



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**DirectWomen Announces New 2025 Board of Directors**

CHICAGO (November 26, 2024)--Three new members joined the [DirectWomen](#)'s Board of Directors for 2025. DirectWomen's mission is to increase the number of women lawyers on corporate board of directors. The DirectWomen's board includes leading executives from top global corporations, law firms, academia, and venture capital. The three new directors are:

A DirectWomen 2022 [Board Institute](#) Alumna, Palo Alto-based [Cynthia J. Cole](#) is Chair of Baker McKenzie's Global Commercial, Tech and Transactions Business Unit, a member of the Firm's global Commercial, Data, IP and Trade (CDIT) practice group steering Committee and Co-chair of Baker Women California. A former CEO and General Counsel, Cynthia was Deputy Department Chair of the Corporate Section in the California offices of Baker Botts where she built the technology transactions and data privacy practice. An intellectual property transactions attorney, Cynthia also has expertise in AI, digital transformation, data privacy, and cybersecurity strategy. She acts as outside general counsel to several executive teams and boards of directors.

A 2019 DirectWomen Board Institute Alumna, Houston-based [Veronica Foley](#) has more than two decades of experience in the energy business. Currently, she serves as Chief Legal & Compliance Officer at Precision Drilling. Before joining Precision, Ms. Foley spent more than seven years working at Norton Rose Fulbright, LLP. In private practice, she represented several international companies in internal investigations and handling litigation and international arbitration matters. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Baylor University, and a J.D. from South Texas College of Law. She serves on the boards of various educational and professional institutions.

[Thomas J. Kim](#) is a partner in the Washington D.C. office of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher, LLP, where he is a member of the firm's Securities Regulation and Corporate Governance Practice Group. Mr. Kim has extensive experience handling regulatory matters for companies with the SEC. He served at the SEC for six years as the Chief Counsel and Associate Director of the Division of Corporation Finance, and for one year as Counsel to the Chairman. Before joining Gibson Dunn, Mr. Kim was a partner with Sidley Austin LLP. Before his tenure at the SEC, he served as Corporate and Securities Counsel for General Electric.

Other members of the Board are:

- CHAIR **Lily Yan Hughes**, Assistant Dean of Career Services, Syracuse University College of Law; Former Senior Vice President, Chief Legal Officer, and Corporate Secretary, Arrow Electronics, Inc. and Public Storage.

- SECRETARY **Maria C. Green**, Former Senior Vice President and General Counsel, Ingersoll Rand Inc.; Director, Fathom Digital Manufacturing Corporation, Littelfuse, Inc., Tennant Company, and WEC Energy Group, Inc.
- TREASURER **Mark J. Gentile**, Director, Richards, Layton & Finger, P.A.
- ASSISTANT TREASURER **Jenny Hochenberg**, Partner, Freshfields **Kimberly Y. Chainey**, Senior Vice President, Chief Legal Officer, and Corporate Secretary, AptarGroup Inc.; Director, NeoPhotonics Corporation
- **Yen D. Chu**, Executive Vice President, Chief Legal Officer, and Corporate Secretary, Tailored Brands, Inc.
- **Michele L. Connell**, Global Managing Partner, Squire Patton Boggs
- **Eve N. Howard**, Former Global Head of Capital Markets Practice, Hogan Lovells US LLP; Director, Cogent Communications Holdings, Inc.
- **Susan S. Lanigan**, Former Executive Vice President and General Counsel, Dollar General Corporation and Chico's FAS, Inc.; Director, Kirkland's, Inc. and Simmons First National Corporation
- **Kim Yapchai**, Executive Vice President, Chief Legal Officer, Teichert **Andrea L. Zopp**, Managing Director, Cleveland Avenue; Director, Empowerment and Inclusion Capital Corp, Federal Home Loan Bank of Chicago, and Relativity ODA LLC

#### **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 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. Learn more at [DirectWomen.org](http://DirectWomen.org).