



CCWC MEMBER FEATURE

From the Early Days to Present

Lucy Lopez
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“Be deliberate, look up from your desk, and look ahead 2, 5, and 10 years.”

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

A: *I was an Associate General Counsel at McKinsey & Company, advising internal clients mostly on M&A related issues.*

Q: What job and title do you have today?

A: *I am the Head of Legal for the Americas at McKinsey.*

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

A: *I have truly enjoyed my path at McKinsey, advising a firm that is constantly innovating. Every day, month, and year has brought new complex challenges and the opportunity to grow and build new skills. I derive a great deal of pride from knowing that I've played a key role in the growth of a legal department from 6 lawyers to nearly 200 professionals and the growth of a global firm from 10,000 to well over 30,000 people globally. I've been part of that geographic, service line, and capabilities expansion, and it's been quite a journey of incredible personal growth and professional impact on a business and on industry.*

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

A:

- 1. Please Build Your Network. Build your network with (1) peers, (2) people who are ahead of you on their journey and who you admire, and (3) search firm professionals. These are the people who will form your circle of advisors and generators of opportunity well into the future. Start now!*
- 2. Focus on Your Career Development. Be deliberate, look up from your desk, and look ahead 2, 5, and 10 years. Where do you want to be and what is your plan to get there? Tied to my first point above, line up your coaches and sponsors for the journey. No one will advocate for you unless you advocate for yourself.*
- 3. Invest in Yourself. Is your resume in top shape (at all times)? Do you have a bio you are proud of and that you can send out immediately to anyone upon request? Are your interviewing skills top notch? Is your LinkedIn profile top notch? Do you need a coach to strengthen a core skill? If you want to play in the big leagues, you must be ready for the big leagues. By the way, don't be afraid of feedback. If we want to grow, we have to be open to feedback. In fact, it is essential for our growth.*
- 4. Be Active Outside of Your Organization. Find things you love outside your role and pursue them so that you can be a more well-rounded (and happy) professional. This could mean a nonprofit board, a bar association committee, or a subject area on which you want to publish content.*
- 5. Give Back. Look at the class behind you, your sisters coming up through the ranks, and please reach back and lift them up. None of us can do this alone, and none of us should have to. Let's support one another.*

Q: Is there any one takeaway that has stayed with you from the CCWC early days of the networking receptions and/or our annual conference?

A: *I've met the most extraordinary women through CCWC. I remember meeting a young woman at the airport as we both arrived for the conference, and today she's a hospital system GC. I'm so proud of her. CCWC women are accomplished and fierce Powerhouses. They are the future of our profession.*