La.M.D. 6/13/18), a Voting Rights Act challenge to Louisiana's 2011 congressional districts. Before moving to Baton Rouge in 1999, he practiced at McGlinchey Stafford, a national defense firm, representing multinational corporations and insurers in products liability and casualty actions in state and federal court.

Mr. Papillion is actively involved in the Louisiana legal community. He has served as an officer or as a board member of numerous professional and civic organizations. He served as the 2016-2017 President of the Louisiana State Bar Association, an association with more than 19,000 attorney-members. He is a Past-President of the Baton Rouge Bar Association, is a member of the Board of Directors of the Louisiana Bar Foundation, and he is a former President of the Wex Malone Chapter of the American Inns of Court.



## Darren Hutchinson

Director of Community and Inclusion; Chief Diversity Officer

Emory University School of Law

**P**rofessor Darren Lenard Hutchinson is the Emory University School of Law inaugural John Lewis Chair for Civil Rights and Social Justice. He joined the faculty on July 1, 2021. At Emory Law, Hutchinson serves as the faculty director of the Emory University Center for Civil Rights and Social Justice. He was also appointed to the role of director of community and inclusion and chief diversity officer for the law school in fall 2022.

Civil rights and social justice are the central foci of Hutchinson's research, teaching, administrative work, and community engagement. His pioneering research crosses many academic disciplines, including political science, history, and social psychology. Hutchinson also examines a broad range of legal doctrines and social justice matters, including equality law, criminal justice reform, LGBTQA rights, antiracism, and poverty. Hutchinson's scholarship has appeared in many prestigious journals, including the Yale Law Journal, California Law Review, Cornell Law Review, UCLA Law Review, and Washington University Law Review. Before joining Emory Law, Hutchinson served as the Raymond & Miriam Ehrlich Eminent Scholar at the University of Florida Levin College of Law.



## Debra Gammons

Director of the Office of Diversity Initiatives

Charleston School of Law

**P**rofessor Gammons teaches Criminal Law, Constitutional Law, Freedom of Speech, Sex and Gender Issues and the Law, Trial Advocacy, and Street Law at at Charleston School of Law. She also serves as the Director of the Office of Diversity Initiatives. A Certified Circuit Court Mediator, Debra is also a public speaker and legal presenter. Her presentations address issues of equality, bias, violence against females, diversity, and ethics.

Gammons lives a life of public service. She is a Delegate in the South Carolina Bar House of Delegates. As a past President of the Charleston County Bar Association, she was the first Brown or Black person to serve as President. She has also served as President of the Greenville County Bar Association.

While earning her Juris Doctor at the University of South Carolina School Of Law, Debra was President of the Student Bar and served as the Associate Justice of the Moot Court Bar and as the President of the Public Interest Law Society.



## Donald P. Harris

“Associate Dean for Academic Affairs  
Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Liaison”

Temple University—James E. Beasley School of Law



**D**onald P. Harris is Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Liaison at Temple University Beasley School of Law.

A specialist in international intellectual property, Dean Harris joined Temple University Beasley School of Law in 2003, and teaches in the areas of intellectual property and commercial law. His courses include: Introduction to Intellectual Property, International Intellectual Property, Patents, and Uniform Commercial Code: Sales. He received his J.D. from Loyola Law School, Los Angeles, where he received the dean's award for outstanding public service and the pro bono service award. Dean Harris also received an LL.M. from the University of Wisconsin, as a Hastie Fellow, specializing in international intellectual property.

Prior to joining Temple, Dean Harris practiced intellectual property law, specializing in patent litigation, as an associate in the San Francisco office of Cooley Godward. Dean Harris has spoken at numerous symposia and colloquia, and has written numerous articles on international intellectual property.

## Dr. Sandie L. Crawford

Director, Inclusion & Equity

The University of Akron School of Law



**D**r. Sandie L. Crawford is the Interim Director, Office of Inclusion & Equity at The University of Akron School of Law

## Dr. Ansley Booker

Director of Diversity and Inclusion Initiatives

Mercer University School of Law



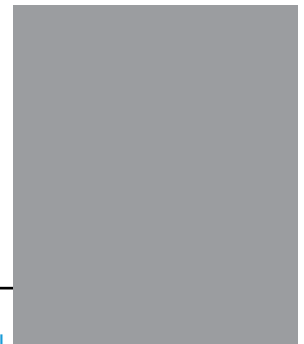
**D**r. Ansley Booker is the Director of Diversity and Inclusion Initiatives at Mercer University School of Law. Since 2010, Dr. Booker has led Mercer's Educational Opportunity Center, one of five federal TRIO Programs offered at Mercer to motivate and support students from disadvantaged backgrounds in their pursuit of a college degree. The Educational Opportunity Center primarily serves displaced or underemployed workers from low-income families, helping them to choose a college and suitable financial aid program.

Dr. Booker earned her Ph.D. in educational leadership from Mercer in May, Master of Science in pharmacy from the University of Georgia in 2013 and Bachelor of Arts in chemistry from Georgia Southern University in 2008, where she was a McNair Scholar.

## Ella Mae Estrada

Associate Dean and Vice President for  
Enrollment Management, Student Financial  
Services, and Institutional Diversity, Equity,  
and Inclusion

New York Law School



**E**lla Mae S. Estrada is the Associate Dean and Vice President, Enrollment Management; Institutional Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at New York Law School

## Fernando Guzman

Assistant Dean for Diversity, Equity & Inclusive Excellence

University of Colorado Law School



Fernando Guzman is the Assistant Dean for Diversity, Equity & Inclusive Excellence at University of Colorado Law School. Guzman most recently served as director of diverse faculty and staff recruitment and retention at the University of Rhode Island. He has served in leadership roles focused on diversity, inclusion, and recruitment at the Colorado School of Mines, University of Denver, and Vermont's Champlain University. He holds a doctoral degree in counseling psychology from the University of Denver; a master's degree in counseling from California State University, Sacramento; and a bachelor's degree in sociology from Santa Clara University.

Guzman will collaborate with Dean Anaya to articulate, initiate, guide, and foster diversity, equity, and inclusive excellence throughout the law school. He will work closely with the Office of Admissions, Career Development Office, faculty, administration, students, and alumni to create and implement policies, practices, and programs to attract, retain, and promote a diverse law school body.

## Giovanni Desiree Wade

Director of Diversity Initiatives, Career Development Office

University of North Carolina School of Law



Giovanni Wade is the Director of Diversity Initiatives in the Career Development Office at UNC School of Law. She counsels students in their job search with a special focus on supporting individuals from underrepresented backgrounds. Before joining UNC, Giovanni practiced education law and represented school boards. She later served as Assistant Dean of Career and Professional Development at NC Central University School of Law, one of six HBCU law schools.

She previously held multiple positions with the NC Bar Association's Education Law Section, including Section Chair. She currently serves on the NCBA's Minorities in the Profession Committee where she co-chaired the annual Minority Pre-Law Conference, an event for students interested in law school, and ¡Adelante!, a program held to help diverse law students successfully navigate law school and their careers.

## Greneda Johnson

Director of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging

University of Arkansas School of Law



Greneda Johnson is the Director of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging at University of Arkansas School of Law. Most recently, Johnson served as pro bono director for Legal Aid of Arkansas, an organization dedicated to championing equal justice for low-income individuals and communities. She has also worked as an attorney specialist or staff attorney for Legal Aid of Arkansas and the Arkansas Department of Human Services. At ADHS, she researched state and federal law related to current legal issues and advised managers on matters affecting the agency in addition to preparing legal briefs, motions and other pleadings to support the day-to-day work of the agency. Johnson's first legal position was as a licensing and compliance law clerk at Walmart.

A native of Fort Smith, Johnson is a two-time graduate of the University of Arkansas. In 2004 she received a Bachelor of Arts in political science and legal studies from the Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences, and she is a 2007 graduate of the School of Law. Johnson has a passion for encouraging others and for improving diversity in the legal profession.

## J. Camille Hall

Vice Chancellor of Diversity and Inclusion Initiatives

University of Missouri—Kansas City School of Law



The vice chancellor serves as the chief diversity officer of the campus. She is a part of the executive leadership team and serves as the primary advisor to the Chancellor on matters involving diversity and equity. She supports the efforts of the provost and deans to develop faculty scholarship, curriculum, and pedagogy on diversity, equity and related issues. The vice chancellor works with the vice chancellor for chief advancement officer and foundation president and development officers throughout the institution to promote development and fundraising to enhance diversity efforts. She leads, directs, staffs, and charges the University's diversity, equity, and anti-bias committees. The vice chancellor serves as the chief resource for the University on matters related to diversity and equity; and maintains a clearinghouse for information on issues of diversity and equity, except on matters that concern legal compliance.



## J. Janewa Osei-Tutu

### Professor of Law

Florida International University College of Law



Professor Jan Osei-Tutu is an Associate Dean and Professor of Law. She has published widely on international intellectual property law, with a focus on cultural intellectual property, human rights, and human development. She holds degrees from the premier academic institutions in Canada. Osei-Tutu holds an LL.M., with distinction, in International and Comparative Law from McGill Law, a J.D. from Queen's Law, and a B.A.(Hons) from the University of Toronto. She is a member of the Ontario bar and the New York bar.

Osei-Tutu is passionate about the role of intellectual property law in society. Drawing on her academic and professional experience, Professor Osei-Tutu's scholarship focuses on the relationship between trade-related intellectual property, human development, human rights, and cultural identities. She wrote her graduate thesis on trade-related intellectual property and developing countries. She continues to write in this area. She joined academia after practicing as an intellectual property Legal Counsel to the Patent & Trademark Office, and to the intellectual property Policy Directorate at Industry Canada (USPTO equivalent).

## Jacqueline Freeman

### SENIOR DIRECTOR AND SPECIAL ADVISOR TO THE PRESIDENT FOR DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

Western Michigan University Thomas M. Cooley Law School



Jacqueline Freeman is the senior director and special advisor to the president for diversity, equity and inclusion at Western Michigan University Thomas M. Cooley Law School. Her role and responsibilities allow her to partner with WMU-Cooley in its access mission of advancing diversity of the legal profession through their Professional Exploration Program which provides well-qualified individuals the opportunity to study law, prepare to pass the bar, and become lawyers. The legal profession must have a diverse Bar that is representative of the world we inhabit. This belief was foundational in the establishment of Cooley Law School and continues to be a core guiding principle.

She serves on several national, state, and local committees, including the State Bar of Michigan, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee (DIAC), the Lawyers and Judges Assistance Program (LJAP), and the American Bar Association (ABA) CoLAP Advisory Committee.

## Jacqueline O'Bryant

### Interim Assistant Dean for Diversity & Inclusion

The University of Memphis—Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law



Jacqueline O'Bryant is the Interim Assistant Dean, Diversity & Inclusion at The University of Memphis—Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law. Previously, she was Director DEI and HR Compliance for AutoZone and Director Tennessee Institute for Pre-Law & Coordinator for Law School Diversity for The University of Memphis—Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law.

Jacqueline attended University of Arkansas at Little Rock, William H. Bowen School of Law for J.D Law. She received her B.A degree from Alcorn State University.

## Jamila Jefferson-Jones

### Earl B. Shurtz Research Professor and Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging

University of Kansas School of Law



Jamila Jefferson-Jones is the inaugural Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging at the University of Kansas School of Law where she also serves as the Earl B. Shurtz Research Professor. She is a graduate of Harvard Law School and Harvard and Radcliffe College. As the Associate Dean for DEIB, she is responsible for programming and policies that encourage a culture that fosters DEIB values among the law school's students, faculty and staff. She also serves as the law school's equity advisor and liaison to the university DEIB office. Professor Jamila Jefferson-Jones' scholarship centers on the property rights of groups on the margins of society. She uses critical race methodologies to interrogate the ways in which favored racialized groups seek to exclude minoritized people from public and private spaces through the use of or threat of police action to enforce both the racial segregation of space and racist notions of supremacy. Her recent article on this subject, #LivingWhileBlack: Blackness As Nuisance, was published in the American University Law Review and featured in the New York Times.

## Jane E. Cross

Professor of Law, Associate Dean for Diversity, Inclusion & Public Impact, and Director of the Caribbean Law Programs

Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad College of Law

Jane E. Cross is the Associate Dean for Diversity, Inclusion, & Public Impact, the Director of the Caribbean Law Programs, and a Professor of Law at Nova Southeastern University College of Law. She advises the Black Law Students Association, Caribbean Law Students Association, and other student organizations. Dean Cross has held many leadership roles, coordinated programs, and presented at conferences for various national, regional, and international organizations such as the American Association of Law Schools, the American and Caribbean Law Initiative, the Global Legal Skills Conference, the Legal Writing Institute, the Association of Legal Writing Directors, Lutie A. Lytle Black Women Law Faculty Workshop, the National People of Color Legal Scholarship Conference, the Southeast Association of Law Schools, Southeast/Southwest People of Color Legal Scholarship Conference, and Writing as Resistance.



## Jay Austin

RISE Alliance Law School Admission Council

RISE Alliance Law School Admission Council

Jay L. Austin is the executive director of LSAC's Reaffirming Individuals Supporting Education ("RISE") Alliance which provides leadership and professional development support to student-facing law school staff by focusing on how the lived narratives and layers of personal identities of law school staff can be influential in building and retaining a legal education pipeline that adds to the diversity of the legal profession.

Prior to joining LSAC, Austin served as the senior associate dean of enrollment and financial aid at Rutgers Law School. He also oversaw admissions and financial aid at University of California, Irvine School of Law as well as the Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy, Pennsylvania State University School of Law, University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School, and University of California Hastings College of the Law, and was an admissions officer at Columbia University School of Law and Columbia School of Business. He has extensive participation on various committees and in leadership positions including president of the Black Faculty and Staff Association at UC Irvine and chair of the LGBTQ Board at the University of Pennsylvania. Outspoken about topics pertaining to the value of inclusivity, Austin has presented on a range.

## Jen Heusel

Director of Diversity, Inclusion and Leadership Development Co-Director, Frohnmayer Leadership Program

University of Oregon School of Law

Jen Heusel joined Oregon Law in June of 2022 as the Director of Diversity, Inclusion and Leadership Development. In this role, Dr. Heusel provides broad support, coordination, and implementation of diversity and equity initiatives. Her responsibilities include point of contact for Law School student organizations, co-chair of the Community & Inclusion Committee, and co-director of the Frohnmayer Leadership Program. Dr. Heusel is passionate about making connections and keeping the law school community aware of broader UO DEI initiatives. She is an active participant with the Deconstructing Whiteness Working Group, contributor to the UO Student Organization Roundtable, and community partner with the UO Division of Equity and Inclusion.



## Jermaine Cruz

Assistant Dean for Diversity & Inclusion

Albany Law School

Jermaine Cruz serves as Assistant Dean for Diversity & Inclusion at Albany Law School in New York State's capitol city of Albany. He is a seasoned law school administrator with over 20 years of legal education experience including, legal clinic and targeted program administration, JD admissions, as well as diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives and strategy development. A diverse set of experiences in legal practice, policy development, and communications inform his comprehensive and holistic approach to ensuring an accessible, equitable, fair, and positive law school experience for all law students rooted in clear and effective administrative and academic policy and procedure. Mr. Cruz has presented nationally on law school recruitment and retention strategy, as well as general and legal education-specific diversity, equity and inclusion issues. In addition to Albany Law School, Dean Cruz has worked at The Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law (his alma mater), Georgetown Law, and University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law. He also worked in private practice at Hannon Law Group, LLP, in Washington, DC, where he focused primarily on complex commercial litigation and employment law. Dean Cruz had a successful career in communications prior to pursuing his law degree. He is an alumnus of the National Journalism Center in Washington.



## Jorge García

Assistant Dean of Admissions  
Financial Aid and Campus Diversity  
California Western School of Law



Jorge García joined California Western School of Law in July 2021 as Assistant Dean of Admissions, Financial Aid & Campus Diversity. Jorge graduated from UC San Diego with a degree in economics and subsequently earned an MBA at CSU San Marcos. Dean García has 18 years of law school admissions experience as well as 29 years administering financial aid to undergraduate and law school students. Prior to joining California Western School of Law, Dean García served as Director and Asst. Dean of Admissions, Financial Aid and Diversity Initiatives at the University of San Diego School of Law.

Included in Jorge's responsibilities at California Western School of Law are leading the marketing, recruitment and admission efforts; the awarding of scholarships to the entering class; providing leadership to the Financial Aid Office; and leading the Law School in its diversity, equity and inclusion strategy and efforts.

Dean García has presented at regional and national conferences on several topics including financing a legal education,

## Joseph D Farris III, Esq.

Asst. Dean of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion  
Widener University - Delaware Law School



Joseph is also adjunct faculty at Delaware Law School, where he has taught courses in professional responsibility, legal problem solving and public health law and inequality. As a Delaware attorney, he has practiced in the areas of corporate transactions, intellectual property, and bankruptcy. He contributed to the Strategic Plan for Improving Diversity in the Delaware Bench and Bar as part of the Colleges and Law Schools working group. Reflections from his first year as DEI dean are published in the summer 2022 issue of the Delaware Lawyer, a publication of the Delaware Bar Foundation. He recently received a certificate in DEI Leadership in Higher Education from the University of Michigan. Previously, he served as a U.S. Naval Officer, and worked as an applications engineer and project manager in private industry.

## José Luis Rodríguez

Sr. Associate Director of Student Affairs &  
Diversity + Inclusion  
The University of Chicago Law School

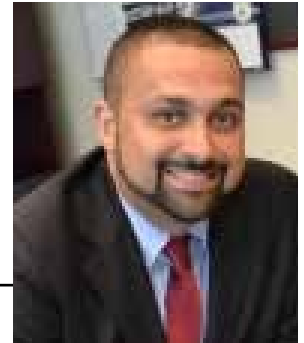


José Luis Rodríguez is the Associate Director of Student Affairs & Diversity and Inclusion at The University of Chicago Law School. Previously, he was Assistant Director, Center for College Student Success for University of Chicago and Recruitment and Outreach Specialist, Admissions Office for Dakton Community College.

Jose attended DePaul University-College of Education for Doctor of Philosophy, PhD"

## Justin Cruz

Assistant Dean of Admission and Diversity  
Initiatives  
Chapman University Dale E. Fowler School of Law



Justin Cruz earned his BS in Industrial and Systems Engineering with Honor from the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, Georgia and his JD from Washington University School of Law in St. Louis, Missouri. While in law school, Dean Cruz was Managing Editor of the Washington University Law Review and received the CALL Excellence Award for his work in the Intellectual Property and Business Formation Clinic. After graduating from Washington University, Dean Cruz worked in the area of intellectual property law as in-house counsel for a fortune 500 company. Prior to joining Chapman, he served as Associate Dean of Student Affairs at Barry University School of Law in Orlando, Florida, and as Assistant Director of Admission at Thomas Jefferson School of Law (TJSL) in San Diego, California. In addition, Dean Cruz was an adjunct professor at TJSL where he taught in the Intellectual Property Law Practicum course. Prior to his career in law, Dean Cruz worked as an engineer for Caterpillar, Inc. He currently serves in various diversity leadership positions, including as a member of the Law School Admission Council (LSAC) Diversity Committee, as a standing executive committee member for the Annual Meeting of Law School Diversity Professionals (AMLSDP), and as a board member of the Thurgood Marshall Bar Association.

## Karen DeMeola

Assistant Dean for Diversity, Belonging, and Community Engagement

University of Connecticut School of Law



**D**eMeola, a 1996 graduate of the UConn School of Law, has worked at the law school since 2000 and has served as director of admissions and assistant dean for finance and administration. In October 2022, she was named the law school's inaugural assistant dean for diversity, belonging and community engagement.

Among the many honors she has received are: the Lawyers Collaborative for Diversity Edwin Archer Randolph Diversity Award, the Connecticut Women's Education and Legal Fund Maria Miller Stewart Award, the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities Constance Baker Motley Award for Business and Law, the Connecticut Law Tribune's Attorney of the Year award, the University of Connecticut Law School Alumni Association Medal of Excellence Award, and the University of Connecticut Spirit Award.

## Karen Porter

Arthur Pinto & Stephen Bohlen Associate Dean for Inclusion and Diversity

Brooklyn Law School



**K**aren Porter is Associate Professor of Clinical Law and Executive Director of Brooklyn Law School's Center for Health, Science, and Public Policy. In these roles she serves as faculty director for the law school's health law externship program and teaches a class on public health law. She has taught courses at Washington University Law School, Seton Hall Law School, Quinnipiac Law School, and the Graduate Program in Health Advocacy at Sarah Lawrence College. In 2020, she was appointed the inaugural Arthur Pinto & Stephen Bohlen Associate Dean for Inclusion and Diversity. In this newly created role, Dean Porter leads the Law School's efforts to create and support an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members of the community, and promotes opportunities students as well as alumni. As part of the effort to champion learning in this area, she has introduced a new course to the curriculum, Lawyers Leading Change.

Prior to teaching, Dean Porter held a post-doctoral fellowship at Montefiore Medical Center/The Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Department of Epidemiology and Social Medicine, Division of Bioethics.

## Kathleen C. Kim

Associate Dean for Equity and Inclusion

Loyola Law School, Loyola Marymount University



**P**rofessor Kathleen Kim is a nationally recognized expert on immigrants' rights and human trafficking. Her scholarship examines the Thirteenth Amendment and its relationship to immigration, workplace rights, and civil rights through the intersectional lens of race and gender. Her articles have appeared in the UCLA Law Review, Iowa Law Review, and University of Chicago Law Forum, among others. She is co-author of Human Trafficking Law & Policy, the leading casebook on human trafficking in the country. Professor Kim is also faculty advisor to the Loyola Immigrant Justice Clinic (LIJC) which she helped to co-found with her students. LIJC has become the primary pro bono immigration service provider for indigent noncitizens residing on the Eastside of Los Angeles. Before joining the Loyola faculty in 2007, Kim was awarded a Skadden Fellowship in 2002 to launch the first legal services project in the nation dedicated to representing the civil rights of trafficked workers at the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights. She co-authored Civil Litigation on Behalf of Victims of Human Trafficking, the principal technical assistance guide for attorneys representing trafficked plaintiffs in civil litigation. In 2005, she became the inaugural Immigrants' Rights Teaching Fellow at Stanford Law School where she taught and supervised law students in cases involving deportation defense and humanitarian immigration relief.

## Kathy Seward Northern

Associate Dean for Diversity and Inclusion

The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law



**P**rofessor Kathy Seward Northern served as a law clerk to the Honorable Robert M. Duncan, Southern District of Ohio, following graduation from law school, and then became an associate with the law firm of Porter, Wright, Morris, & Arthur in Columbus. In 1990, she joined the law faculty of Ohio Northern University, moving to Ohio State in 1991. She served as chair of the Ohio Supreme Court Commission on Professionalism and was a member of the Civil Justice Reform Act Advisory Group for the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio.

Her research areas include the use of tort law in social policy formation, the application of traditional tort principles to mitigate the effects of environmental racism, and products liability. She teaches Advanced Topics in Tort Law, Environmental Justice, Law & Technology, Products Liability, and Torts.

## Keith Moore

### CHIEF DIVERSITY OFFICER

University of South Dakota Knudson School of Law

Keith Moore is the chief diversity officer at University of South Dakota Knudson School of Law. He grew up in Kennebec, S.D., and graduated from Lyman High School. In 1985, as the team's point guard, he helped Lyman to a state basketball championship earning a scholarship to play basketball at Northern State University. After receiving his bachelor's degree from Northern State, Moore earned a master's degree in 2002 from South Dakota State University. He is completing a specialist degree in educational leadership at Montana State University this summer.

## Kerii Landry-Thomas

### Associate Vice Chancellor for Equity, Inclusion

Southern University Law Center



Kerii Landry-Thomas is the Associate Vice Chancellor of Equity, Inclusion & Title IX at SULC. Prior to this appointment, she served in the capacity of the Title IX Coordinator from 2019-2021 at SULC. Kerii came to the law center after serving as Assistant General Counsel and Title IX Coordinator at AMDA College of Performing Arts, Los Angeles. In this role, she developed and implemented Title IX policies for the institution, which focused on local, state, and federal rules as California has extensive rules regarding harassment and sexual assault. Prior to that role, she worked in the criminal justice system as an Assistant Public Defender.

## Kha Yang

### Associate Vice President for Inclusive Excellence

University of St. Thomas School of Law—Minneapolis



Kha Yang Begins is St. Thomas' First Associate Vice President of Inclusive Excellence, a crucial leadership role that will guide the university's ongoing journey to be more diverse, equitable and inclusive.

Yang is a first-generation Hmong American and a former refugee from Laos with a commitment for social justice work. She brings more than 20 years of experience as a campaign organizer, human rights investigator, equal employment opportunity consultant, and inclusive program developer. After getting to know St. Thomas, she aims to collaborate with individuals and groups across the university to develop a shared vision and further implement St. Thomas' Action Plan to Combat Racism.

## Kiana Pierre-Louis

### Assistant Dean for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI)

Northeastern University School of Law



Kiana Pierre-Louis is the assistant dean for diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) at Northeastern University School of Law. Among her many activities, Pierre-Louis is the founder of Justice Belongs Institute, a consulting and educational company that focuses on diversity facilitations/training; educational seminars and courses; and consulting for large and small companies, public schools, religious organizations and non-profit organizations. Her work at Bentley and in her hometown of Sharon centers on social justice advocacy. She co-created a diversity, equity and inclusion major at Bentley University and has won numerous awards that recognize her work in advising and mentoring students, her leadership and dedication to advancing DEI initiatives, and her outstanding teaching capabilities.

Pierre-Louis holds a BS in business communications from Bentley University, where she minored in English, and a JD from Suffolk University Law School.

## Laké Laosebikan-Buggs

Director of Inclusive Excellence for Graduate and Professional Education

Elon University School of Law



A college administrator with an accomplished record of championing graduate student success has joined the Elon University community as the inaugural director of inclusive excellence for graduate and professional education.

In addition to her presence at Elon Law, Morolake (Laké) Laosebikan-Buggs advocates for students in graduate programs on the main campus and in Research Triangle Park where the MBA program offers instruction.

The position offers critical assistance to Elon University and Elon Law's strategic commitments to diversity, equity, inclusion and antiracism as well as collective institutional support of the university's growing population of graduate and professional students.

Buggs will be supported through her membership on the core team of Elon University's Division of Inclusive Excellence, led by Vice President and Associate Provost for Inclusive Excellence Randy Williams.

## Lisa Brathwaite

Director Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Programs

Boston College Law School



Lisa Brathwaite, who has worked in legal higher education with affinity groups and on minority and race issues, joined Boston College Law School on December 14 as Director for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Programs. Since 2014, as program manager and specialist in Northeastern School of Law's Center for Co-op and Professional Advancement (CCOPA), Brathwaite has designed and implemented evidence-based programming for student affinity groups, fostered and maintained relationships with minority bar and professional development associations, and advised affinity groups as well as students navigating personal, professional, and climate-based concerns. She has also been an active member of the school's Committee Against Institutional Racism.

Brathwaite received her BA in Sociology and Gender & Women's Studies from Bowdoin College in 2008 and anticipates receiving her MEd in Higher Education Administration in December of 2021. She began her career in legal recruitment with Boston firms Choate and K&L Gates.

## Leslie Richards-Yellen

Chief of Diversity

Cornell Law School



Leslie Richards-Yellen is the Chief of Diversity at Cornell Law School. She has a unique combination of skills—public finance expertise and an impressive record at helping firms hire and keep the best, most diverse workforces. As capital partner and chief of diversity and inclusion at Hinshaw & Culbertson in Chicago since 2007, Leslie Richards-Yellen '84 still works in bonds, but her chief task is to make the organization more diverse.

## LISA RYAN

Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Vermont Law School



Dean Ryan joined Vermont Law and Graduate School as Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in July of 2022.

Professor Ryan is working towards a society where all voices are heard and valued, systems of oppression are dismantled, and equity is at the center of everything we do. Currently, through her role as Director of Domestic Violence Response Systems for the Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, she is focused on helping those who experience harm and those who have caused harm within the systems they navigate, and the communities in which they belong. One of her biggest achievements is starting and overseeing the Rutland County Community Justice Center—introducing restorative justice principles and approaches to participants and community stakeholders.

Ms. Ryan professionally and personally assumes leadership and management roles through her experiences as a community and public events organizer and civic activist; she is as a mediator, racial and social justice advocate.



## Lisa Sonia Taylor

Assistant Dean for Diversity, Inclusion and Affinity Relations

American University Washington College of Law

Lisa advocates for diversity, inclusion, equity, and justice as foundational requirements for academic excellence, community building, leadership, and service in law school education. Her work focuses on strategic planning, collaborative initiatives, and policies promoting organizational cultural competence. She regularly speaks on practical strategies for creating inclusive communities where diverse members experience belonging and thrive. For her work, In 2018, Lisa was honored by Missouri Lawyer's Media for significantly advancing diversity, inclusion, and exceptional legal work that promotes dignity and justice for all.

Lisa's vast experience includes service Director of Inclusion and Diversity Education at Saint Louis University School of Law and as Managing Director of the Thurgood Marshall Civil Rights Center at Howard University School of Law. She also has experience in institutional advancement and enrollment management.



## Luis E. Chiesa

Vice Dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Director of the Buffalo Criminal Law Center

University at Buffalo School of Law, The State University of New York

Born and raised in Puerto Rico, Professor Luis E. Chiesa earned his J.D. at the University of Puerto Rico School of Law (graduating first in his class), then his master of laws and doctor of juridical science degrees at Columbia University. He clerked for Hon. Federico Hernández Denton, chief justice of the Puerto Rico Supreme Court, and taught at Pace Law School before joining UB School of Law. Previously, Chiesa was the Rembe Distinguished Visiting Professor at the University of Washington; a visiting professor of criminal law at the Torcuato Di Tella University in Buenos Aires, Argentina; and a member of the visiting faculty at Sergio Arboleda University in Bogota, Colombia. Chiesa's writings have been published in the Washington & Lee Law Review, the Utah Law Review, the Ohio State Journal of Criminal Law and the New Criminal Law Review, among other journals. Furthermore, Chiesa often publishes in some of the leading European and Latin American criminal law reviews. In addition to his teaching and scholarship, he directs the Buffalo Criminal Law Center.



## Lynna Nguyen-King

Diversity Chair

The University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law

Lynna Nguyen-King was born and raised in Southern California. While finishing up her undergraduate at Brigham Young University-Idaho, she started working as a Graduation Processor in Student Records and Registration. From there, her career has stayed in higher education as she transitioned from main campus Registrar's Office to the College of Law Registrar's Office. She is currently serving as a board member with the National Network of Law School Officers and is part of their Membership & Outreach Committee.

Lynna missed the sun so she relocated her border collie mix, Max, and her husband, Will, from Salt Lake City, UT, to Tucson, AZ. Since then, she has sort of gotten acclimated to the heat, thanks the Air Conditioner Gods every day, and has adopted another border collie mix, Amaya, to be Max's emotional support animal.



## Maria Llambi

Assistant Director of Admissions & Diversity Initiatives

Northern Kentucky University Chase College of Law

Maria Llambi has many years of experience in higher education administration. She appreciates the opportunity to grow professionally by taking on a role which assists in promoting diversity and inclusion at Chase Law and supporting students pursuing careers in law. Maria is particularly proud of her work supporting students who are on the path to becoming lawyers. As a graduate of the Chase College of Law herself, Maria understands the challenges that students face when preparing for the Law School Admission Test (LSAT) and applying to law school. She is passionate about helping students overcome these challenges and achieve their goals. Maria values the privilege of having a role where she gets to have a positive impact on future lawyers. Through her work with the LSAT Study Group and other initiatives, Maria has helped numerous students achieve their dreams of attending law school and pursuing successful legal careers. In addition to her work supporting students interested in law, Maria is also involved in numerous other initiatives and programs that promote diversity at Chase Law.

## Mario Ernesto Lopez

Director of Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

University of California Hastings College of the Law



Born in San Francisco, and raised in Marin County, Mario is the proud son of immigrants from Guatemala and El Salvador, and is the inaugural Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Initiatives at UC Law SF. Prior to his current role, Mario served as the Associate Director of Admissions, Diversity Initiatives, & Community Partnerships at UC Law SF and worked for 10 years in the financial services sector from 16-26 earning his investment licenses, and served on various school, community, and government boards prior to law school. During his time as a student at UC Law SF, Mario was on the UC Law SF Trial Team, fundraising chair for La Raza Law Students Association, and interned for President Obama at the White House in the National Economic Council during his third year of law school, where he also served in a leadership role as the co-chair of the Legal Professional Interest Group. Recently, Mario was awarded the 2022 UC Law SF Latinx Law Students Association alumni of the year, as well as the UC Law SF Legal Education Opportunity Program (LEOP) Luminary Award.

Mario earned his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of California, Davis, earned his Juris Doctor from UC Law SF, and is a member of the California Bar. Outside of work, Mario is a 10-time marathon finisher.

## Marjorie Tanner

Assistant Director of Admissions and Diversity Initiatives

The University of Tulsa College of Law



Marjorie Tanner is the Assistant Director of Admissions and Diversity Initiatives at The University of Tulsa College of Law. She is an experienced enrollment management professional with over 3 years of experience in the higher education admissions field. Strong program and project management professional with a Masters in International Studies focused in China studies and international law from The Hopkins-Nanjing Center, The Johns Hopkins University - Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS).

## Mary Ann Ferguson, Esq.

Assistant Dean for Diversity and Equity Services

Michigan State University College of Law



Mary Ann Ferguson, Esq. is the founder and inaugural leader of Michigan State University (MSU) College of Law's (Law) Diversity and Equity Services Office. Daily, she moves to boldly create and sustain an environment that elevates multicultural identities, empowers trauma-informed equity, celebrates diversity, actualizes inclusion, and accelerates access for students, faculty, staff and the community. She is MSU Law's key liaison to the broader MSU campus, academy and legal profession on actualizing diversity, equity, inclusion and access which includes leadership roles that are appointments by institutional presidents. Mary Ann has over 30-years of leadership experience, public speaking and community service. Her service includes the titles of inaugural member, founder or first Black/African American Woman. When MSU Law bestowed upon her an assistant dean title, she became the first MSU Law Black Woman Staff member to receive it.

## Mary Szto

Chair, Inclusion Council

Syracuse University College of Law



Before entering teaching, Professor Szto practiced law in New York City, representing banks in financing matters. She also co-founded a legal aid organization specializing in immigration law. Among other schools, she has previously taught at Mitchell Hamline School of Law, and Valparaiso University School of Law.

Szto has written extensively on issues such as the role of real estate agents and housing discrimination, and she has published a bilingual law text on American property law in China. Her articles—on Chinese-American property ownership, anti-corruption law, real estate, and Chinese law and ritual—have appeared in the Journal of Transnational Law & Policy, Fordham International Law Journal, Minnesota Journal of International Law, and elsewhere.

She is serving as the Chair of the Inclusion Council for the Spring 2023 semester.



## Melissa Yamanaka

Diversity and Outreach Manager

McGeorge School of Law, University of the Pacific



Melissa Yamanaka is the Diversity and Outreach Manager at University of the Pacific, Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry. Previously, she was working as Programs Associate for MTAC and Outreach & Program Specialist for Hawai'i Community College.

Melissa attended University of San Francisco for Master's degree, International and Multicultural Education.

## Melody Mitchell

Chief of Staff, Assistant Dean of Strategic Communications, Alumni Engagement and Diversity Initiatives

Northern Illinois University College of Law



Melody Mitchell was named chief of staff and assistant dean of Strategic Communications, Alumni Engagement, and Diversity Initiatives in January 2021. She had previously served as director of Alumni Events and Public Relations for the College of Law from 2004-2020 and assistant director from 2001-2004. She began her career at NIU in 1996 as an academic counselor for the M.B.A. Program in the College of Business.

As chief of staff and assistant dean, Melody works closely with the Dean and is responsible for internal and external marketing and communications strategies for the College of Law including its social media and website. She develops and leads the law school's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) initiatives including its new Race and Law Conversations Series; organizes DEI trainings; and assists with the development of DEI programming and recruitment strategies for Admissions. In addition, she supervises and markets CLE workshops; helps to establish cross-functional initiatives with colleges across campus and external partners.

## Meredith Duncan

Assistant Dean of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Metropolitan Programs

University of Houston Law Center



Professor Meredith J. Duncan is the Alumnae College Professor of Law and the Assistant Dean of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Metropolitan Programs at the University of Houston Law Center. Her areas of expertise include legal ethics, criminal law, and torts. As Assistant Dean of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Metropolitan Programs, Duncan oversees the Law Center's award-winning Pre-Law Pipeline Program, a program designed to increase the diversity of the law school applicant pool. Her director responsibilities also involve working with the Juvenile and Children's Advocacy Project, a program whose mission is to reduce juvenile crime and delinquency and improve the long-term educational success rates and life outcomes for socially and economically disadvantaged juveniles.

Professor Duncan teaches Torts, Criminal Law, Professional Responsibility, and other related courses at the Law Center. She has been honored with several teaching awards, including the University of Houston's highest teaching honor, UH's Distinguished Leadership in Teaching Excellence Award. She is one of only 26 law professors studied nationwide in the recent Harvard University Press book.

## Meshea L. Poore, Esq.

Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

West Virginia University College of Law



Meshea L. Poore, Esq. serves as vice president and chief diversity officer for the West Virginia University Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

An attorney who served in the WV House of Delegates from 2009-2014, she is an accomplished and sought-after motivational speaker, public and political leadership consultant and strategist. The Women's Campaign Fund named her a "Game Changer" during her campaign for the U.S. House of Representatives for WV's 2nd Congressional District. She has mentored and consulted with hundreds of elected officials throughout the nation as they seek higher office. Poore is also an experienced educator who served as an adjunct professor at WV State University, as a faculty member in residence at the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University and has teaching privileges at WVU College of Law. In 2017, Poore became the first African-American woman named president of the West Virginia State Bar since its 1947 founding. Prior to operating her own practice, she was an attorney in the Office of the Kanawha County Public Defender in Charleston, WV. She is an alumna of the prestigious German Marshall Memorial Fellowship, a member of the executive committee.

## Michael Scott Burns

Associate Dean of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Northwestern Pritzker School of Law



Throughout his career, Dean Burns has been committed to developing and implementing strategies to increase diversity in law schools and to providing an inclusive environment for all law students. Prior to joining the leadership at Northwestern Pritzker Law School, he served on the senior administration at DePaul University College of Law for more than 15 years. From 2003 to 2018 he served in various administrative positions, including assistant dean for enrollment management, director of law admissions and associate dean for student affairs. He also worked as assistant dean for admissions at Chicago-Kent College of Law from 1996 to 2003. While at Chicago-Kent, he also was appointed to the positions of director of academic support, director of the PreLaw Undergraduate Scholars Program, adjunct professor, and associate general counsel for Illinois Tech.

## MICHAEL STATES

Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

University of Wisconsin Law School



Michael J. States joined the law school in December 2021 as the Inaugural Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Prior to coming to UW Law, he was the Assistant Dean for Admissions, Financial Aid, and Diversity Initiatives at The Ohio State University, Moritz College of Law. He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of Kansas and his law degree from Saint Louis University School of Law, where he was president of the Black Law Students Association and a member of the Council of Presidents. Dean States began his law school administration career as the Associate Director of Admissions at the UIC John Marshall Law School. He has been the Director of Admissions at the Mitchell Hamline School of Law, and the Assistant Dean for Enrollment Management at the Illinois Institute of Technology, Stuart Graduate School of Business. From 2004 to 2015, he was the Assistant Dean for Admissions and Financial Aid at the University of North Carolina School of Law.

## Michelle Kwon

INTERIM ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR DIVERSITY, INCLUSION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PROFESSOR OF LAW

University of Tennessee College of Law



Professor Michelle Kwon joined the UT faculty in 2011 after three years at Texas Tech University School of Law. Before entering academia, she was an associate, and eventually a partner, in the Dallas, Texas office of Thompson & Knight LLP, where she concentrated her practice in corporate tax planning.

She was also a senior attorney in the IRS's Office of Chief Counsel for two years where she represented the IRS in U.S. Tax Court with specific emphasis on cases involving foreign currency option tax shelters and cases of individuals and small businesses. Professor Kwon is admitted to practice in Texas and before the U.S. Tax Court.

Kwon speaks and writes about the ability of the IRS to effectively administer the tax system and enforce the tax laws as well as tax ethics issues. Her scholarship has been published in the Virginia Tax Review, Tax Analysts' Tax Notes, the Cardozo Public Law, Policy & Ethics Journal, and the Tax Lawyer.

## Nydia Dueñez

Associate Dean, Dean of Students and Diversity Affairs / Adjunct Professor of Law

Southwestern Law School



Nydia Dueñez '10 is the Associate Dean, Dean of Students and Diversity Affairs / Adjunct Professor of Law. She has Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Communication; Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Political Science, 2007, University of Southern California, Los Angeles; J.D., 2010, Southwestern Law School

## Patricia K. Kinney

Assistant Dean of Diversity and Inclusion

Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law



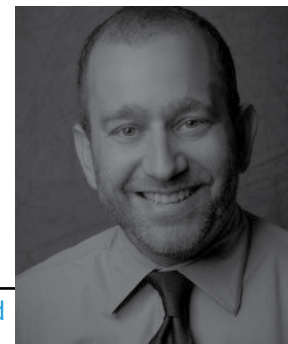
Patricia Kinney joined the law school administration in 2004 as the Director for Admissions and became Assistant Dean in 2010. She was appointed the inaugural Assistant Dean of Diversity & Inclusion in 2018. She earned her J.D. from Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law. While a student at the law school, she actively participated in many student organizations, including co-founding the Asian Law Student Association (ALSA). She also served as a student representative for the law school at various national Law School Forums, student panels and open houses. Patricia is admitted to practice law in Indiana and the U.S. District Courts for the Northern and Southern Districts of Indiana. Prior to joining the law school, she assisted clients with matters in trust and estates, sports licensing, and entertainment.

Beyond her responsibilities as assistant dean, Patricia is active in her personal and professional life. She serves as a Parent Liaison at Brebeuf Jesuit Preparatory School, Community Advisory Board and DEI Committee for the Benjamin Harrison YMCA, and a Board Member of Arts for Lawrence. For many years, she was a caregiver for her elderly mother and has been interviewed on topics relating to balancing life as a full-time working professional, single mother, and caregiver.

## Peter L. Markowitz

Associate Dean of Equity in Curriculum and Teaching

Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Yeshiva University



Peter L. Markowitz is the Associate Dean of Equity in Curriculum and Teaching, Professor of Law at Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law and is the founding faculty member and co-director of the Kathryn O. Greenberg Immigration Justice Clinic. The clinic focuses on the intersection of immigration and criminal law and on immigration enforcement issues. It provides deportation defense representation to individuals and represents community-based and national advocacy organizations on impact projects. The clinic and Professor Markowitz have played a central role in many critical innovations in the field of immigration law, for example: creating the nation's first public defender system for detained immigrants (the New York Immigrant Family Unity Project); developing the concept of detainer discretion (sanctuary laws); developing the first national immigration fellowship program (the Immigrant Justice Corps); and initiating the nation's first full-service in-house immigration unit located in a public defender's office (at The Bronx Defenders). Under Professor Markowitz's leadership, the clinic has been honored with numerous awards, including the Daniel Levy Award for outstanding and innovative advocacy and recognized by the New York City Council for groundbreaking work on behalf of immigrant communities.

## Ra'Shya Ghee

ASSISTANT DEAN OF DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

University of Minnesota Law School



Attorney Ra'Shya Ghee practiced criminal defense and family law in Ohio at the municipal, state, and appellate levels for several years. She has tried both misdemeanor and felony cases to verdict in jury and bench trials and successfully briefed and argued appellate cases. In addition to private practice, she has worked as an adjunct law professor since 2017. Her work considers the tangible ways in which the law legitimizes identity as a social reality and as a hierarchal system.

Since leaving practice, Ghee also facilitates cross-racial coaching, provides commentary on racial tensions to news and journalism outlets, and helps organizations center racial equity and operationalize anti-racist frameworks. She's also authored expert witness reports regarding how cultural competency and racial literacy are integral to the "best interest analysis" in custody proceedings.

She was a 2018 and 2020 TEDxToledo speaker and has lectured all over the country about America's racial trajectory. Attorney Ghee attended college and graduate school at University of Toledo, earning her B.A. in Political Science and an M.B.A.

## REBECCA E. ZIETLOW

Assistant Dean for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

The University of Toledo College of Law



Rebecca Zietlow is associate dean for academic affairs, Distinguished University Professor, and the Charles W. Fornoff Professor of Law and Values at The University of Toledo College of Law, where she teaches constitutional law, federal courts, and constitutional litigation.

In 2020, Zietlow was elected a fellow of the American Bar Foundation. She received the University's Creative and Scholarly Activity Award in 2018 and the UToledo Outstanding Faculty Research and Scholarship Award in 2012. She formerly served as chair of the Association of American Law Schools Section on Constitutional Law and its Section on Women and Legal Education.

Professor Zietlow's scholarly interest is in the study of the Reconstruction Era, including the meaning and history of the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Amendments. Professor Zietlow is also an expert on constitutional theory, examining constitutional interpretation outside of the courts. Her most recent book, *The Forgotten Emancipator: James Mitchell Ashley and the Ideological Origins of Reconstruction* was published.

## Rhasheda Douglas

Assistant Dean of the Minority Student Program

Rutgers Law School



Rhasheda S. Douglas is Assistant Dean of the Minority Student Program (MSP), which is part of the Law School's ongoing commitment to promote diversity, equity and inclusion within the Law School and in the legal community. Rhasheda S. Douglas joined Rutgers Law School as the Assistant Dean of the Minority Student Program on the Camden campus in July 2016. Immediately prior to joining the Rutgers Law School, Douglas served as the Title IX Manager at Rowan University, where Douglas provided key guidance in ensuring the University's compliance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (VAWA).

She earned her J.D. from Rutgers Camden School of Law in 2002 and a B.A. in English from Boston University in 1997.

## Robin Kelley

Chief Diversity Officer

Gonzaga University School of Law



Dr. Robin Kelley is currently the Chief Diversity Officer for Gonzaga University and leads the Office of Inclusive Excellence. She is a transformational equity, diversity, and inclusion leader. For over 22 years, she has served as a senior higher education administrator in the roles of Associate Vice Provost of Equity and Equal Opportunity at North Carolina State University, Director of the Office of Equal Opportunity at Iowa State University, and Assistant Director of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion as well as Assistant Director of Employee Relations at the State University of New York at Buffalo. Dr. Kelley's experience outside of higher education includes independent consulting for Kelley Consulting Firm, of which she is the founder.

She holds a Ph.D. degree from Iowa State University in higher education administration with an educational leadership emphasis. She earned a Masters' degree, Ed.M. in Higher Education Administration from the State University of New York at Buffalo, and a B.S. in Economics and Finance from the State University of New York College at Buffalo. She is a graduate of the American Council on Education, ACE, Women Leadership Forum. Dr. Kelley holds a Diversity Management Certificate from Cornell University ILR School.

## Rick Petry

Director of the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Mitchell Hamline School of Law



Rick Petry currently serves as assistant director of career and professional development. Rick leads Mitchell Hamline's initiative to have as many students as possible complete a Legal Residency—a semester working full time at a firm, business, courthouse, or other legal setting prior to graduation. In addition to be an assistant director of career and professional development, Rick also serves as an adjunct professor teaching torts and advance litigation skills. Rick is also an author and expert in human performance excellence, leadership development, and helping organizations develop high performing cultures.

Rick joined Mitchell Hamline after representing individuals and companies for nearly 20 years in criminal defense, personal injury, commercial litigation, and real estate matters as a trial attorney.

## Robin A. Lenhardt

Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Georgetown University Law Center



Robin A. Lenhardt is the Associate Dean of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion and a Professor of Law at the Georgetown University Law Center. She is a Co-Founder and Co-Director of the Georgetown University Racial Justice Institute. She joined the Georgetown faculty after many years at Fordham University School of Law, where she was the Founder and Faculty Director of the Center on Race, Law & Justice. Professor Lenhardt entered academia after completing the Future Law Professor fellowship at Georgetown Law. Professor Lenhardt teaches constitutional law, family law, and advanced seminars on issues of race, equality, and structural racial inequality (among other subjects). She has also visited at the University of Chicago Law School and Columbia Law School.

Professor Lenhardt is a graduate of Brown University, where she served as both a trustee and a fellow on the Brown University Corporation. She also holds a J.D. cum laude from Harvard Law School; an LLM from the Georgetown University Law Center; and an M.P.A. from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

## Sandra Cox-McCarty

Associate Dean for Administration and Diversity Initiatives

The University of Mississippi School of Law



Sandra Cox-McCarty has been working as a Administration & Diversity Initiatives Associate Dean at The University of Mississippi School of Law for 30 years. The University of Mississippi School of Law is part of the Law Firms & Legal Services industry, and located in Mississippi, United States.

## Shavonne Henderson

ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION & BELONGING & LECTURER

The University of Texas School of Law



Shavonne Henderson is the Associate Dean - Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Belonging at The University of Texas School of Law. Previously, she worked as Assistant Director of Policy Research - Institute for Urban Policy Research & Analysis at The University of Texas at Austin.

She attended The University of Texas School of Law for J.D Law. She received her bachelor degree from The University of Texas at Austin.

## Shelby A. Dickerson Moore

Vice President, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

South Texas College of Law Houston



Professor Shelby A. D. Moore is a Tenured Professor of Law at South Texas College of Law Houston in Houston, Texas. She was the Godwin Pappas, Langley Ronquillo Research Professor from 2003 – 2008. During her 16 years as an academic, she has taught Criminal Law, Property I and Property II, Torts I and Torts II, Criminal Corrections, the Politics of Race in America and Wills, Trusts and Estates (Spring 2009). She is presently the Chair of the Academic Assistance Advisory Committee which focuses on creating new and innovative ways to assist students academically, professionally and personally. She has received a number of awards for her teaching as well as for her willingness to mentor students. Professor Moore has published widely, primarily in the areas of criminal law and social policy. She is an expert in domestic violence issues. Due to this expertise, she has been consulted on a number of cases and has appeared in the national media on television shows such as 48 Hours Mysteries. She has also served as an expert on a number of high profile cases such as State v. Yates and State v. Wright. Prior to entering academia, she practiced as a litigator in Maryland, focusing on civil litigation. She also served in an attorney for a firm whose primary focus was civil rights. Immediately prior to teaching at South Texas College of Law.

## SHOBA SIVAPRASAD WADHIA

Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

The Pennsylvania State University, Penn State Law



Shoba Sivaprasad Wadhia is the Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; the Samuel Weiss Faculty Scholar; and Clinical Professor of Law at Penn State Law in University Park, where she is taking a leave of absence. Her research focuses on the role of prosecutorial discretion in immigration law and the intersections of race, national security, and immigration. Her work has been published in numerous law journals and federal courts. Previously, Professor Wadhia was deputy director for legal affairs at the National Immigration Forum and an associate with the immigration law firm, Maggio Kattar of P.C., both in Washington, D.C. Wadhia has received numerous awards, including the 2019 Elmer Friend Excellence in Teaching Award by the American Immigration Lawyers Association, and a Fastcase 50 Awardee, which honors 50 of "the law's smartest, most courageous innovators, techies, visionaries, & leaders." She was elected to the American Law Institute in December 2021.

## Shruti Rana

Senior Assistant Dean for Curricular and Undergraduate Affairs; Diversity Officer

Indiana University Maurer School of Law—Bloomington



Professor Rana joined the Hamilton Lugar School faculty in 2017, focusing on international law and practice and human rights law. She is also the director of the International Law and Institutions degree program, a joint endeavor by HLS and IU's Maurer School of Law. Rana is legal scholar who has published widely in top international law and general law journals, and has been a PI on several major grants including most recently a Discovery Project grant from the Australian Ministry of Education.

Rana is a frequent speaker and author on international and comparative law topics, including international women's rights, corporate social responsibility, business technology policies and regulation, and immigration and refugee law. She recently testified before the Indiana legislature on women's rights and reproductive health legislation and has filed a number of Supreme Court and federal court amicus and merits briefs on immigration and refugee law issues. Rana is also an active member of the Bloomington community, having served on a number of community organizations and boards. This includes a mayoral appointment to the City of Bloomington Commission on the Status of Women.

## Tamara Futrell

Dean for Diversity, Inclusion and Student Engagement

Washington and Lee University School of Law



Reporting to the Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students, the Dean for Diversity, Inclusion and Student Engagement is responsible for providing leadership and vision for student diversity and inclusion programming, services and initiatives within the division of Students Affairs. Such offices and programs include the Office of Inclusion and Engagement, The Office of Jewish Life, religious and spiritual development, first generation programs and campus diversity trainings. She collaborates with the LGBTQ Coordinator to provide support for students within the community and allies.

Serving as an ex-officio member of the University Committee on Inclusiveness and Campus Climate, she works closely with the Executive Director of Human Resources and the Associate Provost and contributes to the University's strategic diversity goals and objectives for faculty and staff.

## Talia Gee

Chief Diversity Officer

Western New England University School of Law



Talia Gee was the Chief Diversity Officer at Western New England University School of Law, where she taught "Employment Discrimination" and "Diversity and Inclusion in the Legal Profession" to law students.

Talia attended Western New England University School of Law for J.D Law.

## Thaddeus Hoffmeister

Assistant Dean of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; Professor of Law

University of Dayton School of Law



Professor Thaddeus Hoffmeister is Assistant Dean of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and teaches courses related to criminal law, technology, and the jury. He also directs the UDSL Criminal Law Clinic where his students represent indigent clients charged with criminal offenses. Hoffmeister previously served as the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

Hoffmeister has published a number of books, law review articles, and essays exploring juries, the criminal justice system, and the Internet. His most recent book is entitled the Internet of Things and the Law.

In addition to his academic publications, Hoffmeister edits two blogs. His first blog, Juries, which has been continuously published since 2008, focuses on the various issues that arise with jurors and the jury process. His second blog, Social Media Law, examines social media's impact on the legal system. Prior to joining UDSL, Hoffmeister worked on Capitol Hill, served in the military on Active Duty, and clerked for the Honorable Anne E. Thompson, U.S. District Judge for the District of New Jersey.

## Tiffany C. Graham

Associate Dean of Diversity & Inclusion

Touro College–Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center



**T**iffany C. Graham joined the faculty at Touro Law Center in Long Island, New York in May 2020 after serving for six years on the faculty and as the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at the University of South Dakota School of Law. Professor Graham primarily teaches in the areas of constitutional law and race and the law, but has also taught criminal procedure, law and sexuality, and torts.

In addition to her scholarly work, Professor Graham is active in the professional community, where she recently served as the Chair of the South Dakota State Advisory Committee to the United States Commission on Civil Rights, and has now been appointed to the corresponding New York State Advisory Committee. She has also served on various boards of directors and fulfilled an appointment to the Magistrate Judge Selection Panel for the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. A graduate of Harvard and Radcliffe Colleges and the University of Virginia School of Law, she previously clerked for the Honorable Richard W. Roberts on the United States District Court for the District of Columbia and did commercial litigation in the Los Angeles office of Quinn Emanuel Urquhart Oliver and Hedges, LLP. Professor Graham was named a U.S. Fulbright Scholar in 2014.

## Tirien Steinbach

Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Stanford University Law School



**T**irien Steinbach served for seventeen years as a lawyer, clinical supervisor, program director, and then executive director of the East Bay Community Law Center (EBCLC), the community-based clinical program for Berkeley Law School and largest provider of free legal services and policy advocacy in Alameda County. As a lawyer at EBCLC, Tirien founded the Clean Slate Clinic, the nation's first reentry clinic. During her 11-year tenure as executive director, Tirien oversaw the creation or expansion of EBCLC's programs, including community economic justice, consumer justice, education advocacy, immigration, and youth defender clinics.

Tirien received her bachelor's degree from UC Santa Cruz and her law degree from Berkeley Law School (1999), where she served as president of the Berkeley Law Foundation and vice president of the Law Students of African Descent.

## Tracie N. Ransom

Assistant Dean for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

Tulane University Law School



**T**racie N. Ransom serves as the Assistant Dean for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion for Tulane Law School. She leverages nearly two decades of experience in the practice of law and the advancement of equity, diversity and inclusion within the legal profession, higher education and society more broadly to assist the law school in building a more diverse, equitable and inclusive community.

Dean Ransom has long been a champion of the value of EDI within higher education and our society. As a law student, she chaired BLSA's Brown v. Board of Education 50th Anniversary Committee and assisted administrators at the University of Illinois College of Law with programming in celebration of the same.

An honors graduate of the University of Alabama and the University of Illinois College of Law, Dean Ransom clerked for the Honorable Jeffrey S. Sutton of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit and the Honorable James L. Graham of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio.

## Vada Lindsey

Associate Dean for Enrollment and Inclusion

Marquette University Law School



**V**ada Waters Lindsey is a Professor of Law and the Associate Dean for Enrollment and Inclusion at Marquette University Law School. Dean Lindsey joined the Marquette law faculty in 1996. She teaches courses in taxation, estate planning, and real estate. Before joining the faculty, she served as an attorney advisor to the late Honorable Joel Gerber of the U.S. Tax Court, worked as a trial attorney with the Office of the Chief Counsel of the Internal Revenue Service, and served as the in-house tax attorney for a Fortune 500 corporation. She has served as the associate dean for enrollment since 2014 where she oversees the Law School's Office of Admissions. Her administrative portfolio was expanded in 2020 to oversee the Law School's diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts.

## Valerie Harper

Director of Inclusive Excellence

Duquesne University School of Law



In September 2022, Dr. Valerie Harper was named the Director of Inclusive Excellence for the Thomas R. Kline School of Law of Duquesne University. Dr. Harper was most recently the Registrar of the Duquesne Kline School of Law, where she managed the administrative, personnel, financial, and student records of that office. In that role, she also was a trusted mentor to students of color.

In her new position as the Director of Inclusive Excellence, Dr. Harper draws from her experiences of more than 20 years advising students at Duquesne University and from her own knowledge in striving to create a community of inclusion.

Prior to her Registrar position, Dr. Harper served Duquesne as an Assistant to the Resident Director of Resident Life, Academic Counselor, Career Counselor, and Adjunct Professor for the Spiritan Division. She also served as a summer adjunct at Carnegie Mellon University. She brings the caring, giving, and insight from these positions to law students as she undertakes her new role.

## Vernadette Horne

Assistant Dean for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

St. John's University School of Law



Vernadette Horne, Senior Director of Career Services and Diversity Initiatives, joined OCS in May 2005 after serving as Associate Director of Career Services at Brooklyn Law School for four years. In addition to her career counseling duties, Ms. Horne coordinates the many diversity internships and fellowships received by Hofstra Law, distributing them to students. She serves as the liaison with student affinity groups and professional affinity groups to increase networking and career opportunities for students. Ms. Horne also assists the Hofstra Law student affinity groups with programming and event planning. A long standing member of the New York City Bar Association, Ms. Horne is serving a 3 year term as Committee Secretary for the Committee on Recruitment and Retention of Lawyers, the Committee responsible for administering the New York City Bar Diversity Fellowship Program. She also serves as the Hofstra Law City Bar Fellowship Student Selection Committee leader. Prior to her tenure at Brooklyn Law, Ms. Horne was a litigation attorney, first with Haythe & Curley and then Coblench & Warner, where she specialized in asbestos litigation. She received her J.D. from the University of Maryland School of Law. Ms. Horne also spent three years away from law practice.

## Van Ann Bui

Consultant

Yale Law School



Van Ann (she/her) is a consultant to the Office of Admissions at Yale Law School where she was engaged to advise the Law School in the design & implementation of the Launchpad Scholars Program, a pipeline program to help students maximize their potential as law school applicants. Additionally, she also works with the Office of Career Development, advising students who are interested in private sector careers and employment opportunities for students from diverse backgrounds. With over a decade of experience in the legal profession, Van Ann has counseled and advised 700+ students and new attorneys embarking in their careers.

Previously, Van Ann served as the Director of the SEO (Sponsors for Educational Opportunity) Law Program, where she matched incoming law students from under-invested communities with internships at corporate law firms nationwide, counseled students and alumni on career advancement, and advised law firms on best practices for recruiting students from the least represented groups in the legal profession, including those from underrepresented racial/ethnic groups and first-generation, low-income backgrounds.

## Wendy Tolson Ross

Director, Diversity

Texas Tech University School of Law



Wendy Tolson Ross is a Professor of Law at Texas Tech University. She received her B.A. degree from Texas Tech University in 1988 and her J.D. from University of Missouri-Columbia, in 1991. Professor Ross teaches Civil Practice Clinic, Negotiations Workshop, and Race and Racism. She also assists with the bar preparation in the Academic Support Program. Before joining the faculty at Texas Tech University, Professor Ross was an Instructor of Clinical Law at St. Mary's University for six years, and Acting Associate Director for Academic Excellence for two years. Prior to entering legal education, she worked at West Texas Legal Services for almost eight years.



## William Covington

Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

University of Washington School of Law



**W**illiam Covington is the Dean for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and a Teaching Professor. He also directs the Technology, Law and Public Policy Clinic (Tech-Law Clinic) at the University of Washington School of Law. A graduate of New York University (1972) and the University of Michigan School of Law (1977), Covington has spent over twenty-five years working in technology-driven fields. He has served as regulatory counsel for Group W Cable and later in a similar capacity with McCaw Cellular Communications. Covington leads lobbying efforts, wrote or assisted in the writing of over twenty land use laws, served on numerous commissions and frequently appeared before federal, state and local regulatory bodies where he worked to create regulatory structures which balance public sector-private sector interests.

The Tech-Law Clinic provides students the opportunity for in-depth study of an area where technology and public policy converge. In the last five years Tech-Law clinicians have: drafted an Executive Order establishing Washington State's Office of Privacy and Data Security; composed several bills regulating the testing of connected and autonomous vehicles; assisted the City of Bellevue.

## Xavier R. Brown

Assistant Dean for Admissions, Diversity and Inclusion & Strategic Initiatives

University of Georgia School of Law



**X**avier R. Brown serves as the assistant dean for admissions, diversity and inclusion & strategic initiatives at the University of Georgia School of Law. In this role, he oversees the law school's admissions process for the Juris Doctor and Master in the Study of Law programs. His diversity and inclusion portfolio involves work with faculty, staff, students and alumni/alumnae relating to academic support, recruitment and community outreach. Additionally, he advises the Davenport-Benham Black Law Students Association, the Asian Law Students Association, the Hispanic Law Students Association and the Outlaws student organization.

Previously he was involved in all aspects of the J.D. admissions process including application review, rendering admissions decisions and scholarship awarding. He was the chief architect of institutional recruitment strategies and played a valuable part in managing progress toward annual enrollment objectives. He also assisted with the development of marketing strategies and materials and played an active role in diversity and inclusion programming as well as directed the school's Summer Academic Success program, a pre-matriculation program for incoming students.

## Yvonnda Summers

Associate Dean of Student Affairs, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

Creighton University School of Law



**Y**vonnda Summers, JD is Creighton University School of Law's Associate Dean of Student Affairs, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion. She is an Omaha native of Nebraska and was a practicing attorney for 8 years in criminal defense before she joined the school in June of 2022.

She attended Creighton University for her undergraduate, where, she joined the historically Black service sorority of Delta Sigma Theta Inc. and became the President of the African-American Student Association (CUASA) until she graduated in 2011. She continued to Creighton School of Law where she won top awards in Juvenile Offender Law, travelled nationally with the Law School's Mock Trial Team, represented her class as the commencement speaker for graduation and was awarded for her outstanding service to the community in 2014. Always wanting to serve her hometown, she moved back to Omaha in 2020 where she joined the Douglas County Public Defender's Office. She continued to use her skills from her life experiences to serve the low-income, under-represented juveniles, parents in cases of custodial removal and adult felony cases.

# Lawyers

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