

THE  
**LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE**  
FOR  
WOMEN OF COLOR ATTORNEYS, INC.

# 11<sup>TH</sup> *Annual* LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



TUESDAY / WEDNESDAY  
MARCH 29-30, 2016

THE RITZ-CARLTON HOTEL (DOWNTOWN)  
181 PEACHTREE STREET / ATLANTA, GA

LUNCHEON KEYNOTE SPEAKER



**LORI LIGHTFOOT**

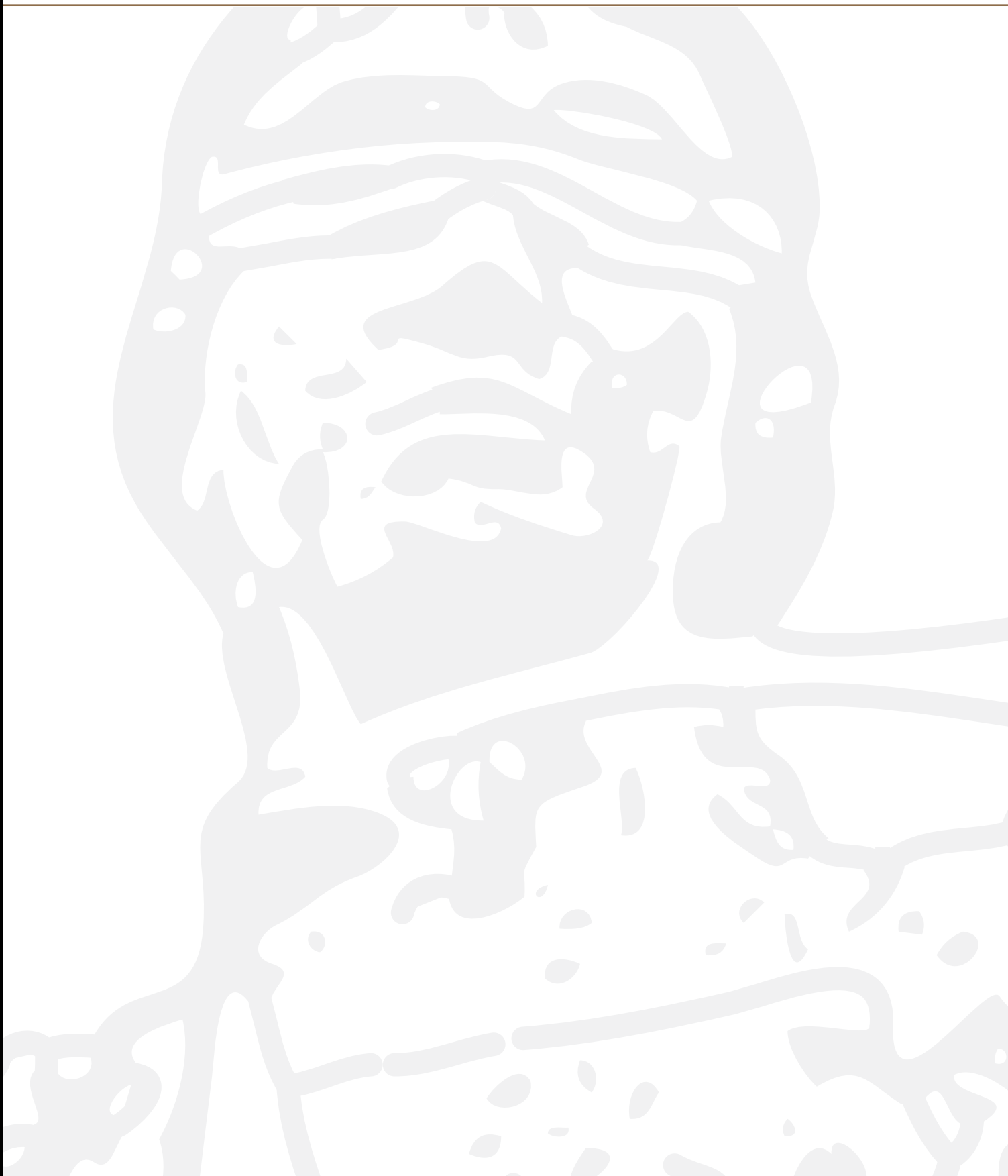
Partner, Mayer Brown  
Chicago Police Board,  
Chair

NETWORK RECEPTION  
SPEAKER



**AUDREY BOONE  
TILLMAN**

Executive Vice President,  
General Counsel  
AFLAC, Inc.





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## THE MISSION OF THE LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE FOR WOMEN OF COLOR ATTORNEYS, INC.

*It is our mission to educate, mentor, inspire,  
and network with women of color attorneys and  
businesswomen, as well as create a forum to teach  
leadership, development, and networking skills that  
are critical to our success in the business world.*





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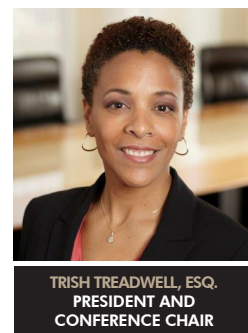
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March 29, 2016

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

This Conference—this annual coming-together of us women of color attorneys—is all the more important now. I hesitate to say “urgent,” yet with that breath I must acknowledge that the lack of women of color in senior positions in both law firms and corporate legal departments continues to make headlines after more than a decade. I do not hold the answer to hiring, retaining, and promoting more women of color lawyers (other than just to do it!), but, on this issue, I know two things:



TRISH TREADWELL, ESQ.  
PRESIDENT AND  
CONFERENCE CHAIR

One, if there was a solution, it would be shared and taught and spread at this Conference. Because this is where we find the law firms and companies who are leading the way with implementing diversity and inclusion strategies, feeding the pipeline, and investing in us. This is where we come to share ideas on leadership and business development, to celebrate the actions we have taken that have met with success. This is where we come to network and to be refreshed and re-inspired. So, the answer can and will be found amongst us.

Two, a single person, acting alone, will not reverse the trend. There is an energy and excitement in this collective environment that is vital to our cause. We learn from each other that, although there may be only a few in one Fortune 500 legal department or just the one partner at a particular BigLaw firm, someone else is walking our same trail. Someone is just ahead clearing the path. Someone is walking it right beside me. And, most importantly, there are ten someones behind me, watching and hoping for my success because it will mean they have a stronger chance for success as well. This Conference also gives attendees an unparalleled opportunity to network with inhouse counsel, outside counsel, and government and nonprofit attorneys. Not one of us should leave without new LinkedIn or other networking and business development connections.

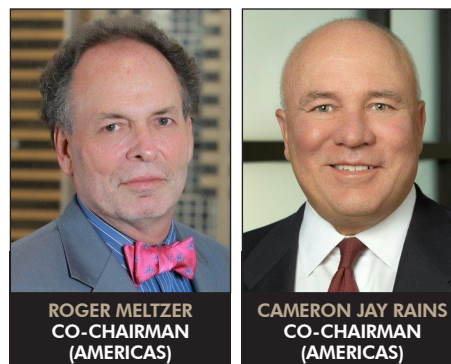
This year, I have the honor of taking the reins from our pioneering founder, Marian Cover Dockery. Year after year, she and her planning committee created a slate of awesome speakers. And, I believe, we have done it again this year with Lori Lightfoot from Mayer Brown, Audrey Boone Tillman from AFLAC, and a host of others. None of this could have happened without the brilliant efforts of the 2016 Planning Committee or without our generous sponsors. I would like to especially thank DLA Piper for its support of the pipeline by sponsoring our law student scholarships, and King & Spalding for its support and sponsorship of the luncheon. Finally, I would like to thank my firm, Parker Hudson Rainer & Dobbs, and my partners for giving not only financial support to the Leadership Institute, but also for allowing me to give so much of my time.

I am looking forward to a stellar Conference this year and into the future.

Trish Treadwell, Esq.  
2016 President and Conference Chair



March 29, 2016



DLA Piper is pleased to partner once again with the Leadership Institute for Women of Color Attorneys for its 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference.

At DLA Piper, diversity and inclusion are fundamental to our core values. We celebrate diversity and recognize the value that every individual with his and her varied life experiences brings to our firm. As such, we are committed to creating a culture that is inclusive of all people, where everyone has an opportunity to succeed and where the pathways to that success are transparent.

As a global business law firm, we are keenly aware that innovative ways of doing business are critical to long term success and viability. Similarly, the firm's approach to providing meaningful professional development and leadership opportunities for its lawyers continues to evolve. In support of these efforts, DLA Piper has a comprehensive flex-time strategy (known as the Flexible Work Solutions Program) that supports a number of customized work arrangements. We also have a talent management program that allows associates to progress at the pace of their mastery and a set of pre-determined competencies identified for each level of promotion. This system provides them with the mentoring, real-time feedback and training necessary to meet those competencies. In furtherance of these goals and objectives, we have established a resource group that focuses specifically on the professional development of our women of color. The firm's goals for all of these programs and initiatives are simple: 1) to attract and retain the brightest and the best talent; and 2) to curb the attrition of lawyers, particularly women of color. At DLA Piper, we believe all lawyers should be able to have successful and rewarding careers, and we are committed to eliminating barriers and ceilings.

We don't stop here. Our diversity and inclusion leadership team (comprised of our Chief People Officer, our Chief Operating Officer, our National Diversity and Inclusion Partners, our Director of Diversity & Inclusion, and our Directors of Recruiting and Professional Development) meets regularly to develop and implement innovative strategies to ensure that our lawyers are receiving the training, recognition and access that they need to be successful lawyers and influential leaders within the profession, the firm and the broader community. Through this collaborative approach to diversity and inclusion, we will continue to see material progress in our goal of creating the world's most diverse global law firm.

On behalf of the entire DLA Piper family, we congratulate you on 11 great years of empowering new leaders in the profession, wish you a successful 2016 Conference and encourage you to search out and meet the DLA Piper lawyers during your time together at the Conference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. Meltzer'.

Roger Meltzer  
Global Co-Chairman  
Co-Chairman (Americas)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C. Rains'.

Cameron Jay Rains  
Global Co-Chief Executive Officer  
Co-Chairman (Americas)

### MARCH 29-30, 2016

5.0 CLE CREDITS, INCLUDING 3.0 PROFESSIONALISM (SELF-REPORTING)

THE RITZ-CARLTON (DOWNTOWN) • 181 PEACHTREE STREET, NE • ATLANTA, GA 30303

ALL WEDNESDAY SESSIONS WILL BE HELD AT THE RITZ-CARLTON (DOWNTOWN).

#### DAY ONE: MARCH 29



Georgia-Pacific

Nelson  
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5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

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**INTERVIEWER:**

Anita Wallace Thomas  
Partner  
Nelson Mullins Riley  
& Scarborough

**“ON THE COUCH: A CONVERSATION WITH...”**

**Audrey Boone Tillman, Esq.**  
Executive Vice President, General Counsel  
AFLAC, Inc.

#### DAY TWO: MARCH 30

KING &  
SPALDING



7:00 AM – 7:00 PM

**REGISTRATION AND CONFERENCE**

11:45 PM – 1:30 PM

**SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON**

Sponsored by: King & Spalding LLP

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER:**

**Lori Lightfoot, Esq.**  
Partner, Mayer Brown (Chicago)  
Chair, Chicago Police Board

**2016 LAW STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS**

Sponsored by: DLA Piper LLP (US)

1:35 PM – 2:45 PM

**MEN'S PANEL**

3:00 PM – 4:15 PM

**BREAKOUT SESSIONS I**

4:30 PM – 5:45 PM

**BREAKOUT SESSIONS II**

7:00 PM

**DINNER ROUNDS**



### DAY ONE

TUESDAY, MARCH 29, 2016

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

**NETWORKING RECEPTION**  
**"On The Couch: A Conversation with..."**

**FEATURED SPEAKER:**

**Audrey Boone Tillman, Esq.**  
Executive Vice President, General Counsel  
AFLAC, Inc.

**INTERVIEWER: Anita Wallace Thomas, Esq.**

Partner  
Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough, LLP

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### DAY TWO

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 2016

7:00 AM – 8:15 AM

**COFFEE HOUR AND REGISTRATION**  
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8:30 AM – 8:45 AM

**WELCOME**

**Trish Treadwell, Esq.**  
2016 President & Conference Chair  
Partner; Parker Hudson Rainer & Dobbs, LLP

8:45 AM – 9:30 AM

**SETTING WORKSHOPS STAGE**



## 11<sup>TH</sup> *Annual* LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

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### WORKSHOP DISCUSSIONS

**9:45 AM – 11:00 AM**

These sessions will allow attorneys to break into small group sessions (according to their practice, i.e., large firm, mid-size/small firm, in-house, public sector) to discuss the issues they encounter in their practices and ways to resolve them.

#### A. LARGE LAW FIRMS

**WORKSHOP LEADERS:**

**Dionysia L. Johnson-Massie, Esq.**  
Littler Mendelson P.C.

**Adria Perez, Esq.**  
Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP

#### B. SMALL AND MEDIUM LAW FIRMS

**WORKSHOP LEADERS:**

**Regina Molden, Esq.**  
The Molden Law Firm, LLC

**Masae Okura, Esq.**  
FisherBroyles, LLP

#### C. CORPORATE COUNSEL

**WORKSHOP LEADERS:**

**Angela Hsu, Esq.**  
Duke Realty Corp.

**Amber Murray, Esq.**  
Jamestown

#### D. GOVERNMENT, PUBLIC SERVICE, AND NON-PROFIT COUNSEL

**WORKSHOP LEADERS:**

**Ana Maria Martinez, Esq.**  
Judge Dax Lopez's Office  
DeKalb County State Court

**Maya Dillard Smith, Esq.**  
ACLU of Georgia

**11:15 – 11:45 AM**

**NETWORKING BREAK**



## 11<sup>TH</sup> *Annual* LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

11:45 AM – 1:30 PM

### SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON

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### 2016 LAW STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Sponsored by: DLA Piper LLP (US)

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER:** Lori Lightfoot, Esq.

Partner, Mayer Brown (Chicago)

Chair, Chicago Police Board

### MEN'S PANEL

1:35 PM – 2:45 PM

This session will give insight into the successful efforts to increase the hiring potential and retention of women of color in the legal field from a male perspective.

#### MODERATOR:

**Luther Wright, Jr., Esq.**

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

#### PANELISTS:

**Robert Preston Brown, Esq.**

McKenney's Inc.

**Charles Huddleston, Esq.**

Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough, LLP

**Rick Rufolo, Esq.**

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## BREAKOUT SESSIONS

**3:00 PM – 4:15 PM**

### SESSION A-1: LAW FIRM ECONOMICS

This session will provide conference participants with an understanding of the secret code in law firm economics by discussing the law firm metrics, crunching numbers, and determining whether it pays to play by the rules.

**MODERATOR:** Marla Butler, Esq.

Robins Kaplan LLP

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#### PANELISTS:

**Shamita Etienne-Cummings**

White & Case LLP

**Allegra Lawrence-Hardy, Esq.**

Lawrence & Bundy LLC

**Benjamin Wilson, Esq.**

Beveridge & Diamond PC

### SESSION A-2: ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (ADR)

This session will explore multicultural considerations in Mediation, specifically the impact of ethnicity and gender on mediation and in-house and outside counsel considerations.

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#### PANELISTS:

**Hon. Candace Cooper**

JAMS

**Lina Lozano Oviedo, Esq.**

Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC

**Carmen Toledo, Esq.**

King & Spalding LLP

### SESSION A-3: LIFE OUTSIDE THE LAW – IS THE GRASS GREENER?

This session will discuss transitioning from the legal professions to other industries and the specific alternative career paths of the panelists.

**MODERATOR:** Wendy Gomez, Esq.

Ford & Harrison

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#### PANELISTS:

**Anjali Enjeti**

Author

**Ashley Kilpatrick, Esq.**

National Alliance on  
Mental Illness

**Courtney Anderson, Esq.**

VibeRide





## 11<sup>TH</sup> Annual LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

### BREAKOUT SESSIONS II

4:30 PM – 5:45 PM

#### SESSION B-1: IN-HOUSE COUNSEL ROUNDTABLE

This session will discuss the navigation of opportunities and challenges inherent in the relationship between in-house and outside counsel and an analysis of how this relationship impacts rainmaking.

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##### **MODERATOR:** Jennifer Burns, Esq.

Equifax

##### **PANELISTS:**

##### **Burt Fealing, Esq.**

Southwire

##### **Michael Wu, Esq.**

Carter's

##### **Verona Dorch, Esq.**

Peabody Energy

##### **Ashoo Sharma, Esq.**

Harry Norman

#### SESSION B-2: RUNNING FOR OFFICE

In this session, panelists will discuss how the legal profession and politics interact; if a law degree is the best way to obtain a political office; things to know when running a campaign, and how their legal careers have impacted their ability to serve.

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##### **MODERATOR:** Stacey Chavis, Esq.

##### **PANELISTS:**

##### **Hon. Asha Jackson**

DeKalb County  
Superior Court

##### **Teri Walker, Esq.**

Candidate for Fulton  
County Solicitor General

##### **Brenda Lopez, Esq.**

The Lopez Firm, LLC

7:00 PM

DINNER ROUNDS



## PAINTING A BRIGHTER FUTURE.

DLA Piper believes that a more diverse and inclusive legal profession means a better future for us all. Through our retention and advancement programs and with a flexible approach to work-life integration, we strive to provide our lawyers with opportunities to excel.



# Leadership



Mayer Brown congratulates our partner Lori Lightfoot on being recognized for “Breaking the Glass Ceiling” by the Leadership Institute for Women of Color Attorneys, Inc.

Co-leading Mayer Brown’s Commercial Litigation action group and co-chairing the firm’s Committee on Diversity & Inclusion while serving as chair of the Chicago Police Board, *Lori leads by example.*



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Marian Dockery & Associates LLC is a woman-owned law firm located in Atlanta, GA.

Our firm specializes in labor and employment law, diversity and employment compliance, public utilities regulation, general corporate and business transactions, mergers and acquisitions, administrative law and government relations.

The goal of our firm is to offer creative solutions on a cost effective basis to our clients without compromising the quality of our work product. Our attorneys will work hard to avoid litigation whenever possible.



MARIAN COVER  
DOCKERY, ESQ.  
Managing Member



D. BILLYE SANDERS, ESQ.  
Of-Counsel

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make a brighter  
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The diversity of different backgrounds, experiences and perspectives enriches our individual lives, our profession, and our ability to provide clients with the highest quality legal service.

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Anita Wallace Thomas, Partner

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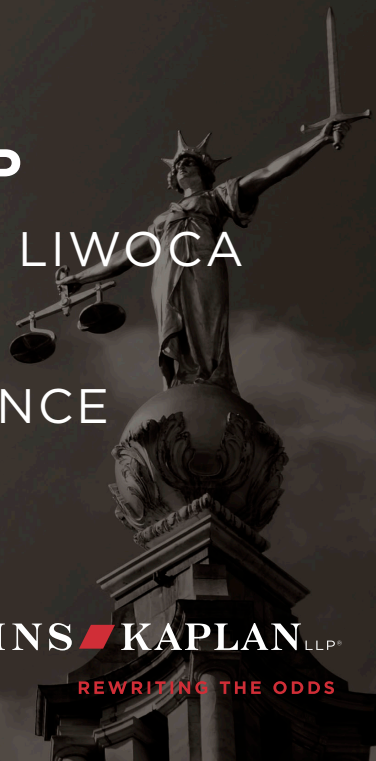
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REWRITING THE ODDS



### It's not if, but how high you can rise

Arnall Golden Gregory LLP is proud to congratulate The Leadership Institute for Women of Color Attorneys, Inc. on its 11th Annual Leadership Conference. We applaud your mission to educate, mentor, inspire and empower women of color attorneys and businesswomen to become leaders in their field.

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ELS attorneys are proud to continue their decade-long support of the Leadership Institute of Women of Color Attorneys. We strive to contribute to its mission to help women of color attorneys develop the critical skills necessary to become partners and leaders in the legal profession.



We proudly support our women of color and the mission and goals of the  
**Leadership Institute for Women of Color Attorneys.**



Kelley  
Chan

Nirouz  
Elhammali

Tiffany  
Johnson

Grace  
Kopache

Trish  
Treadwell

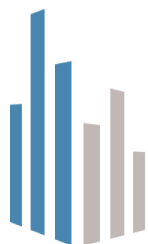
We are especially pleased to support our partner  
Trish Treadwell—2016 President and Conference Chair!



**A tip of the cap to you,  
LIWOCA on your 11<sup>th</sup> Annual  
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The Coca-Cola Company is  
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Women of Color Attorneys.

**Cheers!**



**OWEN, GLEATON, EGAN,  
JONES & SWEENEY, LLP**

**Congratulates**

**The Leadership Institute For Women of Color Attorneys**

**On Its 11<sup>th</sup> Year of Excellence**

\*\*\*\*\*

PHILIPPA V. ELLIS  
PARTNER

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TELEPHONE (404) 6882600  
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## LEADERSHIP MATTERS

At The Home Depot® we build leaders every day. We salute The Leadership Institute for Women of Color Attorneys for strengthening, inspiring and empowering women of color and others to be leaders in their profession.

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More saving. More doing.®





**LORI LIGHTFOOT** is a trial attorney, investigator and risk manager. She has extensive experience in every facet of complex commercial litigation. Lori also has litigated or otherwise resolved disputes concerning employment discrimination, particularly class actions or those involving senior executives. She also regularly advises clients on a range of complex criminal law issues stemming from federal, state or local grand jury investigations or investigations by federal, state or local inspectors general. These client engagements have included internal investigations, preparation of and defending witnesses in interviews with the investigative bodies, compliance with document subpoenas and litigation.

Lori also has direct experience in designing and implementing internal and external messaging strategies for clients. Lori has served as an expert witness on all facets of the federal Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) rules and regulations as well as related state and local programs. She has advised clients on a variety of other matters such as internal compliance, risk management, corporate governance, procurement processes, disciplinary systems, ethics.

Both as a civil litigator and as Assistant US Attorney in the Criminal Division of the US Attorney's Office, Northern District of Illinois (1996–2002), Lori has tried over 20 federal and state jury and bench trials. She has also argued cases in state and federal appellate courts, and she has successfully conducted numerous internal investigations. In addition, Lori has considerable experience in instituting risk-management and compliance practices for municipal government departments, such as police, procurement services, emergency management, homeland security and 9-1-1 emergency call systems.

From 2002 to 2005, Lori worked with the City of Chicago as Interim First Deputy Procurement Officer, Department of Procurement Services (DPS); General Counsel and Chief of Staff, Office of Emergency Management and Communications (OEMC); and Chief Administrator, Office of Professional Standards (OPS) of the Chicago Police Department. At OPS, Lori managed a 100-person office of civilian investigators charged with investigating police-involved shootings, allegations of excessive force and other misconduct alleged against Chicago police officers. She also coordinated joint investigations with state and federal criminal authorities and facilitated the implementation of new compliance and risk-management systems that included redesign of the disciplinary processes for sworn and civilian members, creation of a management intervention program for problem employees, and targeted tracking of litigation costs associated with complaints against department members.

During her service as Interim First Deputy Procurement Officer of the city's Department of Procurement Services, Lori conducted an across-the-department reorganization and reform of DPS business practices. She was responsible for redesigning Chicago's minority and women business enterprise program; streamlining the annual \$2 billion procurement process; developing training curricula for internal and external use; and creating and implementing vendor and buyer accountability measures.

As Chief of Staff and General Counsel for Chicago's Office of Emergency Management and Communications, Lori oversaw the City's 9-1-1 emergency and non-emergency call systems, emergency response operations, homeland security initiatives and related technologies. She also developed management accountability metrics for each OEMC operational unit.

Lori has been associated with Mayer Brown since 2005 and, previously, between 1990 and 1996. She served as Law Clerk to The Honorable Charles Levin, Michigan Supreme Court (1989–1990).



LORI  
LIGHTFOOT

PARTNER,  
MAYER BROWN

CHAIR,  
CHICAGO  
POLICE BOARD



**MODERATOR**

**ANITA  
WALLACE  
THOMAS**

**PARTNER**

**NELSON  
MULLINS RILEY &  
SCARBOROUGH, LLP**

**ANITA WALLACE THOMAS** is a partner in Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP's Atlanta office who focuses on litigation involving general commercial litigation, state and local government, drug and medical device litigation, product liability, and employment litigation. She serves as trial counsel and MDL counsel in cases in various jurisdictions. She defends clients against charges of employment discrimination, harassment, and wrongful discharge; counsels employers in employment matters; and conducts pre-litigation internal investigations. She has served as lead counsel in more than 50 jury trials held in the superior and state courts of Georgia.

Ms. Thomas earned her JD from the Walter F. George School of Law at Mercer University in 1989 and became an assistant district attorney for the Fulton County District Attorney's office, where she represented the state and victims of crime. She served at another Atlanta law firm before joining Nelson Mullins. Ms. Thomas' leadership and service skills have been recognized with her most recent induction into the Gate City Hall of Fame. She served as president of the Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys in 2009 and remains active with the group as an executive board member.



**AUDREY BOONE TILLMAN** is executive vice president and general counsel at Aflac Incorporated. She directs Aflac's legal division and functions related to Corporate Communications, Compliance, Government Relations, Federal Relations and the office of Corporate Secretary. In addition to her role at Aflac U.S., Tillman's responsibilities include oversight functions of the General Counsel and Compliance offices at Aflac Japan. Ms. Tillman previously served as executive vice president, Corporate Services for Aflac where she was responsible for driving strategy within the company's corporate functions that serve employees, external customers, vendors and the Board of Directors. Her oversight also encompassed the operations of the Facilities and Strategic Sourcing & Procurement divisions; Communicorp, Aflac's for-profit printing company; and the Travel & Meetings division.

Ms. Tillman joined Aflac in January 1996 as a member of the Legal department and was promoted to second vice president in September 1997. Promoted to vice president and senior associate counsel, Legal division, in September 2000, her work as legal counsel to the Human Resources division led to her promotion to senior vice president, Human Resources, in August 2001 before being promoted to direct Aflac's Corporate Services in 2008. During her tenure, the company has received multiple honors including *Training Magazine's* Training Top 125, *FORTUNE* magazine's 100 Best Companies to Work For (17 consecutive years) and *Working Mother* magazine's 100 Best Places for Working Mothers. Aflac has been recognized by *Black Enterprise* magazine as one of its 40 Best Companies for Diversity nine times and has appeared on *LATINA Style* magazines annual list of The 50 Best Companies for Latinas to Work 14 times. Aflac has been named to Ethisphere's list of World's Most Ethical Companies for nine consecutive years.

In 2013, Ms. Tillman was personally honored by *The Network Journal* as one of 25 Influential Black Women in Business. She was named one of the Top 100 Blacks in Corporate America by *Black Professionals* magazine for two consecutive years. In 2015, she received the Boy Scouts of America Distinguished Citizen Award and the Columbus, Georgia Chamber of Commerce Chairman's Award.

Prior to joining Aflac, Tillman served as an associate professor at North Carolina Central University School of Law. From 1990 to 1993, she was an associate with the Smith, Helms, Mulliss and Moore law firm in Greensboro, N.C. She was also a federal judicial law clerk to Judge Richard C. Erwin, U.S. District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina.

Ms. Tillman is a member of the executive committee of the Corporate Counsel Section of the Georgia State Bar and serves as a tri-chair on the Columbus, Georgia Chamber of Commerce Regional Prosperity Initiative. She is a member of the State Bar of Georgia, the North Carolina State Bar and the Bar of the District of Columbia and past chair of the corporate law section of the National Bar Association. Tillman is also a past director-at-large for the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM).

Ms. Tillman holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a Juris doctor degree from the University Of Georgia School Of Law. She is married to Dr. Chip Tillman and they have three children.



AUDREY  
BOONE  
TILLMAN

EXECUTIVE  
VICE PRESIDENT,  
  
GENERAL  
COUNSEL  
  
AFLAC, INC.



**PRESIDENT**

**TRISH  
TREADWELL**

**TRISH TREADWELL** is current president of The Leadership Institute of Women of Color Attorneys. She is also a partner with Parker Hudson Rainer & Dobbs LLP's Litigation and Employment practice group. She represents clients in state and federal courts in a variety of commercial litigation contexts, with special areas of expertise in employment and franchise law.

Trish has represented several franchisors in actions to enforce franchise agreements against franchisees or in actions by third parties asserting vicarious liability against the franchise system. She counsels franchisors with respect to their disclosure documents, franchise agreements, terminations, and other issues. She also has spoken at state and national conferences regarding franchise issues. She is currently an associate editor for the Franchise Law Journal. As part of her employment law practice, Trish provides counseling and general advice on employment-related issues such as discrimination and retaliation claims; breach of employment agreements; wage-and-hour and leave law violations; and advice regarding employment handbooks, policies, trade secrets, and non-competes.

Trish is a graduate of Oglethorpe University (Atlanta, GA), where she is currently on the Board of Trustees. She attended Georgia State University College of Law, where she was on Law Review and Student Bar Association president. Trish currently serves on several non-profit boards and remains actively involved in various bar associations.



**MARIAN COVER DOCKERY** is the CEO, President and Founder of the Leadership Institute for Women of Color Attorneys, Inc. Marian is Managing Member of Marian Dockery & Associates LLC and specializes in labor, employment discrimination and wage and hour law. Marian also serves as an arbitrator for FINRA. The State Bar of Georgia is one of her clients and she leads the State Bar of Georgia's Diversity Program (GDP) designing annually diversity CLE programs, business development symposiums and the High School Pipeline Program, a partnership with Atlanta's John Marshall School of Law (JMSL), LIWOCA and the GDP.

Prior to her current positions, Marian practiced at the Office for Civil Rights as a Senior Attorney and was an Adjunct Professor at Atlanta's John Marshall Law School. Marian has held several positions including Trial Attorney at the EEOC, In-House Counsel at FEDEX Corporation in Memphis, Tennessee, where she was the first woman and first minority in the legal department. Marian served as Corporate EEO/AA Manager at BP Oil, where she was the first African-American woman to work in an executive management position.

Marian speaks frequently on the topic of diversity and has presented at the 2012 ABA Mid Year Meeting, the ABA Southern Regional Hearings for the ABA Presidential Summit, and the GDP CLE programs. She has also presented on the topic of diversity at JMSL, Emory Law School, Spelman College and for the Vanderbilt Alumnae Association. Marian has written numerous articles on the topic of diversity for the **Georgia Bar Journal** including "No Time For Diversity Fatigue," "Fueling the Pipeline," "Diversity Program's Business Development Symposium," and "2010 High School Pipeline Program." Marian has also authored numerous articles for **The Daily Report** for the State Bar Diversity Program quarterly newsletter.

Marian is a member of the State Bar of Georgia and the Pennsylvania Bar Association. Her professional activities include the American Bar Association, the National Bar Association, The Gate City Bar Association and the Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys (GABWA).

Marian has served on the Shepherd Center Foundation Board (2007-2013); the Pace Academy Board (1999-2006) and the Theatrical Outfit Board of Directors (2000-2002).

Marian received her B.A. in Political Science and History from Mount Holyoke College and her J.D. from Vanderbilt University School of Law where she was an Earl Warren Fellow, a member of the Moot Court Board and Honor Council and named Outstanding Oralist, Appellate Argument I. Marian is the recipient of the 2012 Gate City Bar Association Presidential Award for Excellence and the 2014 State Bar of Georgia Commitment to Equality Award. Marian has been married for 33 years to Keith M. Dockery, M.D. and they are the proud parents of two adult children, Stephanie (B.A. Williams College, M.A.; Sotheby's Institute of Art-Singapore) and Todd (B.A. Northwestern University).



CEO AND FOUNDER

MARIAN  
COVER  
DOCKERY



#### VICE-CHAIR

## PHILIPPA V. ELLIS

**PHILIPPA V. ELLIS** is an original partner of the Atlanta firm -- Owen, Gleaton, Egan, Jones & Sweeney, LLP. She serves as lead trial counsel for the firm's product liability litigation team. Handling complex insurance defense litigation and business entity representation have also been longstanding components of her practice since she graduated from the University of Oklahoma College of Law in 1988, where she earned an American Jurisprudence Award and was a member of the Phi Delta Phi International Legal Honor Fraternity. Philippa has been honored by Best Lawyers in America, Georgia Edition®, has received an AV® *Preeminent*™ rating from Martindale-Hubbell®, has been selected as a Georgia Super Lawyer. Philippa is licensed to practice law in Oklahoma, Georgia, and Illinois.

She holds memberships in the American Board of Trial Advocates, International Association of Defense Counsel (IADC), Product Liability Advisory Council, Industrial Truck Association--Lawyers Committee, National Bar Association, and American Bar Association. As a member of Defense Research Institute she has been a frequent speaker on various product liability and trial strategy topics. Philippa is a Fellow of the Litigation Counsel of America. She is also Co-Vice-President and a Member of the Board of Trustees for The Leadership Institute for Women of Color Attorneys. She is a member of Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys, Old War Horse Lawyers Club, Inc., Atlanta Bar Association, Gate City Bar Association, Georgia Defense Lawyers Association, Georgia Association of Women Lawyers, and The Lawyers Club of Atlanta.

She enjoys mentoring lawyers who wish to hone their skills as trial lawyers. Her vast first chair jury trial expertise is shared with younger lawyers from across the nation when she serves as faculty for national trial academies. She is a returning instructor for the ABA-ABOTA Trial Academy, held annually in Reno, Nevada, the National Institute for Trial Advocacy (NITA) Georgia Deposition Skills Program, and the Georgia Defense Lawyers Association's Trial and Mediation Academy. She has also served on the faculty of IADC's national trial academy at Stanford University.

She is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. (Lambda Epsilon Omega Chapter) and served on the Board of Directors for Atlanta's Alliance Theatre for fifteen years.



**LOVITA TANDY** is a partner in the Business Litigation Practice Group at King & Spalding. Her practice focuses on labor and employment law and complex commercial disputes. The first African-American female elected partner at King & Spalding, Ms. Tandy was a partner until 2010 and then taught Contracts, Remedies, Transactional Drafting and Negotiations at Atlanta's John Marshall Law School. She rejoined King & Spalding in May 2013.

Ms. Tandy chaired the firm's Diversity Committee and provided diversity-related legal services to law firms, other professional services firms and corporations. She was named a "Georgia Rising Star" in Civil Litigation and Labor & Employment by Atlanta Magazine and Law & Politics from 2005 to 2010 and was one of ten lawyers profiled in the magazine's 2006 edition. She was named one of Atlanta's "Up and Comers" by the *Atlanta Business Chronicle* in 2004 and has appeared in *Who's Who in Black Atlanta*. She speaks frequently on substantive labor and employment law issues as well as issues related to diversity in law firms.

Ms. Tandy's employment and diversity related experience includes: conducting high-level internal investigations, providing employment related training to corporations and high-level executives, strategic diversity counseling, ensuring wage-and-hour compliance, and structuring reductions-in-force. She has defended dozens of employment discrimination and/or retaliation claims involving federal and state anti-discrimination laws, whistleblower laws and the FLSA. She regularly represents unionized employers in collective bargaining negotiations, board proceedings and arbitrations. She has also prosecuted and defended multiple trade-secret and restrictive covenant matters.

She is the current Vice President of the Leadership Institute for Women of Color in Law and Business, Inc. Her prior civic and charitable contributions include: Vice President of the Association of Law Firm Diversity Professionals, Committee Chair Cub Scout Pack 2020, Board Member Sheltering Arms for Children, Grady Hospital Board of Visitors and Vice President of the Atlanta Anti-Prejudice Consortium.

Ms. Tandy is a graduate of Harvard University and Duke School of Law. While at Duke, she served as Articles Editor for the Duke Journal of Gender Law and Policy and a member of the Moot Court Board. After graduation, she clerked for the Hon. Richard L. Williams, Eastern District of Virginia, Richmond Division.



VICE-CHAIR

LOVITA  
TANDY

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COURTNEY ANDERSON, ESQ.

**COURTNEY ANDERSON** graduated with a JD from Harvard Law School in 2006 and an LLM from Georgetown University Law Center in 2012. She practices real estate law at Sidley Austin LLP in Chicago for four years before beginning a two-year clinical fellowship at GULC in affordable housing and community development. She is currently a law professor at Georgia State University College of Law, and is the owner of Vibe Ride, a boutique fitness studio located in the Midtown neighborhood of Atlanta, Georgia. Vibe Ride is a start-up company founded in 2014, and is a women and minority owned business that specializes in indoor cycling, and nutrition education.



ROBERT PRESTON BROWN, ESQ.

**ROBERT PRESTON BROWN** currently serves as General Counsel for McKenney's, Inc., one of the largest mechanical contractors in the United States and prior to that worked as Vice President, Deputy General Counsel for The Shaw Group Inc., a global Fortune 500 construction/engineering company. Mr. Brown's in-house counsel roles were preceded by fourteen years in private practice at the law firm Smith, Gambrell & Russell and prior to that he served as a Judicial Law Clerk to the Honorable Duross Fitzpatrick in the United States District Court, Middle District of Georgia.

As a partner in Smith Gambrell's Construction Law Section, Mr. Brown gained "First-Chair" experience handling complex litigation and arbitration cases and played a "Managing Partner" role in large, multi-million dollar international arbitrations. In his in-house counsel position at Shaw, Mr. Brown continued his focus on dispute resolution and actively participated in numerous multi-million dollar arbitrations through award and jury trials to verdict. Mr. Brown later broadened his legal duties when he was tasked with the special assignment of serving as his company's Legal Counsel for the multi-billion dollar Vogtle Units 3 & 4 nuclear power project and now enjoys an even broader role as both a legal and business advisor for his current company.

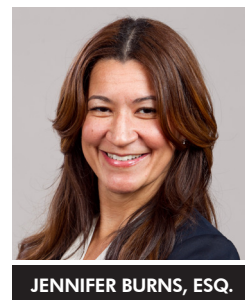
Mr. Brown also serves as an arbitrator and is on the American Arbitration Association's Roster of Neutrals. Additionally, he is a Registered Mediator with the State of Georgia and in 2011 he was named a Fellow in the American College of Construction Lawyers.



**JENNIFER JOHNSON BURNS** currently serves as Vice President & Group Counsel for Equifax, Inc. She is accountable for legal support on all revenue generating business transactions across the U.S. businesses within Equifax, including both B2B and B2C. In her role, she leads the team of lawyers and contract managers who provide business and legal advice and support on a wide range of commercial transactions and matters arising in day-to-day operations.

Prior to her current role, Jennifer served as the primary legal advisor to the President and senior leadership team of the \$1 billion U.S. Consumer Services business division at Equifax, where her responsibilities included partnering with business leaders and aligning legal resources and initiatives to drive results and growth.

Jennifer began her legal career at King & Spalding after obtaining her J.D. from Columbia University and a B.A. from Spelman College. She is a native of Baltimore, Maryland. Jennifer is a mother of three and resides in Atlanta.



**MARLA BUTLER** is a Partner and Technology Industry Leader at Robins Kaplan LLP. Ms. Butler has spent her career litigating and leading high-stakes technology and patent litigation trials, Markman hearings, mediations, and arbitrations. Her representations, have helped technology clients in the medical, manufacturing, semiconductor, LCD, networking, and other electronics technology industries monetize their patent assets and/or defend against lawsuits that threaten their businesses.

Ms. Butler has a strong record of success representing both plaintiffs and defendants in patent infringement actions. She represented Intergraph Hardware Technologies Company in a patent infringement action against major computer manufacturers. In addition, Ms. Butler has successfully represented major technology manufacturers in defending against claims of patent infringement. Most recently, she obtained summary judgment of non-infringement for General Electric in the Northern District of Illinois.

Ms. Butler is a Fellow of the Litigation Counsel of America. She has previously served as Assistant Managing Partner and Hiring Partner for the firm's New York office, Chair of the firm's Diversity Committee, and as a member of the firm's Executive Board.



## 11<sup>TH</sup> *Annual* LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



STACEY CHAVIS, ESQ.

**STACEY CHAVIS** is the Founder of Campaigns Academy. She trains leaders to serve in elected or appointed office and serve in leadership positions for political candidates and campaigns. She also advises local, state and federal candidates for elected office ranging from School Board to Congress. Stacey built her expertise in politics, public service and political leadership training through the years serving as the Southern Regional Director for the White House Project, Deputy Finance Director for the Democratic Party of Georgia, Finance Director for Congressman Hank Johnson (D-GA 4th), Constituent Services Representative for former Congresswoman Denise Majette (D-GA 4th).

In the community, Stacey serves on the United Way of Greater Atlanta Board of Directors, the United Way of Greater Atlanta Public Policy Committee as Chair, Oglethorpe University National Alumni Board and as Co-Chair of the Black/Jewish Coalition. In the Junior League of Atlanta, Stacey served as Vice President for Advocacy and Initiatives and on the Board of Directors. Previously, she served as Political/Public Affairs Committee Chair and served for two years on the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children Committee. Stacey received the Rising Star Award from the Association of Junior Leagues International (AJLI) for her work in educating our community about the real and present dangers of the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Atlanta.

In 2012, Stacey was featured on the cover of the Atlanta Tribune Magazine in the Young Executives issue. Stacey was also honored as one of "Atlanta's Top 100 Women of Influence" by the Atlanta Business League.



HON. CANDACE D. COOPER

**THE HONORABLE CANDACE D. COOPER** [ret] has been a full time mediator and arbitrator with JAMS in Los Angeles since 2009. She handles a wide variety of cases, and has a thriving practice that includes employment, business/commercial, insurance, class action and other matters. Her experience in the employment area has covered a wide range of matters from discrimination, wrongful termination to wage and hour disputes and breach of employment contracts. She has also handled numerous commercial matters, from routine to complex disputes. Cooper serves as a discovery referee and is frequently requested to serve as a neutral evaluator in mock appellate hearings and mock trials.

Justice Cooper retired from the California Court of Appeal where she served as a Presiding Justice from 2001 to 2008 and Associate Justice from 1999 to 2001. Justice Cooper's judicial career began in 1980 and she served on both the Los Angeles Municipal and Superior Courts. Known for her management talents and skills, she had many administrative responsibilities in addition to her trial calendars.

A past President of the California Judges Association, she served on many special committees and boards and has received numerous honors and awards from national, state and local bar associations.

**SHAMITA D. ETIENNE-CUMMINGS** is a partner of White & Case LLP and leads the International Trade Practice in the Washington D.C. office. Shamita concentrates her practice on semiconductor devices and consumer electronics. Prior to joining the firm, Shamita practiced as an electrical engineer and program manager for a major telecommunications corporation. This experience allows Shamita to understand and balance the business needs and the legal obligations of her clients in order to achieve favorable results whether negotiating licenses or litigating in the ITC or federal courts across the US.

As a trial attorney, Shamita has served as co-lead and lead counsel and has substantial experience representing clients in cases involving electronic systems, computer software, internet products and services, medical devices, computer architecture, semiconductor devices and processes, analog and digital circuits and mechanical products in various district courts across the US and in the ITC. Shamita has co-authored an amicus brief on behalf of the Patent and Trademark Section of the Bar Association of the District of Columbia in *Festo v. SMC*.

Shamita is also an adjunct professor of law at George Washington University School of Law in Washington, DC where she teaches a patent litigation practice course and has been recognized for her long service to the legal community.



SHAMITA ETIENNE-CUMMINGS, ESQ.

**A. VERONA DORCH** has been Chief Legal Officer, Executive Vice President of Government Affairs and Corporate Secretary of Peabody Energy Corporation since 2015. Ms. Dorch served as Vice President of Harsco Corporation from 2011-2015 and Chief Compliance Officer until March 2015. She served as the Chief Legal Officer at Harsco advising the leadership team from 3 years. She has more than 20 years of legal experience counseling diverse global businesses, including more than 10 years as in-house counsel for Harsco Corporation, a leading global industrial services company.

She also has experience in corporate and securities law from multiple top-tier law firms and with the Sumitomo Chemical Co. Ms. Dorch increases her involvement in the overall management and administration of legal function and take on additional responsibilities for providing direction to Harsco's legal resources, including overseeing the work activities assigned to outside counsel. Ms. Dorch joined Harsco in 2006, having served in senior legal positions with leading law firms and as a member of the legal team for Sumitomo Chemical Company based in Tokyo, Japan. She served as Legal Professional at Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP. She holds a J.D. from Harvard Law School and a Bachelors of Science degree from Dartmouth College.



VERONA DORCH, ESQ.

## 11<sup>TH</sup> *Annual* LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



ANJALI ENJETI, ESQ.

**ANJALI ENJETI** is an award-winning writer and literary critic. Her essays have appeared in The Guardian, the New York Times, Alternet, Huffington Post, Washington Post, Dame, and elsewhere. Her essay "Borderline" won first prize in the 2015 Prime Number Magazine creative nonfiction contest and was nominated for a Pushcart Prize. Her essay "Generation X's Parenting Problem," went viral and received millions of views. Her humor has appeared in McSweeney's Internet Tendency and Scary Mommy. Her book reviews, profiles, and articles have appeared in The Guardian, Los Angeles Review of Books, Kirkus, the Minneapolis Star Tribune, Khabar, ArtsATL, and Atlanta Magazine.

Anjali received a B.S. in Psychology from Duke University, a J.D. from Washington University School of Law, and a MFA in creative writing at Queens University in Charlotte, where she served as a fiction editorial assistant for Qu Literary Journal. She has been awarded writers' residencies at The Hambidge Center and Rivendell Writers' Colony and is a member of the National Book Critics Circle and the Decatur Book Festival programming committee. She lives near Atlanta with her family, has recently completed her first novel, *Shiva's End*, and is at work on her second novel, *The Parted Earth*.



BURT FEALING, ESQ.

**BURT M. FEALING** is the Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary for Southwire Company, North America's leading manufacturer of wire and cable used in the distribution and transmission of electricity. With more than \$5 Billion of revenue, Southwire manufactures and supplies wires and cables for residential, commercial, mining, industrial, transmission, substation, distribution, renewable, and original equipment manufacturer markets in North America.

Prior to joining Southwire, Fealing served as the Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary at ITT Corporation (NYSE:ITT) in White Plains, NY.

Fealing joined ITT in 2010 from retail grocery provider SUPERVALU INC, where he served as vice president, corporate secretary and chief securities counsel. He previously held numerous leadership roles at Verizon Communications, including serving as the general counsel for one of its businesses. Fealing has extensive experience advising on board of directors and corporate governance issues, as well as federal securities law and regulatory compliance.

He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in economics with honors and psychology from Williams College in Williamstown, Mass., and received his Juris Doctorate from Harvard Law School in Cambridge, Mass.

**WENDY L. GOMEZ** is a graduate of Cleveland-Marshall College of Law in Cleveland, Ohio. She is currently the Director of Attorney Talent for FordHarrison LLP, where she is responsible for the recruitment and professional development of associates and other non-partner attorneys throughout the firm. She also serves as the administrative member of the firm's lateral partner recruitment committee and Diversity Executive Council.

Before joining FordHarrison, Wendy was the Senior Director of Candidate Development for Counsel on Call in Atlanta where she managed both local and national attorney recruiting and client management efforts. Prior to that, she was a commercial real estate Associate with both Jones Day and Troutman Sanders LLP in Atlanta.



WENDY GOMEZ, ESQ.

**ALLEGRA LAWRENCE-HARDY** focuses her practice on Business and Commercial Litigation and Labor and Employment. She works with her clients on complex commercial and labor and employment matters. She has successfully defended Fortune 100 companies throughout the United States and abroad in numerous trials, arbitrations and other forms of alternative dispute resolution.

She often shares her deep litigation knowledge as a prolific author and sought-after speaker. While serving as chair of Sutherland's Diversity and Inclusion Committee, she developed Sutherland Scholars, a summer pre-law school "boot camp" offered at no cost for students from historically black colleges and universities. Ms. Lawrence-Hardy was a law clerk for the Honorable Susan H. Black of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. She is a fellow in the Litigation Counsel of America, which is an invitation-only trial lawyer honorary society and represents less than one-half of one percent of American lawyers.



ALLEGRA LAWRENCE-HARDY, ESQ.

Some highlights of her achievements include: recognized by *Chambers USA: Guide to Leading Business Lawyers*; repeatedly named to *The Best Lawyers in America* in the area of litigation – labor and employment, commercial litigation and employment law – management; selected for inclusion among *The Black Lawyers* "Top 100" in Business Law and Employment Law; named to the "Rainmakers" list by *Diversity & the Bar* for having an established record of generating business; selected as an "Unsung Heroine" by the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc., Metropolitan Atlanta Chapter; repeatedly selected for inclusion in *Georgia Super Lawyers*® "Top 50 Female Georgia Super Lawyers" and "Top 100 Georgia Super Lawyers;" and the recipient of the "Women Worth Watching" Award from *Profiles in Diversity Journal*.





ANGELA HSU, ESQ.

**ANGELA HSU**, serves as Vice President, Legal & Assistant Secretary at Duke Realty Corporation. She previously served as an officer and board member on a number of local and regional organizations including Regional Leadership Foundation, the Georgia chapter of the Organization of Chinese Americans, the Emory University Board of Visitors and the Georgia Asian Pacific Islander Bar Association. Hsu earned an undergraduate degree in Architecture and Environmental Design from the University of California at Berkley and a juris doctor from Emory University School of Law. She and her husband, Jack, have two children.



CHARLES HUDDLESTON, ESQ.

**CHARLES HUDDLESTON** is of counsel in Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP's Atlanta office, where he litigates commercial, employment and labor issues, drafts employment agreements and restrictive covenants, and conducts training on preventing discrimination and harassment and managing diversity. He has tried multimillion-dollar civil cases to jury verdicts in state and federal courts. In addition, Mr. Huddleston has experience representing companies before governmental agencies and bodies.

Mr. Huddleston litigates commercial, employment and labor issues, drafts employment agreements and restrictive covenants, and conducts training on preventing discrimination and harassment and managing diversity.

Mr. Huddleston has served as a mentor and coach to young women and helped them secure a college education for free through the Georgia Metro Girls Basketball Club, formed by South DeKalb County African American families. In addition, Mr. Huddleston is co-Chair of Men with Vision Committee of the Atlanta Women's Foundation, a Charter Member of the Advisory Council for Atlanta Mayor's Women's Agenda, and he is currently serving on the Board of Directors of Leadership DeKalb, OnBoard, Inc. and the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. He has chaired the State Bar's Diversity Program since 2006 and has been recognized for his efforts to increase diversity in the legal profession and courts.

**THE HONORABLE ASHA F. JACKSON** is a Superior Court Judge in DeKalb County, Georgia where she was appointed to the bench in 2012 and elected in an uncontested race to another four year term in May of 2014. Judge Jackson has the distinct honor of having clerked for her predecessor on the bench, Judge Michael Hancock just after graduating from law school. Prior to becoming a Judge, Judge Jackson was a partner practicing commercial litigation out of the Atlanta office of Barnes and Thornburg, LLP and prior to this, she was a partner practicing tort litigation and professional negligence out of the Atlanta office of Carlock, Copeland, and Stair, LLP.

In her current position, Judge Jackson presides over more than 1,000 civil, criminal, and domestic cases assigned to her division and her responsibilities include presiding over various hearings, motions, and trials. Because of her passionate commitment to the community and her belief in young people, Judge Jackson created Project Pinnacle, a one year mandatory in-court experience requiring non-violent offenders under the age of 27 to meet with her and many volunteer community stakeholders. The goal of Project Pinnacle is to discourage offenders from committing further offenses by providing them with life skills training, GED and technical school assistance and moral recognition workshops.

Judge Jackson is very active in the legal community. She has held various leadership positions in the Atlanta Bar Association, the Gate City Bar Association, and the Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys.

As the Vice President of Development, **ASHLEY KILPATRICK** leads the fundraising strategy and execution for the national nonprofit Back on My Feet. Operating in 11 major cities coast-to-coast, including Atlanta, Back on My Feet combats homelessness through the power of running, community, and essential employment and housing resources. Ashley joined Back on My Feet in 2011 as the first Executive Director of Back on My Feet Atlanta. She then served as the Regional Executive Director over Back on My Feet's Baltimore and DC chapters. Previously, Ashley worked in foundation and corporate relations at a major university and led the major gifts program for a national mental health nonprofit. Her current work focuses on building national corporate partnerships, strengthening Back on My Feet's development infrastructure and diversifying the organization's funding.

Ashley graduated magna cum laude from Vanderbilt University and cum laude from the University of Georgia School of Law.



HON. ASHA F. JACKSON



ASHLEY M. KILPATRICK, ESQ.



BRENDA LOPEZ, ESQ.

**BRENDA LOPEZ** is the Principal Attorney at The Lopez Firm, LLC handling removal and family based immigration cases. Fluent in English and Spanish, Brenda seeks to incorporate immigration, civil rights, international law, and community development into the practice of law.

Brenda holds a law degree from Syracuse University with a National Security and Counterterrorism certificate and a bachelor's degree from Georgia State University in Political Science and Sociology. While in law school, she was a clerk for Georgia Legal Services Program, American Civil Liberties Union, and an intern for Trial Judge Laura Galvan Salgado for the First District Court of Morelos in Mexico. Currently, she is member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association, Hispanic National Bar Association, and Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

Brenda is also involved in political, legal, and education advocacy. She is proud to serve as Vice-Chair of the Latino Caucus for the Democratic Party of Georgia. Among her lengthy volunteerism, she is most excited to be a G.E.D. instructor with the Marist School Adult Education Program.



ANA MARIA MARTINEZ, ESQ.

**ANA MARÍA MARTINEZ** is the Staff Attorney for the Hon. Dax E. López, DeKalb State Court. Prior to working for Judge López, she was a litigator at the law firm of Owen, Gleaton, Egan, Jones and Sweeney, LLP, where she practiced in the areas of premises liability, professional malpractice, consumer warranty, and employment law.

Ana María attended the University of Georgia, where she obtained a B.B.A. in Marketing and a minor in Spanish. She obtained her law degree from Georgia State University in 2009, where she graduated cum laude and with Pro Bono distinction.

She served as the president of the Georgia Hispanic Bar Association (2012-2014) and the co-Chair of the Multi-Bar Leadership Council (2013-2014), as well as chair or co-chair of numerous State Bar of Georgia Young Lawyers committees. Currently, she serves on the board of the Georgia Hispanic Bar Association and the DeKalb Bar Association.

In 2015, she co-founded the Georgia Latino Law Foundation. The GLLF's mission is to increase diversity in the legal profession by supporting the Latino legal community pipeline. She currently serves as president of the GLLF.

Originally from Colombia, South America, she is fluent in English and Spanish.

**DIONYSIA JOHNSON-MASSIE** is a former General Counsel and has successfully litigated in federal and state courts and investigated and provided advice on thousands of employment law matters – including discrimination, harassment, disability, FMLA leaves, religious and ADA accommodations, wage and hour, privacy, electronic usage, workplace investigations, ethics, compliance, diversity and inclusion, retaliation and whistleblowing – for some of the nation’s largest companies and organizations.

Dionysia is a former Board Member and a current Equity Shareholder at Littler Mendelson. She also is a founding member and current Co-Chairperson of Littler’s Diversity and Inclusion Council (“D&IC”), and founding Co-Chairperson of its Women’s Leadership Initiative where she has helped to strategize about and to develop some of the firm’s most innovative diversity programs. Among her various awards and recognitions, Dionysia was recognized as one of the *Most Influential Black Lawyers in the Country* by Savoy in 2015, selected as a Georgia Super Lawyer for multiple years, inducted as a Fellow with Litigation Counsel of America, and selected as a member of Leadership Atlanta and subsequently selected as a study group co leader. She is also a Legal Smarts columnist, writing on workplace labor and employment strategies, with the Atlanta Tribune.

Dionysia earned two degrees from Yale and a law degree from the University of Virginia School of Law. She lives with her wonderful family, Dr. Clarence Massie, Jr. (Ph.D), Trey and Morgan in Atlanta.



DIONYSIA L. JOHNSON-MASSIE, ESQ.

**REGINA MOLDEN** is Managing Partner of the Molden Law Firm, LLC and focuses her practice on complex commercial litigation, and employment matters, including the following: wrongful termination, employment discrimination, wage/hour and overtime law, disability and medical leave, sexual harassment, retaliation, employment and non-compete agreements. Prior to founding The Molden Law Firm, Regina was an associate in the Securities Litigation Group at Alston & Bird, LLP where she successfully defended a number of directors and officers against business related claims, including fraud, breach of fiduciary duty, corporate waste and misrepresentation. Prior to practicing law, Regina worked as an advertising account executive. Her experience includes television, radio and newspaper advertising sales.



REGINA S. MOLDEN, ESQ.

Regina is continually acknowledged as a leader in the legal field. She has been recognized by The Daily Report as one of Georgia’s Top 10 lawyers under the age of 40 “predicted to leave their mark on the profession,” and has been profiled by Small Firm Magazine regarding her work as a trial lawyer. Regina was also profiled in Georgia Super Lawyers Magazine and has appeared on the cover of Atlanta Woman Magazine. Year after year, Georgia Super Lawyers Magazine lists Regina as a Georgia Super Lawyer.



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AMBER MURRAY, ESQ.

**AMBER MURRAY** serves as Counsel and Vice President in the legal and risk management department at Jamestown. Ms. Murray joined the company in 2013 as counsel with a focus on portfolio management and capital markets transactions. Prior to joining Jamestown, Amber practiced in the capital transactions and real estate group at King & Spalding LLP in Atlanta, Georgia where her practice focused on the representation of institutional investors, multifamily residential REITs, and office, retail, medical, and industrial developers in the acquisition, disposition, development, and financing of real estate assets located throughout the United States. Ms. Murray received a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Spanish from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a Master of Arts in Hispanic Language and Cultures from New York University. Ms. Murray attended law school at Georgetown University Law Center. Amber is a member of the board of directors of the Georgia Law Center for the Homeless and the board of directors of the alumni association of the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics.



MASAE OKURA, ESQ.

**MASAE OKURA** represents multinational companies in developing global immigration strategies to bring their workforce from around the world. Ms. Okura works together with businesses to implement compliance programs with regard to H1B regulations, I-9, E-Verify, SEVIS and employment matters. Ms. Okura routinely conducts immigration seminars and trainings for multinational companies in cooperation with the Japanese Chamber of Commerce of GA, US-Japan Society of GA, Consulate General of Japan in Atlanta, and Consulate General of Japan in Nashville. She publishes her immigration articles on Japanese business magazines (Benricho, Y's publication), business newsletters and Japanese language newspapers.

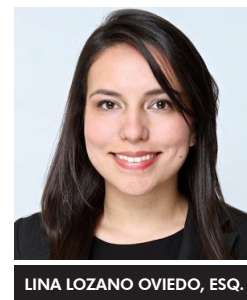
Ms. Okura is well versed with the unique Japanese business practices. Prior to moving to the United States, Ms. Okura worked in the securities, banking, and manufacturing industries in Japan. She has expertise in conducting business in English, Japanese and Chinese. In addition, Ms. Okura passed the U.S. CPA exam, and worked for banks and financial institutions in the fields of risk management, internal control, financial audit and securitization. She also evaluates the financial soundness of companies' financial ability to sponsor foreign nationals for immigrant and nonimmigrant petitions.

Ms. Okura is an active member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association, American Bar Association, Atlanta Bar Associations, US-Japan Society of Georgia, Japanese Chamber of Commerce of Georgia, Georgia Pacific Asians Bar Association and Chamber of Commerce of Metro Atlanta (International Council). She also served as a Board Member/Financial Advisor of the Asian American Legal Advocacy Center (currently, "Asian American Advancing Justice") from 2012-2014. She currently serves as a general counsel to the Consulate General of Japan in Atlanta.

**LINA LOZANO OVIEDO** is a Legal Specialist at Mercedes-Benz USA, LLC (MBUSA). As legal specialist, Lina assists with litigation matters including litigation holds and discovery, warranty, products liability, patent infringement, trademark and brand protection, employment law, commercial litigation, and other litigation.

Prior to joining MBUSA, Lina was an Assistant Solicitor-General for the DeKalb County Solicitor-General's Office where she prosecuted criminal misdemeanor offenses. Lina serves as Secretary for the Georgia Latino Law Foundation and is a member of the Georgia Hispanic Bar Association.

A native of Colombia, South America, Lina immigrated to the United States in 2003. Lina received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and International Affairs from the University of Georgia and her Juris Doctor from the Atlanta's John Marshall School of Law.



**ADRIA PEREZ** focuses her practice on representing both corporations and individuals in white collar criminal defense matters, government enforcement issues, as well as internal, criminal and SEC investigations. Her experience includes handling issues relating to the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, False Claims Act (including government contracting, healthcare and tax matters), Civil Investigative Demands and export enforcement. Ms. Perez assists clients in responding to inquiries from and government investigations conducted by the DOJ, SEC, OCC and Office of Inspector General from a variety of federal agencies. She also counsels clients on developing and strengthening compliance programs and policies. Additionally, Ms. Perez's practice includes representing various companies in complex commercial litigation.



Ms. Perez is a member of the firm's Pro Bono Committee. She was recognized as a 2011 "40 Under 40" Rising Leader by the *Atlanta Business Chronicle*. In 2015 and the three years immediately preceding, *Super Lawyers* magazine recognized Ms. Perez as a Georgia "Rising Star" in the area of White Collar Criminal Defense. In 2013 and 2014, she was listed as a *Georgia Trend* "Legal Elite" in the area of Criminal Law. Ms. Perez is fluent in Spanish.



RICK RUFOLO, ESQ.

**RICHARD M. RUFOLO** is the Labor and Employment and Litigation practice group coordinator for the UPS Legal Department and reports to the General Counsel. Mr. Rufolo manages attorneys with responsibility for Employment Litigation, Labor Negotiations and Arbitrations, Employee Benefits and Pension/401(k) and Commercial and General Litigation practice areas at UPS.

He has been employed at UPS for 27 years. In addition to several assignments in the Legal Department, Mr. Rufolo has held positions in the real estate, asset acquisitions and procurement functions. Mr. Rufolo is a member of the UPS Diversity & Inclusion Advisory Council and is a member of the board of directors for the Truancy Intervention Project and the Atlanta Legal Aid Society. He also serves on the advisory boards of the American Employment Law Council, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Fulton County and Life Teen Covecrest.

He received his undergraduate degree from Old Dominion University and his law degree from the Seton Hall University School of Law. Rick, his wife Gina and their four kids reside in Dunwoody, Georgia.



ASHOO SHARMA, ESQ.

**ASHOO SHARMA** serves as General Counsel to HomeServices of Georgia, the holding company for Harry Norman, REALTORS® and Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Georgia Properties. Ms. Sharma supports both organizations.

Ms. Sharma is a highly skilled legal expert and joined Berkshire Hathaway from Weissman, Nowack, Curry & Wilco, P.C. (WNCW). While at WNCW, Ms. Sharma actively represented clients throughout Georgia in all phases of commercial, business, employment, real estate, brokerage, and E&O insurance defense litigation matters. She has developed a stellar record of successfully negotiating and settling real estate disputes.

Ms. Sharma primarily manages all of Harry Norman, REALTORS® and Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Georgia Properties legal issues including compliance of RESPA, Real Estate and Brokerage law, training on legal issues, office leases, and litigation management.

Ms. Sharma began her legal career as the in-house paralegal to the General Counsel at Macy's, Inc. and after law school worked as an Associate Attorney at Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker in Atlanta, Ga. prior to joining WNCW in 2002. Ms. Sharma earned her JD from the University Of Georgia School Of Law, Athens, Ga., and her B.S. in Criminal Justice from Georgia State University.

An active member of the Georgia legal and business community, Ms. Sharma has served as the executive vice president of Georgia Indo-American Chamber of Commerce and as vice president and founding board member of SABA, the local South-Asian Attorney Bar association. She is a past Barrister in the Bleckley Inn of Court and was named a 2006 and 2011 "Georgia Rising Star" based on recognition and nominations from her peers.

**MAYA DILLARD SMITH** is the Executive Director of the ACLU of Georgia. For nearly a decade, Maya Dillard Smith served as a Senate-appointed member of the California Commission on Judicial Performance, the whistleblower state agency responsible for investigating and adjudicating allegations of judicial conduct among California's 2,000 law-trained judges and subordinate judicial officers. As a commissioner, Dillard Smith disciplined judges, including removing them from office. She served as Chair of the Rules Committee from 2012-2014 promulgating and enforcing rules of judicial ethics and orchestrating legislative strategy.

Concurrent with her tenure on the Commission, Dillard Smith oversaw violence prevention and safety funds totaling more than one half-billion dollars in the San Francisco Bay Area. From 2007 to 2009, she served as senior advisor to the Mayor and Director in the Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice and Community Investment in the City and County of San Francisco. There, she oversaw the development and implementation of the city's first ever comprehensive violence prevention strategy funded by the U.S. Department of Justice. She also managed interagency coordination among fourteen city-county agencies and a budget of \$350 million. Over the tenure of the plan, homicides declined 50%. At the same time, she served as a council appointed member of the legislatively mandated Violence Prevention & Public Safety Oversight Committee for City of Oakland, where she was elected the Committee's founding chairman, and reelected chair each of her four consecutive terms from 2005 to 2009. She oversaw the implementation of and ensured the city's compliance with the 10-year, \$200 million community policing and public safety taxpayer initiative.

Dillard Smith was part of a two-person team responsible for implementing Assembly Bill 1814 and statewide jury system reforms in California through the Executive Office of the Administrative Office of the Courts. She led strategic planning efforts statewide with working groups of judges, bar associations, court executives and citizen groups to streamline the juror summons process statewide and increase education and public awareness about jury service with the goal of increasing participation particularly among the low-income and minorities. As of 2010, almost one third of trial courts statewide use the model summons Dillard Smith helped create.



MAYA DILLARD SMITH, ESQ.



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CARMEN TOLEDO, ESQ.

**CARMEN R. TOLEDO** is a partner in the Atlanta office of King & Spalding, where she concentrates her practice on toxic tort, environmental and other litigation matters. She began her career in the Los Angeles office of Sidley & Austin. She has handled individual, mass joinder and class action cases throughout the US, both at the trial and appellate levels. She is admitted to practice in Georgia and California.

Ms. Toledo is a native of San Juan, Puerto Rico, and is fluent in Spanish. She is a frequent speaker on diversity and mentoring issues. Ms. Toledo graduated from the University of California-Davis and obtained her law degree at the Yale Law School.



TERI WALKER, ESQ.

**TERI WALKER** is a career prosecutor with over 12 years of experience and several years of criminal defense experience. Teri has worked in 3 Solicitor's offices: City of Atlanta, Fulton County, and DeKalb County as a Senior Assistant Solicitor-General – giving her more and diverse experience than any of her competitors. Teri prosecuted over 5,000 cases including hundreds of domestic violence cases and DUI cases. Teri went on to be assigned to the specialized DUI court in DeKalb County. Teri has had 100% of her convictions upheld by higher courts. She has trained law enforcement officers statewide with the Prosecuting Attorney's Council of Georgia and the Georgia Police Academy. Teri is also a member of the Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys (GABWA), a past seat holder for the Fulton County Democratic Party, and a member of Red Clay Democrats.



BENJAMIN WILSON, ESQ.

**BENJAMIN F. WILSON** is Managing Principal of Beveridge & Diamond, P.C., a 100-lawyer firm focused on environmental and natural resource law and litigation. He serves as lead counsel in complex litigation matters for major corporations and developers, and represents cities and local government agencies on Clean Water Act enforcement, wetlands development, Superfund and environmental justice matters. He is currently serving as the Court Appointed Monitor for the Duke Energy ash spill case.

Mr. Wilson received a 2014 Spirit of Excellence award from the American Bar Association (ABA) Commission on Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Profession, and a 2013 Dedication to Diversity and Justice award from the ABA Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources. In 2015, Savoy named him to its list of the Most Influential Black Lawyers and in 2014 The Network Journal profiled him for its "Attorneys at the Top" feature. Mr. Wilson established the African American General Counsel and Managing Partners Network in 2012, and founded the Diverse Partners Network in 2008.

Mr. Wilson graduated from Dartmouth College and from Harvard Law School. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company, the Environmental Law Institute, the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity, on the Board of Governors of the District of Columbia Bar, and the Board of Trustees of Dartmouth College. He is also an Adjunct Professor in Environmental Law at the Howard University Law School.

**LUTHER WRIGHT, JR.** began his career with a general practice firm in the litigation section. He spent the first several years of his legal career practicing in the general litigation area before joining the Labor & Employment team. He has significant experience in the areas of labor and employment law, corporate business litigation and complex litigation, including class action and collective action lawsuits. He typically represents management in all forms of employment discrimination litigation, including litigation based on federal anti-discrimination statutes, state statutes and common law, violence in the workplace, Fair Labor Standards Act claims and independent contractor disputes. Luther also devotes a significant amount of his practice to day-to-day client advice and supervisor/employee training.



LUTHER WRIGHT, JR., ESQ.

**MICHAEL C. WU** is senior vice president, general counsel and secretary of Carter's, Inc., the largest branded marketer in the United States of apparel for babies and young children. In this role, Mr. Wu is responsible for all legal and government affairs, compliance, internal audit, risk management and corporate social responsibility.

Prior to joining Carter's, Mr. Wu was general counsel and corporate secretary of Rosetta Stone Inc. He established Rosetta Stone's anti-piracy and anti-fraud enforcement program and oversaw the company's successful initial public offering on the New York Stock Exchange and the acquisitions of Lexia Learning, Livemocha, Tell Me More and Vivity Labs. Before joining Rosetta Stone, Mr. Wu was vice president and general counsel at Montreal-based Teleglobe International Holdings Ltd. Mr. Wu led Teleglobe's acquisition of ITXC Corp., the listing of Teleglobe on NASDAQ in 2004 and the sale of Teleglobe to the Tata Group. Prior to Teleglobe, Mr. Wu was a senior attorney of Global One, an international joint venture between Sprint, Deutsche Telekom and France Telecom.



MICHAEL WU, ESQ.

Mr. Wu is a member of the general counsel forum of the National Retail Federation, a member of the board of directors of the Georgia Asian Pacific American Bar Association, a former member of the board of directors of the BSA|The Software Alliance, and a former member of the board of directors of the Association of Corporate Counsel - National Capital Region. Mr. Wu was named a Top General Counsel to Watch by NYSE's Corporate Board Member magazine in 2013. Mr. Wu holds a Juris Doctorate degree from the University of Virginia School of Law and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Emory University.



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