EJIM ACHI
Greenberg Traurig LLP

Ejim Achi represents private equity sponsors, strategic buyers and sellers, and venture capital investors in connection with buyouts, mergers, acquisitions, divestitures, joint ventures, restructurings and other investments spanning a wide range of industries and sectors, with particular emphasis on technology, consumer packaged goods, hospitality and infrastructure.

Ejim also has significant experience representing institutional buyers and sellers in connection with secondary market transactions involving privately-held interests in investment funds and emerging companies.

MARISSA ALTER-NELSON
Sidley Austin LLP

Marissa Alter-Nelson is a partner in the litigation group of Sidley’s New York office. Marissa has represented clients in litigation matters in state and federal courts throughout the United States and in international and domestic arbitrations. Her complex commercial litigation and arbitration practice is focused on commercial disputes (breach of contract, fraud, breach of fiduciary duty and other business torts), securities disputes (derivatives and securities trading) and bankruptcy disputes. Marissa also maintains an active pro bono practice, including representation of individuals in family law matters and most recently, representation of a client in post-conviction proceedings challenging a capital murder conviction in Alabama. In connection with her advocacy on behalf of a mother of four children from Chad, Marissa was one of the recipients of the 2011 Commitment to Justice Award for Outstanding Legal Team, presented by inMotion, a leading non-profit legal services provider that helps low-income women in New York.
Gabrielle Lyse Brown is the Director of Diversity and Inclusion for the New York City Bar, where she leads the Association’s efforts to enhance diversity in the legal profession across a broad range of internal and external constituents, including law firms, corporate legal departments, nonprofit organizations and educators to foster diverse and inclusive work environments. Previously, she founded the City Bar’s Pipeline Initiative, which provides comprehensive programming for inner-city students to address academic support and enrichment, professional and substantive skill development, networking/mentoring opportunities and exposure to the legal profession.

Gabrielle is a member of the Executive Board of Directors of Practicing Attorneys for Law Students, Inc. (PALS), the Institute for Inclusion in the Legal Profession (IILP) Advisory Board, The Association for Legal Career Professionals (NALP), the Oberlin College Alumni Council, and is a 2014 Council of Urban Professionals (CUP) Fellow and member of the Alumni Board. She speaks regularly and trains organizations on developing diversity and inclusion initiatives, implicit bias, professional readiness, mentoring, and networking.

B. Seth Bryant is the Managing Partner of Bryant Rabbino LLP. Seth represents a wide range of clients, including Fortune 100 Companies, financial institutions, governmental entities and public benefit corporations, investment funds and early stage companies in a range of transactional matters. Seth has extensive experience in offerings of equity and debt securities, including institutional private placements and municipal offerings, venture capital and other investments in preferred stock, convertible notes and warrants of early stage companies among other offerings. In addition, Seth has extensive experience representing parties in mergers & acquisitions transactions, joint ventures, licenses and other strategic transactions.

Seth is an expert in matters related to Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise or “MWBE” programs, including assisting clients with certification, transactions such as Majority – MWBE mergers and acquisitions, joint venture structuring and MWBE compliance. In 2010, Seth represented a coalition that worked closely with the New York State legislature and New York State’s pension plans in enacting
“The New York State Emerging Investment Manager and MWBE Financial Institution Strategy” (S6888, A9976), a law to encourage more diversity in investment advisors, financial institutions and other professional firms that provide services to New York State pensions, insurance and other funds.

Seth is a member of the New York City Bar Association (Enhance Diversity Committee), the Metropolitan Black Bar Association and the National Bar Association. Seth is a member of the Board of Trustees of Neighborhood Defender Services of Harlem, Inc. and is a founding member and member of the Board of Directors of The Council of Urban Professionals. From September of 2003 until August 2008, he was a member of the Board of Directors (and former Chairman) of The Brotherhood-Sister Sol, Inc., a Harlem, NY based youth development organization.

Seth earned a J.D. in 1995 from New York University School of Law where he was a Root-Tilden Snow Scholar. He earned B.A. degrees in 1992 from New York University College of Arts and Sciences where he double majored in Philosophy and in Political Science.

STEVE CHUNG
NBCUniversal

Steve Chung is a Senior Vice President in NBCUniversal’s Newsgroup where he serves as the lead content lawyer for the Owned Stations Division, NBC Sports, NBC Entertainment and the TODAY Show. He provides counsel to and collaborates with senior management on all matters relating to content. Prior to joining NBCUniversal, Steve was a litigator at Davis Wright Tremaine and Debevoise and Plimpton and also served as a federal law clerk in the Northern District of California for Judge William Schwarzer. He is a graduate of Harvard Law School.

PAUL COLINET
Worthington Armstrong Venture (WAVE)

Paul E. Colinet is Counsel, Compliance & Human Resources for Worthington Armstrong Venture (WAVE). A joint venture between Worthington Industries and Armstrong World Industries, WAVE manufactures and markets suspension systems for commercial and residential ceiling markets throughout the world. WAVE is headquartered in Malvern, Pennsylvania and has manufacturing plants in the United States, France, United
Kingdom, China and India. In his role as corporate counsel and a member of WAVE’s Global Leadership Team, Paul provides a broad range of domestic and global legal and strategic support to the business and counsel executives on matters relating to mergers and acquisitions, human resources, intellectual property, compliance, ethics, litigation, corporate governance and other commercial transactions. Paul also manages WAVE’s compliance program and coordinates the company’s major HR initiatives globally.

Paul previously served as an Agency Attorney in the Equal Employment Opportunity Office of the New York City Fire Department. Prior to joining the FDNY, Paul was a Senior Associate with a New York litigation boutique where his practice focused on commercial litigation and employment law. He began his legal career as a Labor & Employment Associate in the New York City and Newark offices of Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC. While a law firm associate, Paul was selected as a Super Lawyers New York Metro Rising Star for several consecutive years. Paul is admitted in New York, New Jersey, the District of Columbia and also holds a Pennsylvania in-house counsel license.

Paul received his bachelor’s degree in Business Management from Stony Brook University (SUNY), and received his law degree from the University at Buffalo Law School (SUNY). Paul is a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated. He was born in Haiti and is fluent in Creole and French.

S. JEANINE CONLEY
Littler Mendelson P.C.

S. Jeanine Conley, an experienced trial lawyer, represents many of the nation’s leading companies in employment-related disputes and workplace investigations and is a shareholder at Littler Mendelson. She has also represented clients before a variety of government agencies, both at the state and federal levels. Conley regularly advises and counsels clients in all industries, particularly the manufacturing, retail, financial services and media and entertainment industries on a wide-range of employment issues, including Title VII anti-discrimination, harassment and retaliation matters, the Family Medical Leave Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act and various whistleblower laws, including Dodd-Frank and Sarbanes Oxley. Through her experience as a trial lawyer, Conley is able to efficiently and effectively strategize with her clients to resolve employment disputes through the best possible means for the client by obtaining favorable settlements, dismissal of actions through summary judgment or full defense verdicts at trial.
Angelina Darrisaw is an international business and career coach, a digital media strategist and brand ambassador.

She is the founder and CEO of C-Suite Coach, a groundbreaking career coaching platform that provides accessible professional development resources to diverse, millennial professionals. She collaborates with employers to create business solutions that empower and educate teams and facilitates transformative career workshops and experiences for working professionals and students. A 1st prize winner of Uber’s NYC Pitch Competition, C-Suite Coach has a growing global client footprint with entrepreneurs and working professionals across the United States, Israel, Australia, Canada, and more.

C-Suite Coach has been featured in numerous media outlets, including Business Insider, Fast Company and Essence, and career sites such as Levo.com and Monster.com. Angelina has presented at events including: the 2016 Democratic National Convention Diversity Breakfast, WICT’s National Conference, the Black Female Founder’s Demo at Google and The Root’s Women Making History panel among others.

As a digital media strategist, Angelina has worked for major media companies such as Bloomberg, HBO and ESPN. Prior to founding C-Suite Coach, she was the Senior Manager of Digital Business Development at Viacom where she developed strategic business opportunities and partnerships with social media platforms like Twitter, Snapchat, Tumblr and more. Angelina also launched and led many diversity and career workshops for Viacom’s employees.

As a My Black is Beautiful and Pantene brand ambassador, Angelina was featured in national ads in Oprah, Ebony and Essence magazines and profiles in Buzzfeed, Huffington Post and BET.com and has hosted self-esteem workshops to inspire women, girls and young people across the country.

Angelina holds an M.A. in Management from Wake Forest University and a Certificate of Coaching from New York University. She also has a B.A. in Political Science from Davidson College. Angelina proudly serves on the board of Youth Communication, as well as the steering committee for the Alvin Ailey’s Young Patrons Circle and the Wake Forest School of Business’ Development Council. She is a member of the Council of Urban Professionals and a 2014 CUP Fellow selected for exemplary leadership. She serves as a mentor for General Assembly’s inaugural mentoring program. She is also a two-time Top 20 finalist for Miss New York USA and a proud member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated.
CARLOS DÁVILA-CABALLERO
Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP

Carlos Dávila-Caballero is the Director of Diversity & Inclusion at Cleary Gottlieb.

Mr. Dávila-Caballero oversees the Firm's diversity and inclusion strategies and provides expertise to the relevant committees, administrative departments, lawyers and staff.

Mr. Dávila-Caballero joined the firm in 2011. He received a J.D. degree from Tulane University Law School in 1997 and an undergraduate degree, cum laude, from the University of Central Florida in 1993. Mr. Dávila-Caballero is president of the Association of Law Firm Diversity Professionals (ALFDP) and a member of the Bar in New York.

JOSEPH M. DRAYTON
Cooley LLP

Joseph Drayton is a partner at Cooley LLP and has experience in patent litigation, intellectual property and commercial litigation matters.

At the City Bar, Mr. Drayton has most recently served as a member of the Enhance Diversity in the Profession Committee. He actively participated with the Minority in the Courts Committee as Secretary, the Patents Committee, the In-house/Outside Counsel Litigation Group, and the Diversity Fellowship Program. Mr. Drayton is a past President and former board member of the Metropolitan Black Bar Association of New York City. He presently serves as Vice President and a member of the Board of Governors at the National Bar Association after serving three years as a Regional Director. He is on the ABA Standing Committee on the Federal Judiciary and a member of leadership team of the ABA Section of Litigation having served as a Division Director, chair of the IP Litigation and chair of the Minority Trial Lawyers. Additionally, he has prior service on, among others, the board of the New York County Lawyers Association and on the Board of Governors at the University of Maryland Alumni Association.
Paula T. Edgar Esq. is Founder and Principal of PGE LLC, a speaking, coaching and consulting firm. PGE LLC provides innovative and strategic solutions on career management, executive/leadership development, organizational diversity efforts, intercultural competence initiatives, networking and social media strategy. Paula speaks regularly on these topics by leading professional development trainings, facilitating workshops, and providing keynote speeches.

Paula pursued a career in the law after September 11, 2001 when she lost her mother, Joan Donna Griffith in the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center. Since then, for more than a decade, Paula has demonstrated leadership in the areas of professional development, social media strategy, diversity and inclusion, and diversity pipeline best practices.

Currently active with a number of organizations and social justice initiatives, Paula serves as the President of the Metropolitan Black Bar Association, the immediate past Chair of the New York City Bar Association’s Diversity Pipeline Initiatives Committee, and as a member of the Council of Urban Professionals (CUP) Alumni Board. Paula is also a Trustee of the Ellis L. Phillips Foundation and a member of the Executive Committees of the Deerfield Academy Alumni Association and the Network of Bar Leaders.

Paula’s professional experiences include serving as the inaugural Chief Diversity Officer at New York Law School, the Associate Director of Career Services at Seton Hall University School of Law, and as the Executive Director of Practicing Attorneys for Law Students Program, Inc. (PALS). Prior to leading PALS, Paula practiced in the Law Enforcement Division of the New York City Commission on Human Rights. Paula received her B.A. in Anthropology from the California State University (Fullerton) and her J.D. from the City University of New York School of Law. She has also been recognized by The Network Journal Magazine as a “40 Under Forty” Achievement Awardee, and as a Ms. JD “Woman of Inspiration.”

A native New Yorker, Paula was born in Brooklyn and currently resides there with her husband and two children.
CHRISTIAN ELLOIE-WEST
Deloitte LLP

Christian N. Elloie-West is Assistant General Counsel for Deloitte LLP, where she provides strategic legal advice and counseling to the organization on a wide range of employment law and litigation matters.

Christian is experienced in the counseling and defense of major professional services and financial institutions, including Fortune 500 companies involved in single and multi-plaintiff discrimination claims, wage and hour complaints, wrongful termination claims and breach of contract actions. Christian has practiced in federal and state courts and before FINRA and AAA arbitration panels as well as JAMS mediators and arbitrators. Her experience also includes, but is not limited to, hiring and advising on mergers and acquisitions, separation agreements, internal investigations, compensation, training, reductions-in-force, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and various state Department of Labor inquiries, and drafting of employer policies and codes of conduct. Christian is admitted to practice in New York State and before the United States District Courts of the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York, respectively. Christian has previously worked as seconded counsel to Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC, as an associate with Dewey, Pegno & Kramarsky, and as an associate with Sidley Austin LLP.

Christian is the author of the award-winning publication “Are Pre-Dispute Jury Trial Waivers A Bargain for Employers Over Arbitration? It Depends on the Employee,” 76 Def. Couns. J. 91 (2009), and her speaking engagements include continuing legal education presentations as well as panel participation before the Association of Black Women Attorneys, the National Conference of Law Reviews, Practicing Attorneys for Law Students, Inc., Thurgood Marshall College Fund and New York University School of Law.

Christian serves on the New York City Bar Association’s Committee to Enhance Diversity in the Profession Committee and is a past Vice President of the Board of Directors for the Association of Black Women Attorneys, Inc. (ABWA). She also serves on the Board of Directors for Practicing Attorneys for Law Students Program, Inc. (PALS) as well as on the National Alliance on Mental Illness of New York City’s (NAMI-NYCMetro) Young Professionals Advisory Board.

Christian received her B.A. from Tulane University, and her J.D. from Southern University Law Center where she served as Executive Editor of the Southern University Law Review and as a member of the Southern University Moot Court Board.
DEBORAH EPSTEIN-HENRY
Bliss Lawyers/Flex-Time Lawyers LLC

Deborah Epstein Henry is an internationally recognized expert, consultant and public speaker on women, the workplace and the legal profession. She is the author of LAW & REORDER, the #1 best-selling ABA Flagship book for 2011. Debbie’s second book, FINDING BLISS, which she co-authored, was among the best-selling ABA Flagship books for 2015. A former practicing litigator, Debbie is President of Flex-Time Lawyers LLC, a consulting firm she founded in the late 1990s, providing advisory, training and speaking services to companies, law firms and non-profits in the U.S., Canada and Europe. Her firm is well known for running for the past decade with Working Mother the Best Law Firms for Women initiative – a national survey to select the top 50 law firms for women and report on industry trends. Debbie’s expertise with respect to women and workplace issues spans a range of subjects including retention, promotion, networking and business development, sponsorship, women’s initiatives, workplace culture and structure, leadership, compensation, risk, self-promotion, flexibility, re-entry, transition and work/life balance. Debbie is also a Co-Founder and Managing Director of Bliss Lawyers, a firm that employs high caliber lawyers to work on an engagement basis for companies and law firms. Bliss Lawyers is a new legal model that operates administratively from a virtual platform, with lawyers employed from New York to California. Debbie has developed a network of over 10,000 lawyers and garnered visibility for her work from The New York Times, NBC Nightly News, The Wall Street Journal, National Public Radio, The Washington Post, and many others. She is the recipient of numerous awards including being named a Philadelphia Business Journal “Women of Distinction”. Debbie donates her time to a number of non-profits, including the Forum of Executive Women, the Task Force for Talent Innovation, the New York City Bar Committee to Enhance Diversity in the Profession and the American Bar Association Commission on Women in the Profession. She received her B.A. in Psychology from Yale and her J.D. cum laude from Brooklyn Law School. Debbie served as a federal law clerk to the Honorable Jacob Mishler in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York. A native New Yorker, she lives in the Philadelphia suburbs with her husband and three sons.

MUHAMMAD FARIDI
Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP

Muhammad Faridi is a Partner in the firm’s litigation department. His practice focuses on complex commercial litigation, including disputes related to structured finance transactions, breach of fiduciary duty, international joint ventures, and fraud. He has handled a wide variety of litigation matters at various stages for large financial institutions, such as financial guarantors and hedge funds. He has also advised clients with interests in distressed businesses, and his clients have recouped billions of dollars through litigation and out-of-court settlements.
Mr. Faridi has been recognized by several professional associations and organizations. He was the recipient of the New York State Bar Association’s 2014 Outstanding Young Lawyer Award, highlighting his recognition by the Young Lawyers Section of the association for having rendered outstanding service to both the community and legal profession. Mr. Faridi has also received The Legal Aid Society’s Pro Bono Publico Award for multiple years, MFY Legal Services, Inc.’s Partner in Justice Award, the Brooklyn Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project’s TD Bank Champion of Justice Award, and has been recognized for multiple years as a Rising Star in the New York-Metro edition of Super Lawyers.

From 2007 to 2008, Mr. Faridi served as a Law Clerk to the Hon. Jack B. Weinstein of the United States District Court, Eastern District of New York.

DARRELL GAY
Arent Fox LLP

Darrell S. Gay represents for-profit, not-for-profit, and government clients with respect to their employee related issues. This includes hiring/discharge, discrimination matters, traditional labor/management relations, diversity, internal investigations, workplace training, privacy, wage and hour and issues related to international labor and employment concerns. Darrell’s work for clients with regard to traditional labor matters includes union negotiations, elections, arbitrations, unfair labor practice charges and union avoidance. In addition, he serves as chief negotiator for his clients during collective-bargaining sessions.

Darrell counsels and provides assistance to clients with global issues, such as managing their data protection concerns, preparing international harassment training and resolving employment issues in assorted jurisdictions. He also assists clients in the establishment of business operations in foreign jurisdictions to enable the clients to engage in employment of both expatriates and local nationals.

Darrell has handled and managed significant cases involving single and multiple plaintiffs, single and multiple defendants, cases with allegations of serious continuing violations and high profile media cases. He not only has experience before administrative agencies, Federal and State courts, but has also handled investigations conducted by the New York State Attorney General’s office. Darrell has also led internal investigations of senior level executives on behalf of the corporate board of directors.
CHANDA GIBSON
Council of Urban Professionals

Chanda Gibson is the Executive Director of the Council of Urban Professionals (CUP). She has dedicated her entire career, which has spanned the nonprofit, legal, political and financial services sectors, to advocacy and service with a dedicated focus on advancing social justice issues like diversity and inclusion, educational access, and corporate responsibility.

Chanda joined us at CUP after spending 14 years at Goldman Sachs, where she was the Global Head of Environmental, Social and Governance for the Corporate Services and Real Estate division. Some of her key areas of focus included vendor diversity and inclusion, local and state government and community engagement, and environmental stewardship. During her tenure at Goldman Sachs Chanda served on her division’s People Development Committee, was the Chief Operating Officer of the firm-wide Black Network for six years and was the founding Executive Director of America Needs You-New Jersey, the first expansion site of the nonprofit organization that provides first-generation college students with transformative mentorship and career development opportunities.

Chanda is originally from California but left her legal career in 2002 to support now United States Senator Cory Booker’s first mayoral race in Newark, New Jersey. She has a law degree from the University of Southern California and her B.A. in Political Science and African & African-American Studies from Stanford University.

FATIMAH GILLIAM
The Azara Group

Fatimah Gilliam, Esq. is the Founder and CEO of The Azara Group, which is a consulting firm providing leadership development, negotiation, and strategy consulting services to companies, athletes, and private clients. She started her career on Wall Street as a corporate attorney at Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton LLP, went on to work for Citigroup overseeing its diversity recruiting for all of its US businesses, and oversaw corporate partnerships as the Head of Finance and Fundraising for North America for the United Nations World Food Programme where she negotiated deals with The Hunger Games film franchise and rapper 50 Cent that provided roughly 20 million meals.
Today, she is a successful entrepreneur. Since launching her company, she has counseled institutional and Fortune 500 clients on being strategic in negotiations to expand leverage and bargaining power, how to strategically position their businesses for growth and continued success, and how to improve diversity initiatives to better attract, retain, and promote diverse talent. Fatimah has also helped private clients negotiate six-figure increases in compensation and severance packages, advised in complex business negotiations, and counseled business leaders on navigating their ascent up the corporate ladder through being more effective leaders and managers. She empowers her clients to be strong business leaders, drive results, and be strategic in influencing others.

As an expert negotiator and career strategist, she has been interviewed and written articles on negotiating, leadership development, the sports industry, diversity, the technology industry, being an influencer, career strategy, and the “art of persuasion.” Fatimah is a frequent speaker and has spoken to groups of professionals, top executives, athletes, and students about how to position themselves for career success.

She is a graduate of the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University (with a concentration in Conflict Resolution and Negotiation), Columbia Law School (participating in the Mediation Clinic), and Wellesley College. She is also a member of the New York City Bar’s Sport Law Committee, and a board member and the Careers Committee Co-Chair of the New York Wellesley Alumnae Club.

CALVIN GLADNEY
Happier Better Lawyer

Calvin Gladney is an entrepreneur, professional speaker, author and professor who occasionally mentions he went to Harvard Law School when he forgets that he is a fully-recovered attorney who no longer practices. Mr. Gladney is managing partner of Mosaic Urban, a real estate investment and consulting firm which helps revitalize urban neighborhoods around the country. He is also a co-author of From Finals to the Firm: The Top 10 Things New Associates Should Know (West/Thompson Reuters).

He has learned a lot during his journey from Latham & Watkins law firm associate to multi-faceted entrepreneur, and has channeled those experiences into a professional development platform for lawyers and future lawyers called Happier Better Lawyer.

The mission of Happier Better Lawyer is to rid the world of frustrated lawyers by helping lawyers and future lawyers reach their full potential. In past lives that he mentions only in bios, Mr. Gladney was the General Counsel of BRIDGE Housing, a private developer in San Francisco, CA, Senior Development Director and Counsel at the National Capital Revitalization Corporation (NCRC), a quasi-public D.C. real estate corporation, and also spent four years of his life as a hard-working real estate associate at Latham & Watkins, an international law firm.

Mr. Gladney graduated cum laude from Harvard Law School. Mr. Gladney received his B.S. from Cornell University. He is a Trustee of the Urban Land Institute and is a LEED Accredited Professional. Mr.
Gladney also serves as an adjunct professor at Georgetown University’s Masters in Real Estate Program where he teaches a graduate-level class on entrepreneurship. In his spare time Mr. Gladney...Mr. Gladney doesn’t have any spare time, but he’ll make time for you. Connect with him on Twitter or Instagram @happier_better, or on his blog at www.happierbetterlawyer.com/blog.

As the lead of Information Governance, Taa is responsible for the strategic operation of Information Management Governance (ILM) for MetLife. She is responsible for creating and leading a team that will effectively develop, implement and manage the Information Governance strategic plan, helping drive this initiative throughout MetLife.

Prior to this role, she served as the Chief of Staff to the General Counsel since 2010. In this role, she worked closely with the General Counsel and his leadership team to identify, document and communicate Legal Affairs’ initiatives. She collaborated and coordinated with the Legal Affairs leadership on project planning, management and accountability to ensure the timely completion of Enterprise and Legal Affairs deliverables and to champion various departmental initiatives. She also managed a staff of 140 associates that provides operational support to the Department, including but not limited to: project management, technology portfolio management and training support, communications, records management, finance management and analytical support, knowledge management, office services, and administrative and paralegal support. She also chaired the Legal Affairs’ Diversity Committee, co-chairs the Technology Governance Committee, and was an Executive Member of The Academy, Legal Affairs’ training committee.

Taa started with MetLife in 2003 in the Litigation Section. As a litigator, her practice consisted of handling various federal and state lawsuits and regulatory complaints stemming from MetLife’s US Business and Investment activities. She also coordinated and oversaw MetLife’s e-discovery responses to regulatory, pre-litigation and litigation matters as the eDiscovery Counsel and managed a cross-functional team that managed MetLife’s discovery obligations.

Prior to MetLife, Taa was an Assistant District Attorney with the Bronx District Attorney’s Office in its Rackets Bureau for five and half years. She investigated and prosecuted felony and misdemeanor crimes committed by public officials and organized crime groups from the filing of the initial complaint to indictment and trial.

Taa is very active in the legal community. She is a Vice-President of the New York State Bar Association. She has held several leadership positions including: president of the Metropolitan Black Bar Association, co-chair of the New York State Bar Association’s Committee on Women in the Law; Regional Director, Member-at-Large, Pipeline Committee chair, Chief of Staff to the President of the National Bar Association; president of the Association of Black Women Attorneys; program planning chair for the
Corporate Counsel Committee of the Litigation Section of the American Bar Association; past President of the Network of Bar Leaders; and co-chair of the Diversity Committee of the Women’s Bar Association of the State of New York. The New York City Bar Association recognized her as a Diversity Champion in 2015. The Metropolitan Black Bar Association recognized her dedication and leadership to the bar in 2010 by honoring her with its inaugural Bar Leaders of the Year Award. The New York State Bar Association also recognized Taa for her commitment to diversity in 2003 by honoring her with its Diversity Trailblazer Award.

She received her A.B. from Harvard College and her J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center.

SABRINA HANNAM
Law Office of Sabrina N. Hannam, LLC

Sabrina N. Hannam is founder and chair of the full-service Law Office of Sabrina N. Hannam, LLC, concentrating in the representation of businesses, high-net worth individuals, entrepreneurs, investors, banks, other asset-based lenders and finance companies. She regularly represents clients in the areas of domestic and cross-border mergers and acquisitions, private equity and venture capital transactions. Sabrina has a wide range of experience in representing issuers, investors and initial purchasers in securities offerings and managing significant client relationships.

Sabrina has been featured by international and national publications and other media outlets as a thought leader and is also a sought-after speaker around the world.

Hannam is also engaged in philanthropy, through leadership roles in various philanthropic initiatives, including projects funding social entrepreneurship and innovation from Echoing Green Foundation to representing Soliya’s developer of the Connect Program – a unique cross cultural program that enables college students in the United States and predominately Muslim countries in the Middle East to collaboratively explore the relationship between the United States and the Arab Muslim world with the aim of improving intercultural awareness and understanding and other unique partnerships and ventures just to name a few.

She received a Certificate in Business and Public Policy in the Wharton Certificate Program from The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, earned her Juris Doctorate from the University of Pennsylvania Law School and was a Juris Doctorate candidate and had an opportunity to participate in the Harvard Law School Exchange Program, University of California, Berkeley School of Law (Boalt Hall).
Richard Harris represents management in a wide variety of employment litigation matters, including:

- Wrongful termination and promotion cases
- Discrimination claims
- Racial and sexual harassment claims
- Trade secret litigation
- Federal Credit Reporting Act litigation and class actions

Richard counsels employers with regard to litigation avoidance and assists employers in developing policies and programs in accordance with state and federal employment laws. He has comprehensive litigation experience in representing corporations and individuals that are targets of civil and criminal government investigations. He has represented individuals and corporations in financial fraud matters, securities law violations, cybercrimes, and corporate tax disputes. His practice also includes conducting internal corporate investigations.

Richard’s trial practice experience is diverse and extensive and includes counseling and representing Fortune 500 companies in multi-state litigation in Federal Credit Reporting Act (FCRA), Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Americans with Disabilities Act as Amended (ADAA), race discrimination, wage and hour, harassment, retaliation and whistleblower litigation. He has tried more than 50 jury trials in state and federal court and is recognized as a leading authority on trial advocacy and is a frequent contributor to local and national media outlets. He has taught continuing legal education courses in trial advocacy, federal grand jury practice and business immigration.

Richard is a member of Littler’s Board of Directors, and his professional and civic activities are as diverse as his law practice. He is on the Board of Trustees for the Southwest Leadership Academy Charter School and Enon Coulter Community Development Corporation. He previously served on the Philadelphia Bar Association’s Board of Governors and the Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Richard was an NCAA scholar-athlete in football during his undergraduate studies at the University of Maryland.
MICHAEL HENRY
Morgan Stanley

Michael Henry is an Executive Director of Morgan Stanley and the Head of Compliance for Morgan Stanley Investment Management’s private equity, private credit, infrastructure and real estate investing businesses. Michael launched his career as an attorney at Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP in New York in 1997, where he spent over seven years in the firm's Investment Management group serving as counsel to various hedge fund, private equity fund and other clients. He then joined Morgan Stanley in March 2005 where he initially spent two years as an attorney advising on unregistered fund and separately managed account formation, and then over four years as an attorney to a hedge fund subsidiary before ultimately transitioning to his current role in February 2012.

Michael is a former Chair of Morgan Stanley’s Legal and Compliance Division Diversity & Inclusion Committee which has over 10 Sub-Committees and over 250 active members responsible for the firm’s efforts to enhance diversity and inclusion within the Division and the legal and compliance professions.

Michael has also served as the Compliance Practice Group Chair for the Association of Corporate Counsel’s Greater New York chapter.

Michael holds a Bachelor of Engineering degree (Mechanical Engineering) from Stony Brook University and a Juris Doctor from St. John’s School of Law, and is a graduate of The Bronx High School of Science. Michael is an avid runner (two-time NYC Marathon finisher), golfer and soccer player.

TRACY RICHELLE HIGH
Sullivan & Cromwell LLP

Tracy Richelle High is Deputy Managing Partner of S&C’s Litigation Group, and a member of both the Firm’s Labor and Employment Law Group and Criminal Defense and Investigations practice. Ms. High’s practice focuses on representing financial institutions and other corporations in complex civil litigation, internal investigations, and labor and employment matters.

Ms. High has also represented clients before a wide variety of regulatory and prosecutorial agencies, both at the state and federal levels, as well as Congressional committees, courts and independent examiners appointed by court order.
Internally, Ms. High serves as co-chair of the Diversity and Women’s Initiative Committees and one of S&C’s hiring partners. Ms. High also oversees S&C’s active networks for minority associates: the Asian Associates Network, the Network of Black & Latino Lawyers and the LGBT Network. Each of these groups is dedicated to enhancing the experience of S&C’s diverse attorneys and championing their retention and advancement by fostering professional development, networking and mentoring opportunities.

Externally, Ms. High is a member of the board of directors of the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, New York City Bar Justice Center, Partnership for After School Education and YWCA-NYC. She also serves on the Steering Committee of the Kate Stoneman Project, and is a Trustee of the Federal Bar Council and the Harvard Law School Association, New York City chapter.

Ms. High has been repeatedly recognized as an accomplished lawyer: New York Super Lawyers (2013-2016), National Law Journal Minority 40 Under 40, and recipient of The Network Journal’s 40 under 40 Achievement Award. Ms. High was featured in Savoy Magazine’s 2015 list of Most Influential Black Lawyers, and was named the 2015 Diversity Trailblazer by the New York State Bar Association (2015).

DUANE L. HUGHES
Morgan Stanley

Duane L. Hughes is a Managing Director and the Head of Governance and Policies and Procedures in Wealth Management at Morgan Stanley. Prior to his current position, Duane was COO of International Wealth Management and previously held multiple leadership roles in the Legal and Compliance Division. Duane started his career at Shearman & Sterling and Simpson Thacher & Bartlett, where he focused on Latin American capital markets.

Duane’s is a sought after speaker on diversity and inclusion (D&I) and career development. Focusing on cognitive bias, in-group favoritism, leniency bias, as well as individual strategies to succeed in one’s career, Duane’s engaging and thought-provoking diversity training sessions have earned rave reviews from participants over the years.

Duane is a repeat winner of many prestigious D&I awards. In 2010, the City Bar awarded Duane the highly coveted Diversity Champion Award. In 2013, the Council of Urban Professionals (CUP) recognized Duane as a CUP Catalyst. In 2014, the MBBA honored Duane as Corporate Counsel of the Year. In 2015, the Center for Hope (Haiti) honored Duane with its Hope Award. In 2016, Duane was honored by Legal Outreach PACT for his work in supporting young black and Latino males progress to college. Duane is an advisor and mentor to countless professionals in and outside the legal profession.

Duane holds a JD and joint MBA/MA degrees from The Wharton School and Joseph H. Lauder Institute of the University of Pennsylvania. Duane graduated with a BA degree summa cum laude in Economics from
Howard University. Duane speaks Portuguese and Spanish and is former term member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

MARTIN JACKSON
Sidley Austin LLP

Martin Jackson is a partner in the International Arbitration and Litigation groups in Sidley Austin LLP’s New York office. Martin’s arbitration and litigation practice focuses on disputes involving international business and financial transactions, joint ventures, mining, oil and gas, derivatives, securities trading and cross-border insolvencies. He acts as counsel in disputes under all of the major international arbitration rules and clients have entrusted him with “bet-the-company” cases. He speaks Spanish fluently and represents Latin American clients in international arbitrations and in legal proceedings in the United States. Martin serves as the New York office chair for Sidley’s Diversity and Inclusion Committee and was selected as one of The Best LGBT Lawyers Under 40—Class of 2013 by the National LGBT Bar Association. He was also recognized as a “Future Star” in Benchmark Litigation for 2017. Martin maintains an active pro bono practice, including representation of victims of domestic violence in family law matters.

BLOSSOM KAN
MetLife

Blossom Kan is an Assistant General Counsel at MetLife. She handles securities and investments litigation, shareholder derivative actions, and disputes relating to the sale of life insurance and annuities. Ms. Kan handles regulatory matters and advises on compliance and risk management. She works on MetLife’s public filings, litigation disclosures and reserves. Prior to joining MetLife, Ms. Kan was counsel at Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld. Ms. Kan attended Yale University and NYU Law School.
Driven by an ethos of self-reliance and collectivism, Katrina is a growth coach and consultant who guides the potential of self-actualized leaders. With a decade of experience in economic and business development, her work drives change and creates global economic prosperity.

Through her experience counseling leaders of cities, states and countries, as well as numerous corporate executives, Katrina administers trusted advisory and assesses human behavior amongst leaders operating in a heightened public capacity. Understanding the rhythm of both economics and psychology, she delivers training and coaching programs that improve organizational performance while effecting positive societal change. Katrina’s expertise includes consulting and coaching program delivery to an array of Governmental Ministers/Foreign Leaders from Europe, Asia Pacific, and South America. A sample of her training engagements include: The Australian Federal Government, Governments of Texas, Japan, Portugal, Puerto Rico and Mexico.

Jack has been with Prudential’s law department since 1997, and is now principal litigation counsel for Prudential’s annuities and retirement businesses and is the firm’s antitrust attorney. Previously at Prudential, Jack was a member of the complex litigation group of Prudential Securities, where he tried customer and industry disputes. Jack frequently conducts training for Prudential associates on antitrust and attorney-client privilege issues. Prior to joining Prudential in 1997, Jack was associated with Kirkpatrick & Lockhart and predecessor firms. Jack obtained his J.D. from Columbia University School of Law and his B.A. from Yale University. Following law school, Jack clerked for Justice Sidney M. Schreiber of the Supreme Court of New Jersey. He recently completed three years as the co-chair of the New York City Bar Association’s In-House/Outside Counsel Litigation Group.
ELENA D. LOBO
Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP

Elena is a corporate associate at Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton. She represents clients in international corporate restructuring, finance and capital markets matters in the Latin America Practice Group and is on the Editorial Board of Cleary’s Emerging Markets Restructuring Journal.

Elena received her J.D. from New York University School of Law, where she was an Institute for International Law and Justice Scholar, and her B.A. in International Relations, magna cum laude, from Brown University. Elena is a member of the New York City Bar Inter-American Affairs Committee, and a Fellow with the New York City Bar Office of Diversity & Inclusion.

LORI L. LORENZO
Leadership Council on Legal Diversity

Lori L. Lorenzo is a prolific author and frequent speaker on talent development, leadership, personal brand, and diversity and inclusion. For the past seven years she has worked for non-profit organizations, law firms, in-house legal departments, and law schools to build diversity focused talent development programming and to educate senior leaders in the legal profession on diversity and inclusion and effective talent development initiatives. She is frequently engaged as an outside consultant to design training programs, and deliver interactive workshops.

In her current role with the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity she is responsible for the development of national leadership and talent development initiatives and manages a team that delivers a comprehensive training curriculum to more than 250 law firms and corporate legal departments. She is responsible for growing the organization’s profile through the creation and facilitation of strategic partnerships between managing partners and general counsel. Lori also supervises the organization’s strategy on data and metrics, third party partnerships, faculty engagement and training, and program innovation.

Lori has published articles with the American Bar Association, the National Association for Law Placement (NALP), and the Association for Legal Administrators, among others. She speaks to national audiences, including the keynote address delivery at the Vault Diversity Awards and the Inaugural National Diversity Pre-Law Conference and Law Fair, and has consulted with city, state and national bar associations on
diversity conferences and training programs. She was recently featured in a chapter on personal branding in the book “How did she do that? Marketing Success” published by the ABA.

Prior to her work in diversity and talent development Lori owned a martial arts company where she honed her entrepreneurial spirit and developed her marketing and communications skills (and a few skills in self-defense and competitive martial arts). Before that, Lori spent several years as a structured finance lawyer with two Am-Law 100 firms. She is currently a competitive weight lifter and body builder, and is the proud mom to four children.

Lori received her B.A. with honors from the University of Florida and her J.D. from Duke University School of Law. She has also completed training with the Harvard Law School Executive Education Program.

Obiamaka (Obi) P. Madubuko focuses her practice on anti-corruption and fraud matters and advises U.S.-based companies doing business in international markets.

Obi advises companies on a host of compliance and transactional due diligence issues arising under the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA), UK Bribery Act, the Dodd-Frank Act, Office of Foreign Asset Control (OFAC) and other global trade regulations, including cybersecurity defense and data breach response. She also assists clients with internal investigations, risk assessments and independent audits, as well as drafting, evaluating and updating corporate policies to ensure compliance.

In addition to her corporate advisory work, Obi is an experienced trial lawyer who has defended individuals and corporations in complex civil litigation and white collar criminal cases. She has represented clients before state and federal courts and agencies, including the United States Congress, the United States Department of Justice, the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the Federal Election Commission, and other federal and state authorities.

Obi has represented clients in complex litigation matters across a broad range of industries including aerospace and defense, consumer products, energy and mining, financial services, health care, intellectual property, manufacturing, media and entertainment, real estate, securities specialty chemicals, technology and telecommunication, and white-collar crimes. She also represents clients in international litigation matters and has assisted clients to procure documents and witness testimony from foreign persons and entities located outside the United States; litigated claims against foreign companies seeking immunity under the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act; and represented corporate clients in civil actions to enforce domestic judgments against foreign entities.
Obi has an active pro bono practice where she represents clients in domestic violence, immigration and asylum cases, in addition to mentoring young lawyers, law students and high school students interested in pursuing careers in law.

Prior to joining the firm, Obi was a partner at an international law firm where she served as co-chair of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) & International Anti-Corruption Group and was in private practice in New York and Washington, D.C. She also served as a federal law clerk for the Honorable Constance Baker Motley of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York.

Michele C. Meyer-Shipp is vice president and Chief Diversity Officer at Prudential. She is responsible for leading and supporting all diversity and inclusion efforts for the company, and for ensuring ongoing compliance with federal and state equal employment opportunity/affirmative action laws.

Meyer-Shipp joined Prudential in April 2010 as vice president and counsel in the Employment and Labor Law Group. In this role, she provided legal advice, counsel, training and investigative support to several lines of business on a variety of employment and human resources related matters.

Prior to joining Prudential, Meyer-Shipp served as General Counsel of the Waterfront Commission of New York Harbor, and spent four years at Merrill Lynch, where she served as employment counsel and lead of its diversity and inclusion efforts in the Global Wealth Management business.

Before Merrill Lynch, Meyer-Shipp served as Director of New Jersey’s Division of Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action. Prior to joining the ranks of public service, Meyer-Shipp was in private practice with the law firms of Collier, Jacob & Mills, P.C. and Lowenstein, Sandler, P.C., both in Roseland, N.J. She also served as an Adjunct Professor at Seton Hall University School of Law, her alma mater. She served as Law Clerk to the Honorable James H. Coleman, Jr. of the New Jersey Supreme Court.

Meyer-Shipp is on the Boards of GLSEN, Inc. (The Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network), the National Organization on Disability, Women Presidents’ Organization and the American Conference on Diversity. She is an active member of several professional associations and is a Co-Chair of the Asia Society Global Talent and Diversity Council. Meyer-Shipp has been named a “Diverse Attorney of the Year” by the New Jersey Law Journal, and has received numerous honors including the Oliver Randolph Award from the Garden State Bar Association, the New Jersey Women Lawyers Association’s Women’s Initiative and Leaders in Law (WILL) Platinum Award for the Corporate Sector, and was recently inducted into the Rutgers African-American Alumni Alliance Hall of Fame. She has made the Black Enterprise list of Top Executives in Corporate Diversity
for three consecutive years, and has also been named one of the “Most Powerful & Influential Women of the Tri-State Area” by The Tri-State Diversity Council. In 2017, Meyer-Shipp has been honored with the Winds of Change Award in the individual category by The Forum on Workplace Inclusion, and has been recognized by Seton Hall Law School for her work in advancing diversity in the New Jersey legal community. In her free time, Michele enjoys spending time with her husband, Michael and their three sons, Miles, Marcus and Mason.

MATTHEW MORNINGSTAR
Morgan Stanley

Matthew E. Morningstar is an Executive Director and Counsel in Morgan Stanley’s US Litigation Department, where he is responsible for managing complex litigation and regulatory enforcement matters. Matthew has handled a variety of matters arising out of business units across the Firm, including those related to credit crisis-era securitizations, municipal securities, antitrust and data privacy. Prior to joining Morgan Stanley in 2005, Matthew was an Associate in the Litigation Department in the New York office of Mayer Brown. Matthew is also the co-chair of the Morgan Stanley Legal and Compliance Division Diversity and Inclusion Committee, a 300 person member-led committee that seeks to not only hire and promote diverse talent at the Firm but also increase diversity throughout the profession.

NURIS E. PORTUONDO
JP Morgan Chase

Nuris is an Executive Director & Assistant General Counsel at JPMorgan Chase. She is the manager of the Legal Obligations & Change-Management Support Team and works closely with attorneys, business leads and other staff within the control, risk and compliance functions to assist with firm-wide legal and regulatory compliance efforts. Nuris started her career at Chase in March 2011 and managed a team lawyers within the Mortgage Banking business. At Chase Nuris is the Co-Chair of the North America Legal Diversity Committee. She is also active in ProBono matters and is a member of various Business Resource Groups.
Prior to joining Chase Nuris worked in private practice for over a decade and handled complex litigation in the areas of construction, employment and insurance. Nuris obtained her undergraduate degree from Purdue University and her law degree from Hofstra Law. She is admitted to practice in NJ, NY and DC.

Nuris has lectured in matters involving employment law, electronic discovery and diversity awareness and has been a contributing author to numerous published peer-reviewed articles dealing with legal issues in the obstetric care setting. Nuris has also held leadership positions in the National Hispanic Bar Association and the New Jersey Hispanic Bar. She supports the New York City Bar Association’s diversity efforts as a volunteer in a subcommittee.

Nuris is of Cuban descent. Before attending law school Nuris lived in France. She speaks French and Spanish. She is also a certified wine educator.

DONALD S. PROPHETE
Constangy, Brooks, Smith & Prophete LLP

Don is a trial lawyer who excels at representing large clients in complex and multi-plaintiff race employment discrimination cases. He has handled many high-profile and high-damage cases in the sports, military contractor and retail industries. Don has served as lead trial counsel in all types of employment disputes in federal and state courts in New Hampshire, Kansas, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, Michigan, North Carolina and Pennsylvania, including post-decertification wage and hour jury trials for major national employers. Don also serves as the firm’s chair of the Whistleblower practice group, an area where he has tried several cases.

In addition to his litigation activities, Don’s daily practice revolves significantly around providing advice and counsel to C-Suite executives on whistleblower and other matters in the following business sectors: Retail, Restaurant, Technology and Manufacturing.

In January 2008, the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights, in conjunction with the White House, appointed Don to serve as chairman of the Advisory Committee to the Commission, for a two-year term. In January 2002, President George W. Bush announced his intention to nominate Don to be general counsel of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). While honored, Don ultimately withdrew his name from consideration to remain in Kansas City.
RANDI ROSENBLETT
Bliss Lawyers

Randi Rosenblatt is the Director of Business Development for Bliss Lawyers, where she oversees the planning, leadership and management of the business development operations of the Company, and ensures consistency with the Company’s mission and values. Prior to joining Bliss, Randi was Senior Counsel, Director at Heineken USA in White Plains, New York. She previously practiced law as a corporate attorney in New York at the law firms of Schiff Hardin LLP and Watson Farley and Williams LLP. Randi serves on the New York City Bar Association’s Career Advancement and Management Committee and Women in the Legal Profession Committee and donates time to various causes associated with the UJA Federation of New York. Randi also serves as a mentor to Tulane Law School students and University of Michigan alumnae regarding career development and networking skills. Randi received her J.D. from Tulane Law School, where she was a Merit Scholarship Recipient and a Notes and Comments Editor and Managing Editor of the Tulane Maritime Law Journal. Additionally, she received her M.B.A. from Tulane’s A.B. Freeman School of Business where she was a Morton A. Aldrich Fellow and the first place winner of the 8th Annual Tulane Entrepreneurs’ Association Business Plan Competition. She received her B.A. in Organizational Studies from the University of Michigan. Randi resides in New York City and is married with two sons.

NATE SAINT-VICTOR
Morgan Stanley

Nate is an Executive Director at Morgan Stanley where he provides legal advice to the Wealth Management division on broker-dealer and investment advisory issues with a focus on research, development and distribution of alternative investments. Previously, Nate practiced in the Investment Management Group at Davis Polk. Since 2009, Nate has served on the SIFMA Alternative Investments Roundtable and previously served on the Investment Adviser/Broker-Dealer Task Force, Investment Advisory Committee and the Certified Financial Planner (CFP) Board Business Model Working Group. Nate regularly speaks on issues related to securities laws, diversity and inclusion and professional development.

Nate mobilizes resources for innovation and change within the legal profession through his leadership positions with the Alliance of Securities and Financial Educators (ASAFE), the Council of Urban Professionals (CUP), Legal Outreach, the National Association of Minority and Women Owned Law Firms (NAMWOLF), and the NYC Bar Association. Nate is on the Executive Council of the Group and serves as an adviser to 1844.
Nate is a former Chair of the Morgan Stanley Legal and Compliance Division Diversity & Inclusion Committee, a 2015 National Bar Association “40 Under 40,” a 2015 CUP Catalyst Change Agent in Law, and a 2009 CUP Fellow. Nate also enjoys mentoring through LEAD, PALS and Legal Outreach and was recognized by Legal Outreach as an “Elder of the Village,” the organization’s highest honor. Nate recently co-authored the “Power of Partnering” article, describing best practices for majority and minority or women owned law firms to co-partner on meeting client needs. The article is available at the NAMWOLF website.

Nate graduated from Duke University, where he co-founded the Duke Business and Investment Clubs, and Georgetown Law, where he served on journal, the award-winning Frederick Douglass Moot Court team and as President of the Black Law Student Association.

Nate lives in Lower Merion, Pennsylvania with his wife, Christina, and their two year old heart, Regina Claire, aka “Baby Pi”.

And, Nate is the best Spades player that you will ever meet. As the three-time, undefeated Champion since the creation of the competition, he looks forward to defending his title again at the 2017 MBBA Golf and Spades Tournament. If you don’t know, you better ask somebody.

Steven Seltzer is an Assistant General Counsel in the Commercial Litigation Unit of MetLife’s Law Department. As a Global Litigation Liaison, Steven works with legal colleagues globally to handle dispute and litigation matters outside the U.S. in which MetLife is defendant or plaintiff. He handles U.S. and non-U.S. disputes including reinsurance matters, vendor and post-transaction contract matters, as well as insurance product issues. Steven’s other experience in the Litigation Section includes managing real estate, securities and vendor contract litigation, defending regulatory matters, class actions and sales misrepresentation matters, as well as counseling the Internal Audit Department on internal investigations and writing skills.

Steven devotes much time and energy to diversity initiatives, helping both MetLife and the legal profession to achieve greater diversity in the workforce. He is a member and former Chair of the New York City Bar Association Committee on Recruitment and Retention of Lawyers, which sponsors and administers the Diversity Fellowship Program, placing first year law students into top-tier summer jobs. Steven is a member of the Leadership Committee of the Development School for Youth, a New York City based organization providing underprivileged inner-city youth with developmental summer intern jobs at participating corporate employers (including MetLife Legal Affairs). He was also on the Steering Committee and a long-time participant of the MetLife Legal Affairs Mentoring Program.
Prior to joining MetLife, Steven was an associate at Proskauer Rose representing management in employment and employee benefit matters. He was also an associate and Epstein Becker & Green representing management in employment law matters.

Steven received his law degree from New York University School of Law. He received his undergraduate degree from Emory University and served a term on the Emory College Alumni Board. Currently, Steven is a board member of the New York City Chapter of the Association of Corporate Counsel (ACC-NYC).

Ron Singh is an Executive Director and Assistant General Counsel at JPMorgan Chase.

He is Head of the Bank’s Consumer and Community Banking Legal Review Team, where he manages a team of lawyers dedicated to providing oversight of law firms conducting consumer default litigation and bankruptcy representation for JPMorgan Chase. In addition to overseeing this group of firms, he partners with business leadership and control functions to integrate business and regulatory strategies into the Bank’s law firm oversight program and also coordinates responses to audit, compliance and regulators and enforcement authorities regarding law firm oversight.

Ron has been with JPMC since February 2011 and, prior to his current role, he worked in the Bank's Litigation group where he actively supervised and directed outside counsel in connection with litigation brought against the Firm throughout the United States. Before joining JPMC, Ron was a Litigation Associate at several NYC law firms representing financial institutions, public companies and employees in government and internal investigations brought by the SEC, FINRA, CFTC, State Attorney General offices and other self-regulatory organizations. Prior to his legal career, Ron spent several years working in various business and financial roles with both HSBC and Allstate.

At JPMC, Ron is active with the Firm’s Business Resource Group Access Ability and is the Firm’s North America co-chair of the Firm’s Outside Counsel subcommittee on the Legal Diversity Committee. Ron is active in pro bono matters at the Firm and serves as a mentor with the Urban Assembly School for Law and Justice.

He holds a J.D. from St. John’s University School of Law, an undergraduate degree in Finance from the University of Miami and Certificates in International Business and Religion from the American University of Paris. Ron is an avid long distance runner and tennis enthusiast residing in NYC.
SHAMINA N. SNEED
Morgan Stanley

Shamina Sneed is an Executive Director in the Legal and Compliance Division of Morgan Stanley where she provides advice on a wide range of issues pertaining to investment advisers and broker-dealers, with a focus on alternative investments and investment advisory programs. Shamina spent 10 years in London working on cross border issues in financial services. She was Vice President and Assistant General Counsel at JPMorgan in London and advised on investment product specific issues including alternative investments and registered funds. Prior to joining JPMorgan, Shamina was an associate at Allen & Overy LLP in London in the International Capital Markets group.

Shamina is based in New York City and is Co-Chair of the Corporate Leadership Council for the Young Women’s Leadership Network and a member of the Board of the Stanford New York Alumni Association. Shamina received her undergraduate degree from Yale University and received her law degree from Stanford Law School. Shamina speaks proficient Italian and is an improving golfer.

JULIA TAYLOR KENNEDY
Center for Talent Innovation

Julia Taylor Kennedy is senior vice president and managing editor at the Center for Talent Innovation where she drives qualitative research and writing. She is also director of digital learning at Hewlett Consulting Partners, setting and overseeing strategy for the development, marketing and implementation of digital tools that help companies create inclusive company cultures based on proven CTI research and HCP practices. She coauthored Mission Critical: Unlocking the Value of Veterans in the Workforce and Power of the Purse: Engaging Women Decision Makers for Healthy Outcomes. A seasoned writer, producer, and interviewer, Taylor Kennedy has moderated sessions and hosted podcasts at the UN, Carnegie Council for Ethics and International Affairs, The Conference Board, and many others. She has also collaborated with business and gender experts on articles published in Forbes, Time, and academic journals, and has advised speakers for major platforms like the World Economic Forum and the United Nations. Previously, Taylor Kennedy hosted 51%, a public radio show on gender issues, and reported for NPR and NPR member stations. She earned a journalism degree from Northwestern University and a master of international relations from Yale University.
Avital Tamir Temchin is the Managing Director for the Council of Urban Professionals (CUP) Leadership Institute. CUP’s Leadership Institute is a multifaceted professional development platform established to support CUP’s mission of equipping diverse professionals with the skills, connections, and opportunities needed to best position them for top leadership positions across public, private, and nonprofit sectors. As the Managing Director of Programs, Avital’s responsibilities include creating and executing innovative professional development programming and initiatives for the Leadership Institute, including the CUP Executive Leadership Program, CUP Fellows Program, A Seat at the Table Initiative, Learning to Lead Series, and CUP Member Training Series.

Prior to joining the Council of Urban Professionals, Avital was a diversity and inclusion manager at Morgan Stanley, where she partnered with CUP on the development and coordination of a customized leadership development program for Morgan Stanley’s Black and Hispanic senior leaders. As a diversity and inclusion manager, Avital developed curriculums for Morgan Stanley’s firmwide employee networking groups, which were designed to bring employee engagement and career development content to nearly 9,000 diverse professionals from across the firm. Additionally, Avital was responsible for analyzing key internal metrics and external data to identify diversity-related strategic priorities and action items for Morgan Stanley’s Investment Management division.

Before joining Morgan Stanley, Avital worked at PepsiCo as an Organization & Management Development and Talent Acquisition analyst. At PepsiCo, Avital partnered with senior leaders on the design and rollout of PepsiCo’s core HR processes, including the 360° feedback process, biennial organizational health survey, and engagement survey.

Avital earned a B.A. in Psychology from the University of Maryland and an M.A. in Organizational Psychology from Columbia University.

Duvol Thompson is a litigation attorney in Holland & Knight’s New York office and a member of the firm’s Litigation and Dispute Resolution practice. Mr. Thompson focuses his practice on defending companies in...
commercial litigation claims, including breach of contract, breach of fiduciary duty, unfair competition, and tortious interference with contractual relations. Mr. Thompson is also experienced in insurance and reinsurance litigation, as well as various trust and estate proceedings.

Mr. Thompson has experience with all facets of litigation, from pre-trial discovery, including witness preparation and interviews, and taking and defending depositions, motion practice, and trial and appeals. He has also participated in mediations and negotiated settlements for corporate clients.

Mr. Thompson has successfully tried cases and defended them on appeal thereafter.

Mr. Thompson was a two-time All-Ivy League and All-American cornerback at the University of Pennsylvania, and thereafter played professionally in the National Football League (NFL). While attending law school, Mr. Thompson was a board member of the Black Law Students Association (BLSA), a member of the Brendan Moore Trial Advocacy Team and a member of the Environmental Law Review.

Michaune D. Tillman is General Counsel & Vice President, Human Resources & Compliance for WAVE, and also serves as Secretary to the WAVE Board of Directors. WAVE, a joint venture between Worthington Industries and Armstrong World Industries, manufactures and markets suspension systems for commercial and residential ceiling markets throughout the world. WAVE is headquartered in Malvern, Pennsylvania and has manufacturing plants in the United States, France, United Kingdom, China and India. In her current role, Michaune provides a broad range of domestic and global legal and strategic support to the business and counsel WAVE’s executives on matters relating to mergers and acquisitions, human resources, intellectual property, compliance, ethics, litigation, corporate governance and other commercial transactions.

Michaune was previously the Deputy General Counsel, Vice President and Ethics Officer for Ricoh Americas Corporation. During her 13 years with Ricoh, Michaune served in various leadership and management roles within the Ricoh legal department, at times managing a team of more than 35 professionals and advising on all legal, governance, compliance, ethics and security matters for Ricoh Americas division, encompassing operations in North America, Latin America and South America and over 30,000 employees. Michaune was responsible for a diverse portfolio of litigation matters in the U.S., before federal and state courts, as well as administrative agencies across the country. She was the executive sponsor of Ricoh’s Business Integrity team. Michaune was the recipient of Ricoh’s Above & Beyond The Call Of Duty Award and Ricoh’s Star Contributor Award. Michaune was a 2013 Philadelphia Business Journal Corporate Counsel Finalist. Additionally, in 2013, Michaune was recognized by InsideCounsel as one of the R-3 100 Next Generation of General Counsel and was again recognized in the August 2015 follow-up article which noted her new role with WAVE.
Michaune previously served as a Board Member for the Just The Beginning Foundation and also as an Advisory Board Member and guest speaker at the Women, Influence and Power in the Law Conference and PwC’s Fraud, Anti-Corruption & Cyber: Enforcement with Teeth Panel. Michaune has also been a guest speaker at the Corporate Urban Professionals (“CUP”) Annual Lawyers Forum and the National Diversity Symposium Reunion. In addition, Michaune is also a member of Inside Counsel’s 5/165 Leadership Workshop and a participant in the Mary Ann Hynes Leadership Institute.

Michaune earned her J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School and her Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from Hampton University. Michaune also completed the Harvard Law School Program on Negotiation and Leadership.

RENEE TIRADO
Major League Baseball

Renée E. Tirado is the Vice President of Talent Acquisition for Major League Baseball (MLB) and Diversity & Inclusion for MLB, MLB Advanced Media, and MLB Network. She is responsible for leading the development, communication, and coordination of Major League Baseball’s overall diversity and inclusion strategy including creating new programs and expanding existing activities that foster an inclusive culture throughout the league and its thirty Clubs. Ms. Tirado oversees the Diversity Pipeline Program, an initiative focused on improving the recruitment and development of diverse and female employees for leadership roles in the baseball operations and the front offices of MLB’s Clubs. She also leads all recruitment efforts and the employee engagement strategy for the Commissioner’s Office. Ms. Tirado advises senior MLB leadership and the Ownership Diversity Committee on all matters related to talent acquisition, diversity and inclusion initiatives, as well as oversee MLB staff handling these areas. Prior to joining MLB, Ms. Tirado worked at AIG leading the global diversity and inclusion agenda for the Americas. She also worked as the Director of Diversity and Inclusion for the United States Tennis Association where she still serves as a volunteer and committee chairperson for their tennis diversity initiatives. Ms. Tirado is a licensed attorney who graduated from Rutgers University School of Law and holds a bachelor’s degree in International Relations and Master’s degree in Education and Curriculum from the University of Rochester.

LUCAS TORRES
Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP
Lucas F. Torres is a partner in the New York office of Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP, a leading international law firm with more than 900 lawyers worldwide. Mr. Torres has extensive experience representing issuers and underwriters in all aspects of domestic and international capital markets transactions, with a particular focus on financings and corporate transactions by utilities and other energy companies, including one of the largest investor-owned electric utility systems in the United States. He also has significant experience advising public and private corporate clients in mergers and acquisitions, securitizations, sale leaseback transactions, tax exempt financings, corporate governance and securities law compliance and reporting. In addition to being a member of the firm’s diversity committee and the New York office hiring committee, Mr. Torres also leads the firm’s utility practice subgroup.

Mr. Torres is a 1986 graduate of Yale University where he earned a B.S. in Engineering Sciences (Electrical). He received his J.D. from Columbia Law School in 1991. He is currently on the board of directors of the Council of Urban Professionals and a member of the Hispanic Lawyers Society of New York. A resident of Scarsdale, New York, Mr. Torres and his wife Laura have one daughter, Emily, who is a recent graduate of Vanderbilt University.

TAMIKATREMAGLIO
Deloitte LLP

Tamika is the East Regional Leader for Deloitte Risk and Financial Advisory and serves as the Deloitte Managing Principal for the Greater Washington area. Tamika’s litigation and business consulting experience, which spans over 20 years, includes leading forensic accounting matters such as breach of contract, franchise disputes, lost profits, business interruption, intellectual property disputes, global corporate investigations and regulatory compliance matters, including claims relating to fraudulent conveyances and insolvency.

HARRY VALETK
Baker & McKenzie LLP

Harry A. Valetk is Of Counsel in the International Commercial Practice Group in the New York office, advising global organizations on privacy and data security compliance requirements. He regularly supports
companies in the insurance and financial services sector, retail, pharmaceutical/ healthcare, transportation/ logistics, hospitality, defense, social media, cloud technology, and manufacturing industries. His practice is focused on delivering commercially practical advice on designing security, privacy, and technologically compliant solutions. Harry’s practice routinely covers issues that range from supporting M&A transactions that result in cross-border data transfers, to digital marketing, regulatory enforcement defense, and cyber security and data breach incident response. He also helps clients perform privacy risk assessments for EU-US Privacy Shield certifications, and works with highly-regulated entities on numerous data protection topics, including HIPAA, GLBA, FERPA, the Children’s Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA).

Harry puts on an insider’s perspective when advising his clients having worked in-house as Director of MetLife’s Global Privacy Office in New York for almost seven years. In that role, he supported business lines in more than 60 countries to protect the personal data of over 90 million MetLife customers. Additionally, he led numerous strategic efforts to build out a global Privacy Risk Framework, achieve global compliance with applicable data privacy laws, deploy cross-border data transfer solutions, implement global training and awareness initiatives, and manage data and cyber security incidents. Before MetLife, Harry led the video game publishing industry’s privacy compliance efforts as the Director of Privacy Online for the Entertainment Software Rating Board and its COPPA Safe Harbor Seal Program. Finally, Harry served as a trial attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Division.
LYNN LOACKER
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP

Lynn is the partner-in-charge of the New York office of Davis Wright Tremaine. With over 35 years of experience in corporate finance and M&A, Lynn advises companies at all stages of their development and in a variety of different industries.

Lynn launched DWT’s Project W, the firm’s commitment to helping women advance their careers, achieve parity in the workplace and improve their lives. Project W’s initiatives include WiN, a network of women lawyers, executives and directors who work with nonprofit organizations, and WEB (Women Entrepreneurs Boot Camp), an immersive, daylong boot camp designed to provide practical, legal and business guidance to first time founders.

As a member of the Board of Directors of the New York Tech Alliance, Lynn is focused on creating a more diverse community within the New York tech ecosystem.
Maureen McLoughlin is a partner in the Litigation and Labor & Employment Practice Groups of Davis & Gilbert. Ms. McLoughlin has extensive experience managing all aspects of litigations and labor and employment matters.

In the employment arena, Ms. McLoughlin has successfully litigated and defended lawsuits and administrative charges in federal and state courts and before government agencies across the United States involving claims of unlawful discrimination, harassment, retaliation, whistleblower activity, breach of contract, restrictive covenant violations and class action wage and hour disputes. She has effectively represented employers in arbitration proceedings and mediations. Ms. McLoughlin also conducts and oversees internal company investigations of alleged harassment, security breaches, employee disloyalty and other misconduct and coordinates resolutions. Additionally, she represents employers in federal court across the country in sexual harassment and gender discrimination litigation and conducts internal investigations involving allegations of supervisor misconduct.

Ms. McLoughlin’s employment practice also includes providing counsel to employers and executives on compliance with all federal, state and local employment laws; overseeing responses to governmental investigations and audits; managing risk associated with performance, grievance and termination issues; drafting and negotiating employment contracts, procedures and policies; and providing trainings and counseling to senior leadership teams and employees. She also actively assists clients in due diligence activities and onboarding new personnel.

In her commercial litigation practice, Ms. McLoughlin has significant experience representing businesses in complex commercial litigation matters through trial and appeal including breach of contract, indemnity, unfair competition, minority shareholder, fraud and false advertising cases. She regularly handles business disputes in jurisdictions outside of New York, most frequently in California, and selects and manages local counsel on all matters of litigation strategy, budget and goals. Ms. McLoughlin is a trained mediator and thus brings a practical, solution-oriented perspective and strong communication skills to litigating and resolving business disputes.
Ms. Schauwecker’s practice is focused on complex litigation in which she represents major industrial manufacturing and refining companies in toxic torts and product liability suits, as well as suits brought under federal and state environmental statutes. She specializes in cases concerning groundwater contamination and brings clients her significant experience and skill working with experts on issues related to causation, source identification, natural resource damages and the fate and transport of contaminants in many types of hydrogeologic environments. Ms. Schauwecker brings leadership and sound judgment to all phases of litigation, and consensus-building skills to joint defense or other multi-party groups.

Before joining the firm, Ms. Schauwecker served as a law clerk to the Honorable Nina Gershon, United States District Judge in the Eastern District of New York. She received her law degree from Pace University School of Law (J.D., summa cum laude) and earned a certificate in environmental law.

Ms. Schauwecker received her undergraduate degree in business and environmental studies from the State University of New York, Empire State College, and a certificate of environmental management from Purchase College. She earned a Masters of Environmental Management from Yale University, School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, where her research focused on hydrogeology, wetland analysis and restoration and its relationship to land use. Ms. Schauwecker is currently an Adjunct Professor of Law at Pace Law School where she teaches Environmental Litigation and Toxic Torts.

Ms. Schauwecker is a member of the New York and Connecticut State Bars and is admitted to practice in the Eastern and Southern Districts of New York. She is a member of the New York State Bar Association and the American Bar Association, Section on Environment, Energy, and Resources where she serves on the Board of Editors for Natural Resources and Environment.

Before pursuing her legal career, Ms. Schauwecker was a successful singer and songwriter, playing guitar and singing in venues in North Louisiana and Texas. She started and ran a successful corporate gift marketing company in Dallas, TX and was featured in articles in the New York Times and Inc. Magazine.

In addition to her legal practice, Ms. Schauwecker serves as the Firm’s Diversity & Inclusion Shareholder and Co-Chair of the Diversity & Inclusion Committee. She is committed to B&D’s ongoing leadership in areas of diversity and inclusion, particularly in the environmental legal profession. She is an avid golfer and member of the Executive Women’s Golf Association, a non-profit organization that supports women’s and girls’ leadership development through golf. She also serves on the Board of Directors of the Victory Institute, a non-profit organization, which trains and supports LGBT candidates for public office. Ms. Schauwecker is recognized by Law Business Research in the 2016 edition of Who’s Who Legal: Environment.
Brian W. Song is a Partner in the New York office of BakerHostetler LLP. Brian is the first Korean-American partner in the firm’s New York office and the first Asian American man to be elected to the partnership from the associate ranks in New York. Brian has broad experience as a general commercial litigator, but focuses his practice on securities litigation and white collar criminal defense. He currently represents the SIPA Trustee for the liquidation of Bernard L. Madoff Investment Securities LLC. Brian has been involved in complex securities litigation cases, criminal and civil fraud cases, criminal tax cases, anti-trust cases, telecommunications cases, government contract disputes, and commercial disputes. Brian has represented plaintiffs and defendants in federal and state court actions, as well as FINRA and AAA arbitrations. Brian has also represented clients under investigation by the Department of Justice, the Securities Exchange Commission, the Internal Revenue Service, and the Department of Labor.

Brian began his legal career in the U. S. Army Judge Advocate General’s Corps and served on active duty from 2003 to 2007. Brian has continued his military service in the U.S. Army Reserve and currently serves as a Defense Appellate counsel for the Defense Appellate Division, U.S. Army Legal Services Agency. Brian has provided advice to senior Army officials in diverse areas of the law, such as government contracts law, fiscal law, international law, ethics and military justice.

In 2014, Brian was the founding chair of the Asian American Bar Association of New York’s Military & Veterans Affairs Committee where he continues to serve as co-chair. He is also a co-chair for the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association’s (“NAPABA”) Military & Veterans Network Committee, where he also serves as NAPABA’s liaison to the American Bar Association’s Veterans Legal Services Commission. In 2016, Brian was named as one of NAPABA’s Best Under 40. Brian is also actively involved with the Council of Urban Professionals, completing their ten-month fellowship program in 2014 and serving on the Fellows’ Board.

Brian leads the Diversity and Inclusion Committee in New York as a co-chair and is a member of the Recruiting and Hiring Committee. Brian also sits on the Firmwide Diversity Committee.
Brian received his B.S. from the Johns Hopkins University and his J.D., cum laude, from Boston University School of Law. Brian also received an L.L.M. in Securities Law and Financial Regulation with distinction from Georgetown University Law Center. He graduated on the Commandant’s Lists for the 160th Officer Basic Course and the 2014 Judge Advocate Officer Advanced Course.