



CCWC MEMBER FEATURE

From the Early Days to Present



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“ Seek out and ask for opportunities that will stretch you ”

Q: What job and title did you have when you first joined Corporate Counsel Women of Color?

A: *I was Corporate Counsel at Quest Diagnostics.*

Q: What job and title do you have today?

A: *In December 2020, I joined Medtronic as a VP Legal responsible for legal support for its Renal Care Solutions business and its US Contracting organization. I will still maintain a scaled down version of Measure of Ambition LLC primarily focusing on events and writing.*

Q: What road did you take to get to your current job?

A: *I recently returned to Corporate Legal after taking an almost 2-year hiatus running my own leadership development and coaching firm. I enjoyed it and grew tremendously learning so much about running a business and myself. I started my legal career as an Assistant District Attorney in Bronx, NY. Thereafter, I worked at a law firm to represent physicians and health care institutions on professional liability claims.*

I then joined Quest Diagnostics on the litigation management team. I also became certified in Six Sigma, created cross-collaboration risk mitigation teams, and initiated diversity and corporate community service initiatives. I later requested to move to the commercial group handling commercial transactions, compliance counseling, joint ventures, and special projects functions.

In 2005 I joined Bayer as Head of US Legal for its Diabetes Care business. The division was just spun off so I had to create legal and compliance processes (including implementing a CIA). I was then promoted to run the department globally, expanding my global commercial and functional experience. I was again promoted to be Vice President Head of Law for Bayer's radiology business. In this role, my team had commercial but was also responsible for counseling global support functions of regulatory, quality, manufacturing, medical, and software business.

Q: As you look back over your career, what career strategies would you give to the women of color attorneys in the Corporate Counsel Women of Color network?

A:

- 1. Build relationships across businesses and functions and up and down the hierarchy. Your name has to come up often within an organization.*
- 2. Keep learning and growing, including getting a coach. Boredom is deadly to a career.*
- 3. Seek out and ask for opportunities that will stretch you. You have to do risky assignments so that others know they can trust you to handle complexity and failure.*
- 4. Keep a healthy mind and body lifestyle. Watch your inner circle and your habits.*
- 5. Go beyond your role, seek to do things that will bring an overall benefit to the organization.*

Q: Is there any one take away that has stayed with you from the CCWC early days?

A: *The absolute necessity of having like minded women for support, create friendships, and to help each other have a successful career through sharing learnings and experiences. In this CCWC environment we are available, vulnerable and open to sharing experiences and resources. I have met amazing friends and confidantes through CCWC.*