



# DIRECTWOMEN

ACCELERATING BOARD OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **DirectWomen Announces Selection of 17 Highly Accomplished Women Lawyers in 2023 Board Institute Class**

*The DirectWomen Board Institute Positions Women Lawyers for Service on Corporate Boards*

NEW YORK — DirectWomen is pleased to announce the members of its 2023 DirectWomen Board Institute class. The Board Institute will be held October 4-6, 2023.

The 2023 DirectWomen Board Institute class is comprised of General Counsel of Fortune 500 companies, senior partners at top law firms, and leading lawyers from the nation's largest private companies and non-profit organizations. These distinguished women lawyers represent a wide range of business knowledge and experience in their industries, which include agriculture, financial services, insurance, retail, manufacturing, healthcare, and transportation and logistics, among others.

Board Institute participants are identified through a rigorous search and selection process that involves a written application, reference letters, and a committee selection panel. At the Board Institute, the class will meet with an extraordinary faculty comprised of CEOs, C-suite and search firm executives, and directors of public companies to discuss key issues facing corporate directors. The Board Institute is chaired by Professor Hillary A. Sale, Associate Dean for Strategy, Agnes Williams Sesquicentennial Professor of Leadership and Corporate Governance, and Professor of Management, Georgetown University; Advisory Board Member, Foundation Press; Director, Cboe U.S. Securities Exchanges, CFE and Cboe SEF.

“Empirical studies indicate that lawyer-directors’ professional judgment, legal expertise, and familiarity with regulation and risk management improve the value and operation of the company,” said Catharine Biggs Arrowood, Chair of DirectWomen. “The women we select for our Board Institute are also highly successful business executives and strategic thought leaders in their industries. DirectWomen Board Institute alumnae have held more than 180 corporate board seats,” she added. “As I reflect on the success of our alumnae, I am confident that members of the 2023 class will similarly receive future appointments as directors and will add significant value to their companies’ boards.”

Members of the 2023 DirectWomen Board Institute include:

**Erin H. Abrams**

Chief Legal Officer, Via Transportation Inc.

New York, NY

**Kathrin P. Belliveau**

Executive Vice President and Chief Purpose Officer, Hasbro, Inc.  
Pawtucket, RI

**Kerry E. Berchem**

Partner, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP  
New York, NY

**Gina Beredo**

Executive Vice President, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary, Owens Corning  
Toledo, OH

**Christine M. Castellano**

Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary, The Andersons  
Maumee, OH

**Paulette R. Dodson**

Former General Counsel, Alight Inc.  
Evanston, IL

**Jen Fonner Fitchen**

Retired Partner, Global Co-Leader M&A Practice Group, Sidley Austin LLP  
Palo Alto, CA

**Rose Marie E. Glazer**

Executive Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer, American International Group, Inc.  
New York, NY

**Deborah Gordon**

Executive Vice President, Chief Administrative Officer, and Chief Legal Officer, Memorial Hermann Health System  
Houston, TX

**Julie Gruber**

Executive Vice President, Chief Legal and Compliance Officer, and Corporate Secretary, Gap Inc.  
San Francisco, CA

**Jill D. Jacobson**

Vice President and General Counsel, Electrolux North America, Inc.  
Charlotte, NC

**Nora LaFreniere**

Executive Vice President and General Counsel, Otis Worldwide  
Farmington, CT

**Dianne Ralston**

Chief Legal Officer and Secretary, SLB  
Houston, TX

**Dara Redler**

Chief Legal Officer, H&R Block, Inc.  
Kansas City, MO

**Lori A. Schechter**

Executive Vice President, Chief Legal Officer, and General Counsel, McKesson Corporation  
Irving, TX

**Amy K. Singh**

Executive Vice President, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary, Baron App, Inc. dba Cameo and Represent  
Chicago, IL

**Jill Twedt**

Senior Vice President, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary, Boise Cascade  
Boise, ID

**About DirectWomen**

The mission of DirectWomen is to increase the representation of women lawyers on corporate boards. DirectWomen identifies leading women lawyers who are able to provide the experience, independence, and business judgment required for corporate board effectiveness. Through its various programs, DirectWomen develops and positions women attorney leaders for board service. It also serves as a resource for companies seeking qualified women board candidates. Direct Women is a registered 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

[www.DirectWomen.org](http://www.DirectWomen.org)

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