



CORPORATE COUNSEL  
WOMEN OF COLOR

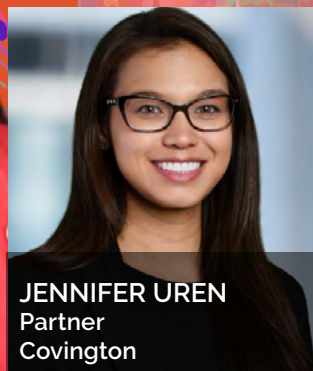
# LAW FIRM ASSOCIATES

2024 CAREER STRATEGIES CONFERENCE

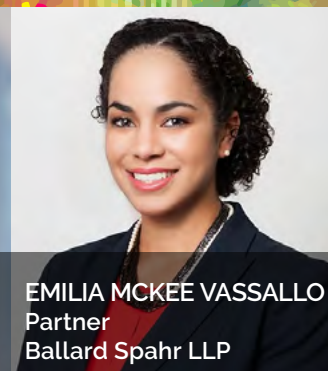
# NEW YORK



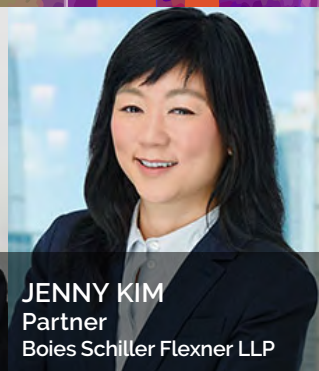
**ANGELA OLDHAM**  
Partner  
Kirkland & Ellis LLP



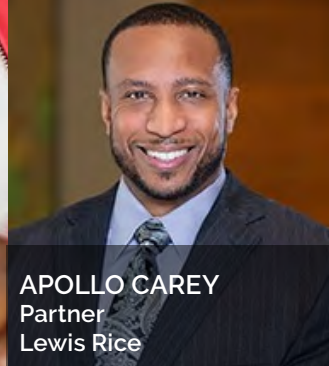
**JENNIFER UREN**  
Partner  
Covington



**EMILIA MCKEE VASSALLO**  
Partner  
Ballard Spahr LLP



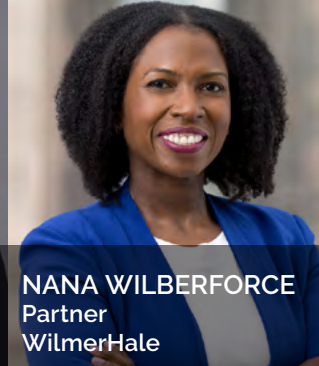
**JENNY KIM**  
Partner  
Boies Schiller Flexner LLP



**APOLLO CAREY**  
Partner  
Lewis Rice



**MARISA T. DARDEN**  
Chair  
Benesch



**NANA WILBERFORCE**  
Partner  
WilmerHale

## LIVE IN-PERSON EVENT

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1, 2024

MARRIOTT MARQUIS TIMES SQUARE HOTEL

ASTOR BALLROOM

8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

A request for MCLE approval for 3.75 hours has been made and is pending in the following states: California, New York, Pennsylvania, Georgia, Texas, Florida, and North Carolina.

### FINANCIAL HARDSHIP:

If you are experiencing financial hardship, email [info@ccwomenofcolor.org](mailto:info@ccwomenofcolor.org)



[CCWOMENOFCOLOR.ORG](http://CCWOMENOFCOLOR.ORG)



We will apply for 3.75 CLE Credit Hours for this program



CORPORATE COUNSEL  
WOMEN OF COLOR®

# LAW FIRM ASSOCIATES

2024 CAREER  
STRATEGIES  
CONFERENCE



Marriott Marquis Times Square Hotel

A Message from Laurie

## Welcome to the LIVE IN-PERSON Law Firm Associates 2024 Career Strategies Conference!

These are unprecedented times in the legal industry, particularly in large law firms. Now more than ever, it is essential for associates to develop a strong skill set in their practice area that would best position them for opportunities for growth within their firm.

Attend the CCWC Law Firm Associates Career Strategies Conference for access to career insights from top attorneys in a variety of roles. From law firm partners to executives, our featured speakers will share strategies they implement to move forward in their careers.

Learn best practices from their career playbooks and plan your next career move. **Join us for tips on how to maximize your professional brand, make partner, and thrive during every stage of your legal career.**



**LAURIE ROBINSON HADEN**

Founder, President and CEO  
Corporate Counsel Women of Color

TIME //

SESSION //

## LFA 2024 CONFERENCE AGENDA

7:45 a.m. - 8:15 a.m.

Morning Networking and Coffee

8:20 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

Welcome Remarks

*Presented by Laurie Robinson Haden*

8:30 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.

Struggling to Make Hours? Strategies, Tips, & Solutions to Get Work

*Presented by Jennifer Uren, Norly Jean-Charles, Apollo Carey and Jamila Mensah*



9:30 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

Time Management Techniques for the Busy Associate

*Presented by Priscilla Fasoro, Angela Oldham, Apollo Carey, Sonia Lee, and Mia Batista*



10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

Career Chess: Smart Moves in BigLaw

*Presented by Lauren N. Moore, Judy Mok, Lynn Parker Dupree, Jenny Kim, and Catherine Kim*



11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Building Meaningful Relationships Within Your Practice and Across the Firm

*Presented by Mikeisha Anderson Jones, Marisa T. Darden, Doreen Rachal, and Kazarae Lowe*



12:30 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.

Networking Lunch

*Featuring Body Language Expert Linda Clemons*

1:30 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.

Client Is KING: Building Strategic Business Relationships

*Presented by Rocio Monzón, Tiffanie Baker, Nana Wilberforce, Anne-Carmene Almonord, and Valecia Battle*



2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Financial Management for Law Firm Associates — It's Not What You Make, It's What You SAVE

*Presented by Laurie Robinson-Haden, Valecia Battle, and Cynthia T. Mazareas*



3:15 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Wellness Matters: Winning the Battle Against Stress & Burnout

*Presented by Heather Ripley, Rhina Roberts, Eugenia Blackmon, Emilia McKee Vassallo and Mia Batista*



3:45 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Closing Remarks

*Presented by Laurie Robinson-Haden*

Ⓒ 45 min. (0.50 CLE)

8:30 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

## Struggling To Make Hours? Strategies, Tips, & Solutions to Get Work

It's not a secret that the market has softened and therefore work may be slower in some practice areas. However, it seems some associates are still working and making their hours and others are struggling. Understand your value proposition to the law firm as it relates to your billable hours. Learn how to be successful in work despite the market.

Jennifer Uren advises private debt investment funds, private equity firms, and private and public companies in a variety of debt finance transactions, many of which involve cross-border components. She also has experience in acquisition financing (for public and private companies and private equity firms), second-lien financing, asset-based facilities, debtor-in-possession lending, debt capital market transactions, and other secured transactions. Jen has worked on transactions across industries but has special expertise in non-dilutive financing transactions for life science companies, including synthetic royalty financings and the monetization of pharmaceutical royalty streams. Jen received her Juris Doctor, *magna cum laude*, in 2013 from Cornell Law School, where she served as an Articles Editor for the *Cornell Law Review* and an Associate Editor for the Legal Information Institute. She received her Bachelor of Arts in political science in 2010 from the University of California, San Diego. Jen was recently selected to participate in the 2024 LCLD Fellows Program.



**JENNIFER UREN**

Partner  
Covington



## NORLY JEAN-CHARLES

Associate  
Loeb & Loeb

Norly Jean-Charles is a senior associate in Loeb & Loeb LLP’s Corporate and Capital Markets Group. She practices in all aspects of corporate and securities law, with a particular focus on mergers and acquisitions, private and public offerings, securities regulation, and special purpose acquisition companies (SPACs). Working across a wide range of industries — including biopharmaceuticals, education, entertainment, financial services, and technology — Norly assists clients with business combinations, initial public offerings, registered direct offerings, SEC compliance, and other corporate governance matters. In addition, Norly has experience advising investment fund clients on a range of issues, including fund formation, compliance, and FATCA. Before becoming an attorney, Norly was a member of Teach for America, where she served as a middle school English teacher in North and West Philadelphia. Outside of practicing law, Norly enjoys calisthenics and traveling and is an active member of the Financial Independence Retire Early (FIRE) movement. Norly received her B.A. from Columbia, M.S. from University of Pennsylvania, and Juris Doctor from the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

Apollo Carey is a Corporate Attorney, the firm’s Real Estate Practice Group Leader, and a valued member of the firm’s Management Committee. He was originally trained as a litigator and practiced in that capacity for the first two years of his practice. For the last 17 years, however, Apollo has practiced in the areas of corporate and real estate law. His corporate practice focuses on corporate governance, shareholder disputes, corporate strategy, strategic transactions, and mergers & acquisitions. His real estate practice is primarily transactional and focuses on acquisitions, dispositions, leasing (tenant and landlord), and contract negotiations. Apollo has exceptional knowledge of the laws governing business and real estate transactions and has provided sound and strategic legal advice to firm business, corporate, nonprofit, and real estate development clients. His experience as a litigator has provided him with the unique and valuable perspective of understanding how negotiations or bad deals can ultimately end up in dispute. Apollo received his B.A. from the University of Missouri, Juris Doctor from Saint Louis University School of Law, and LLM from Washington University School of Law.



## APOLLO CAREY

Partner/Management Committee  
Lewis Rice

Jamila Mensah is a partner on Norton Rose Fulbright's Employment and Labor team in Houston. She serves as a trusted advisor for clients in a wide variety of industries, including professional services, healthcare, consumer markets, energy, and finance. Jamila is a nationally recognized expert in employment law, and she was certified by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization for Labor and Employment Law in 2019. Jamila's practice covers all areas of employment law. She provides strategic advice to employers on best practices, conducts management and employee training, and leads trial teams in federal and state courts and before administrative bodies. Clients around the country also call on Jamila for sensitive internal investigations and guidance surrounding diversity and inclusion initiatives. Jamila received her Bachelor of Arts in English from Rice University and her Juris Doctor (with honors) from the University of Texas School of Law. She also holds a SHRM Professional HR Development Certificate from Rice University.



## JAMILA MENSAH

Partner  
Norton Rose Fulbright



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LAS VEGAS

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**CCWC+ KIRKLAND & ELLIS LLP 20TH CAREER STRATEGIES CONFERENCE**  
THE BELLGIO HOTEL | LAS VEGAS, NV | OCTOBER 2-5 2024

Ⓒ 45 min. (0.50 CLE)

9:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

## Time Management Techniques for the Busy Associate

Discover effective time management strategies specifically tailored for lawyers to maximize productivity and maintain work-life balance.

Priscilla Fasoro represents clients on a wide variety of complex commercial transactions, specializing in those involving technology and data. In particular, her practice focuses on negotiating outsourcing and other technology-driven agreements, including services agreements for both service providers and customers. Priscilla represents clients in a wide array of industries, including technology services, public utility, automobile, consumer goods, airline, hospitality, banking, private equity, and fashion. Before joining Covington, Priscilla worked as in-house counsel at Hewlett-Packard Enterprise, where she supported the organization's largest accounts. Priscilla received her Juris Doctor in 2012 from Cornell Law School, where she was a Helen Paine Hoefer Scholar and served as Associate Editor of the Legal Information Institute. She received her Bachelor of Arts, *cum laude*, in 2009 from Rutgers University, where she was a James Dickson Carr Scholar. Priscilla is a three-time recipient of the National Black Lawyer's "40 under 40" recognition award.



**PRISCILLA FASORO**

Partner  
Covington

Angela Oldham is a corporate partner in the Chicago office of Kirkland & Ellis LLP. She received her Juris Doctor from DePaul University College of Law in 2016, where she graduated *summa cum laude*, Order of the Coif, and number one in her class. She was also the Executive Editor of the *DePaul Law Review*. Angela's legal practice focuses on advising private equity firms and their portfolio companies on complex M&A and corporate transactions, including "take private" transactions, corporate carve-outs, recapitalizations, and leveraged buyouts. In addition to her M&A work, in her time as a corporate associate, she worked with clients on fund formations, initial public offerings, securitization transactions, and debt financings. Outside of work, Angela is also passionate about her husband and two teenage daughters. In her free time, you can find her catching up on reality TV shows or reading the latest Kennedy Ryan novel.



## ANGELA OLDHAM

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Partner  
Kirkland & Ellis LLP



## APOLLO CAREY

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Partner/Management Committee  
Lewis Rice

Apollo Carey is a Corporate Attorney, the firm's Real Estate Practice Group Leader, and a valued member of the firm's Management Committee. He was originally trained as a litigator and practiced in that capacity for the first two years of his practice. For the last 17 years, however, Apollo has practiced in the areas of corporate and real estate law. His corporate practice focuses on corporate governance, shareholder disputes, corporate strategy, strategic transactions, and mergers & acquisitions. His real estate practice is primarily transactional and focuses on acquisitions, dispositions, leasing (tenant and landlord), and contract negotiations. Apollo has exceptional knowledge of the laws governing business and real estate transactions and has provided sound and strategic legal advice to firm business, corporate, nonprofit, and real estate development clients. His experience as a litigator has provided him with the unique and valuable perspective of understanding how negotiations or bad deals can ultimately end up in dispute. Apollo received his B.A. from the University of Missouri, Juris Doctor from Saint Louis University School of Law, and LLM from Washington University School of Law.





**SONIA LEE**

Senior Associate  
Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP

Sonia Lee is a Senior Associate in the New York office of Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP. She is a seasoned practitioner in New York federal and state courts and domestic and international arbitrations. Sonia primarily represents national and multinational companies in the energy, life sciences, and healthcare industries in environmental, product liability, mass tort, class action, and complex commercial litigation. Sonia handles all phases of litigation, including pleadings, fact and expert discovery, dispositive motion practice, and trial. She is also an active member of the Firm’s Hiring Committee and Multicultural Equity Council. Sonia is admitted to practice in the state of New York, the Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, and the United States District Court for the Southern, Eastern, and Northern Districts of New York. Sonia earned her Juris Doctor from Rutgers Law School and holds a Bachelor of Arts, *magna cum laude*, in sociology from The George Washington University.

Mia Batista is an experienced attorney in Seyfarth Shaw’s New York office, assisting clients with a wide range of employment-based immigration matters, including nonimmigrant and immigrant visa applications. She uses her prior experience as in-house counsel at Liberty Mutual to bolster her practice for her clients’ global programs. She advises companies and their employees on various issues, including immigration consequences of corporate mergers and acquisitions, I-9 employment verification, and employees’ maintenance of status. In addition to employment-based immigration work, she has experience with family-based immigration. She participates in various pro bono activities, including providing her expertise in citizenship and asylum clinics. Mia is bilingual and fluent in Spanish. Additionally, Mia serves as Communications Chair and Editor in Chief for *E-Noticias* for the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA), as vice-chair for Seyfarth’s Hispanic Affinity Group, and as co-chair for Seyfarth’s Boston and New York office Diversity Inclusion & Action Team (DIAT). Mia received her B.S. from Northeastern University, *cum laude*, and her Juris Doctor from Suffolk University Law School.



**MIA BATISTA**

Senior Associate  
Seyfarth Shaw

Ⓒ 45 min. (0.50 CLE)

10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

## Career Chess: Smart Moves in Big Law

Learn strategies to navigate your career in BigLaw, including dealing with office politics, building your brand, and making the right moves at the right time.

Lauren N. Moore advises corporations and nonprofits as they navigate legal and reputational risks involving sensitive internal matters, government inquiries, and media scrutiny. She has extensive experience helping corporations, nonprofit organizations, and nonprofit boards navigate the current civil rights and anti-discrimination landscape, congressional oversight, and other crisis matters. Specifically, Lauren represents major corporations in congressional hearings and advises nonprofit organizations on a range of congressional issues, including risks relating to DEI programs. Previously, Lauren served in the White House Counsel's Office under President Biden, where she advised on civil rights policy and provided strategic counsel to DOJ on civil rights matters. Before serving in the White House, she served as general counsel to Kamala D. Harris on the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee. She received her B.A. from the University of Southern California and her Juris Doctor from Harvard Law School.



**LAUREN N. MOORE**

Partner  
WilmerHale



**JUDY MOK**

Of Counsel  
Covington

Judy Mok has extensive experience negotiating complex payments transactions for some of the world’s largest retailers, financial institutions, and businesses. Her practice is in the payments space, with a focus on strategic partnership arrangements. In particular, she has significant experience negotiating and drafting co-branded and private-label credit card program agreements, payment network agreements, merchant agreements, servicing agreements, processing agreements, and portfolio purchase and sale agreements. She was recently recognized as Up and Coming by Chambers Fintech 2024 in the Payments & Lending category and named to the Notable Women in Law List (2022) by Crain’s New York Business and the Electronic Transactions Association’s 2020 Forty Under 40 List. She was named a 2019 Rising Star by the New York Law Journal and is a 2020 LCLD Fellow. Judy received her Juris Doctor from Fordham University School of Law and Bachelor of Arts, *magna cum laude*, from New York University.

Lynn Parker Dupree, leader of Finnegan’s privacy practice, focuses on privacy compliance, governance, and counseling for clients navigating the dynamic legal and regulatory privacy landscape. Her years of privacy experience provide her with the sharp ability to provide actionable privacy advice and guidance, and a keen understanding of the ways technology can be used to protect individual privacy. Prior to joining the firm, she served as chief privacy officer of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). In that role, Lynn was responsible for advising the secretary of homeland security on matters involving privacy for the department and ensuring the department complied with privacy laws, regulations, and federal guidance. Lynn also served as the director of governance and controls in the Data Ethics and Privacy Office at Capital One. Her work focused on governance of the implementation of the California Consumer Privacy Act, as well as initiatives related to data sharing and data retention.



**LYNN PARKER DUPREE**

Partner  
Finnegan LLP

Jenny Kim is a trial lawyer with extensive experience in securities and financial products litigation. She has successfully handled cases in both state and federal courts in virtually every area of commercial litigation, including employment, bankruptcy, intellectual property, antitrust, structured finance, and products liability. Jenny has also successfully represented several European financial institutions and funds and understands these clients' concerns when faced with litigation in the U.S. Jenny is experienced in managing complex discovery in large-scale litigation, leveraging her extensive knowledge of legal tech to provide her clients with the most effective, efficient, and streamlined processes to handle eDiscovery. She has managed teams conducting discovery in connection with several Chapter 11 bankruptcies across multiple states, internationally, and across multiple related cases, including RMBS. Jenny was named one of the 2023 Lawdragon 500 Leading Litigators in America for commercial litigation and was previously named a Rising Star by Super Lawyers. She received her B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania, magna cum laude, and her Juris Doctor from New York University School of Law.



## JENNY KIM

Partner  
Boies Schiller Flexner LLP



## CATHERINE KIM

Counsel  
Weil, Gotshal, & Manges LLP

Catherine Kim is counsel in Weil's Technology & IP Transactions practice and is based in New York. Catherine participates in the representation of clients in the licensing, acquisition, divestiture, development, and commercial exploitation of intellectual property. Catherine has been part of the teams advising on the technology and the intellectual property aspects, as well as on the data privacy and cybersecurity aspects in matters including John Wiley & Sons, Inc. in its sale of Wiley Edge to Inspirit Capital and Sculptor Capital Management Inc. in its sale to Rithm Capital Corp. She received her B.S. from New York University, where she graduated *magna cum laude* and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. Catherine received her Juris Doctor from Duke University, where she was the president of the Asian Law Student Association (now called APALSA) and was a staff editor for the *Duke Law Journal* and *Duke Law & Technology Review*.

C 45 min. (0.50 CLE)

11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

## Building Meaningful Relationships Within Your Practice and Across the Firm

Understand how to build, maintain, and strengthen client relationships, including effective communication, exceeding expectations, and dealing with challenging situations.

Mikeisha Anderson Jones is the Chief DEI Officer at Milbank LLP, leading the firm's global DEI strategy. With 20-plus years of experience as a lawyer, business executive, and DEI leader, Mikeisha earlier served as Vice President in various roles at American Express. Previously, she held increasingly advanced GC roles in-house at Catalent Pharma Solutions, was an Associate at Reed Smith LLP and Lowenstein Sandler PC, and served as a Judicial Clerk. She is a NJ State Bar Foundation Trustee and frequently speaks on career development and inclusion. Mikeisha has received various accolades, including being named one of *Savoy Magazine's* Most Influential Executives in D+I, *Women of Color Magazine's* Women in Finance Diversity Champion, *Face2Face Africa's* 30 Black Stars, and the National Diversity Council's Top 100 Diversity Officers. Her most recent *Bloomberg Law* article focused on inclusive leadership. Mikeisha earned her A.B. from Smith College and her Juris Doctor from Rutgers Law School.



**MIKEISHA ANDERSON JONES**

.....  
Chief DEI Officer  
Milbank LLP



## MARISA T. DARDEN

.....

Chair, White Collar, Government Investigations  
& Regulatory Compliance Practice Group  
Benesch

Marisa T. Darden is a former state and federal prosecutor who assists clients across myriad industries. As Chair of Benesch’s White Collar, Government Investigations, & Regulatory Practice Group, Marisa actively advises companies and individuals in defense of civil and criminal investigations and prosecutions brought by law enforcement and regulatory agencies. In addition, Marisa has advised clients, litigated, and conducted internal investigations on a range of issues, such as allegations of wrongdoing in violation of federal and state law, including the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, bribery, corruption, the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act, and other criminal and civil violations of law. She has handled investigations in federal court regarding wire and mail fraud as well as complex financial investigations. Marisa regularly conducts corporate inquiries surrounding allegations of sexual harassment and workplace discrimination, civil rights and Title IX violations, and other corporate malfeasance. She received her B.A. from the University of Michigan and Juris Doctor from Duke University School of Law.

Doreen Rachal is a former federal prosecutor with extensive experience handling complex global white-collar criminal defense matters. She represents companies and individuals in matters involving civil and criminal investigations, including grand jury matters and enforcement actions conducted by DOJ, SEC, and state government agencies. Before joining Sidley, Doreen served as the Chief of the Asset Forfeiture Unit for the United States Attorney’s Office in Boston, where she prosecuted civil and criminal cases involving money laundering, securities fraud, healthcare fraud, and the seizure of assets. Doreen’s experience and commitment to public service recently earned her the Adams Pro Bono Publico Award, named after John Adams and John Quincy Adams, for demonstrating extraordinary commitment to providing pro bono services and the 2018 “Top Women of Law” Award. Doreen received her B.A., *magna cum laude*, and M.A. from The Catholic University of America and her Juris Doctor from Howard University Law School.



## DOREEN RACHAL

.....

Partner  
Sidley Austin LLP



**KAZARAE LOWE**

.....  
Commercial Counsel  
World Kinect Corporation

Kazarae Lowe is an award-winning commercial attorney, recognized for her exceptional achievements in the legal field. With a rich background cultivated in private practice at renowned law firms such as Akerman LLP, Holland & Knight LLP, and Seyfarth LLP, her journey took an exciting turn when she transitioned to an in-house role in 2023 as Commercial Counsel at World Kinect Corporation, a global Fortune 100 energy management giant with transactions in over 200 countries. In this dynamic position, Kazarae plays a pivotal role in the company's success in its North America land and aviation businesses, providing legal counsel and navigating complex legal landscapes across the diverse energy product spectrum. Proudly hailing from Jamaica, Kazarae attributes her determination and trailblazing attitude to her upbringing in New York City. She earned her Juris Doctor from Benjamin N. Cardozo Law School and her Bachelor of Arts from Hamilton College.



**CORPORATE COUNSEL**  
WOMEN OF COLOR

**CORPORATE COUNSEL WOMEN OF COLOR  
2024 NETWORK RECEPTION**



**LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM  
THURSDAY, JULY 18, 2024**



12:30 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.

## Linda Clemons® CEO, Sisterpreneur Inc.®

Lunch time guest speaker and expert in sales and nonverbal communications.

Linda Clemons® is the CEO of Sisterpreneur Inc.® She is a global speaker and expert in sales and nonverbal communications. Her company's mission is to empower women to make an impact on the world. Linda has more than 25 years of experience as a public speaker, media personality, trainer, writer, author, and personal coach. She is a body language expert who is trained and certified in analytic interviewing and statement analysis. Her clients have included Southwest Airlines, Major League Baseball, Coca-Cola, Spanx, Publicis, Nielsen, Nestlé, Wells Fargo, Citi, Jackson Financial, Aramark, Kraft Hines, Viacom CBS, Toyota, Unilever, Louis Vuitton, Christian Dior, U.S. Customs, Hilton, Johnson & Johnson, and the NAACP. She is a recipient of the Office Depot National Entrepreneur Award and the Women of Wealth Top Mentor Award. Linda has shared the stage with notables such as Oprah Winfrey, President Barack Obama, Steve Wozniak, Dr. Condoleezza Rice, and Mary Jo White.



LINDA CLEMONS®

CEO

Sisterpreneur Inc.®



C 45 min. (0.50 CLE)

1:30 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

## Client Is KING: Building Strategic Business Relationships

Understand how to build, maintain, and strengthen client relationships, including effective communication, exceeding expectations, and dealing with challenging situations.

Rocio Monzón is a Senior Associate at Eversheds Sutherland's New York office. Rocio represents clients in complex international disputes, focusing her practice on investor-state and commercial arbitrations. Rocio's experience includes acting as counsel in disputes and transactions involving parties from across the globe. Rocio also has experience in public international law matters and in regulatory work related to international economic law, in particular advising Central American countries in trade policy matters. Rocio also provides pro bono legal services to a variety of nonprofit organizations. She is also co-chair of the Affiliation of Latinx and Hispanic Attorneys (ALHA) at Eversheds Sutherland and a mentor at the TotalLAW Prep Program aiming to increase diversity and inclusion in the legal profession. Rocio teaches Private International Law at Universidad Francisco Marroquin in Guatemala. Rocio received her Bachelor of Civil Law and Civil Law Notary from the Universidad Francisco Marroquin in Guatemala City, Guatemala and her LLM from Harvard Law School.



**ROCIO MONZÓN**

.....  
Senior Associate  
Eversheds Sutherland



**TIFFANIE BAKER**

Senior Managing Counsel  
Mastercard

Tiffanie Baker is Senior Managing Counsel at Mastercard, where she is the lead attorney supporting the Global Digital Partnerships team on all legal issues, including drafting and negotiating co-brand agreements and acceptance agreements. Before this role, Tiffanie supported Mastercard’s U.S. financial institutions team, where she negotiated brand agreements and service agreements. Before joining Mastercard, Tiffanie worked in media negotiating content distribution deals for Univision and content licensing and distribution deals for Comcast’s Content Acquisition team. Tiffanie started her legal career at Sidley Austin LLP, where she was a corporate lawyer representing private equity and commercial banking clients in a variety of acquisitions and financial transactions. In her spare time, Tiffanie enjoys traveling and hanging out with her son and partner, Kurt, at home in New Jersey. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in political science from Washington University in St. Louis and a Juris Doctor from University of Pennsylvania Law School.

Nana Wilberforce focuses her regulatory and government affairs practice on matters involving antitrust and competition. Nana has extensive experience navigating clients through the Antitrust Division’s Leniency Program in cartel enforcement matters. She has counseled clients through shifts in competition policy brought on by presidential administration changes and has worked to secure merger clearance for transactions across a range of industries, including healthcare, biotechnology, and energy. Nana’s practice includes a commitment to public service and pro bono contributions. She was selected as WilmerHale’s 2017 Pickering fellow and spent six months working full time with the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund (LDF) and is currently part of the litigation team co-counseled with LDF challenging Georgia’s voting law, S.B. 202. In the past, she worked with Children’s Law Center, and she is currently working with The Legal Aid Society on an appellate matter. She received her Juris Doctor from Columbia Law School and her Bachelor of Arts from Columbia University.



**NANA WILBERFORCE**

Partner  
WilmerHale



## ANNE-CARMENE ALMONORD

Partner  
ArentFox Schiff

Anne-Carmene Almonord represents clients on various financing transactions, including transactions involving multifamily housing, manufactured housing, seniors housing, and affordable housing. Anne-Carmene also counsels clients on title matters and property management concerns and has experience with domestic and cross-border matters involving project finance and workouts. Anne-Carmene represented Fannie Mae in a \$700 million financing of seniors housing properties in a multi-state pool and counseled on various local law and regulatory concerns. Anne-Carmene previously worked at an international law firm and practiced in both the New York and Tokyo offices. From 2015-2018, Anne-Carmene served as a Trustee on the Board of Trustees of Prep for Prep, a leadership development program based in NYC that provides access to superior education and life-changing opportunities for smart and dedicated students of color. She was recently recognized as The Best Lawyers in America, *Best Lawyers* (2024). She received her Bachelor of Arts from Harvard University and her Juris Doctor from Columbia Law School.

Valecia Battle is a trial-experienced associate in the New York City office of Boies Schiller Flexner who specializes in complex commercial litigation and white-collar investigations. She represents both plaintiffs and defendants in civil matters ranging from contract disputes to international asset recovery in state and federal courts as well as international tribunals. In 2022 alone, Valecia tried three cases. In one of those cases — a multimillion-dollar money laundering scheme — Valecia worked as the lead associate to see the client to a \$218.5 million victory. Valecia’s work ethic and trial experience have caused partners and clients to suggest she participate in every trial team possible. Before joining BSF, Valecia served as a law clerk to the Honorable Chief Judge Carl E. Stewart in the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. Before law school, Valecia worked as a senior consultant for Booz Allen Hamilton. She received her B.B.A., cum laude, from Texas A&M University and her Juris Doctor, *magna cum laude*, from Howard University School of Law.



## VALECIA BATTLE

Associate  
Boies Schiller Flexner LLP

C 30 min. (0.50 CLE)

2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

## Financial Management for Law Firm Associates — It's Not What You Make, It's What You SAVE

It's not what you earn, it is what you save. Learn directly from Laurie Robinson Haden the 5 things every law firm associate must do to save what you earn.

Laurie Robinson Haden is the President and CEO of Corporate Counsel Women of Color (CCWC). In 2004, Laurie founded CCWC to advance women of color attorneys and foster diversity in the legal profession. She formerly worked for 18 years in multiple leadership roles at the CBS Corporation (now media and entertainment juggernaut Paramount+), including Senior Vice President and Assistant General Counsel of Litigation. She has been recognized by Savoy magazine as one of the country's "Most Influential Black Lawyers." She serves on the Board of Visitors of Indiana University Maurer School of Law at Bloomington and North Carolina Central School of Law, where she served as chair (2022-2023). Laurie is the author of *It's Time to Shine: A Guide for Professionals of Color on How to Advance Their Career*. Laurie earned her Bachelor of Arts from North Carolina Central University, *magna cum laude*, and her Juris Doctor from the Indiana University Maurer School of Law at Bloomington.



**LAURIE ROBINSON HADEN**

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CEO

Corporate Counsel Women of Color



## VALECIA BATTLE

Associate  
Boies Schiller Flexner LLP

Valecia Battle is a trial-experienced associate in the New York City office of Boies Schiller Flexner who specializes in complex commercial litigation and white-collar investigations. She represents both plaintiffs and defendants in civil matters ranging from contract disputes to international asset recovery in state and federal courts as well as international tribunals. In 2022 alone, Valecia tried three cases. In one of those cases — a multimillion-dollar money laundering scheme — Valecia worked as the lead associate to see the client to a \$218.5 million victory. Valecia’s work ethic and trial experience have caused partners and clients to suggest she participate in every trial team possible. Before joining BSF, Valecia served as a law clerk to the Honorable Chief Judge Carl E. Stewart in the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. Before law school, Valecia worked as a senior consultant for Booz Allen Hamilton. She received her B.B.A., cum laude, from Texas A&M University and her Juris Doctor, *magna cum laude*, from Howard University School of Law.

Cynthia T. Mazareas brings more than 25 years of experience and a passion for medical and scientific innovation to her role as a trusted advisor to companies in the life sciences industry. She provides ongoing, strategic business counsel to boards, management teams, and in-house counsel, representing high-growth private and public companies in corporate matters; complex business transactions, including public offerings and venture capital financings; and corporate governance, SEC, stock exchange, and Sarbanes-Oxley compliance. Her industry knowledge, legal experience, and business acumen have equipped her to help life sciences companies navigate through complex legal and business challenges. Cynthia is Chambers recognized, named in Best Lawyers in America for biotechnology and life sciences, has been named a Life Sciences Star by LMG Life Sciences, and was recommended in The Legal 500 United States for capital markets: equity offerings — advice to issuers. She received her B.S. from Boston University and her Juris Doctor from Georgetown University Law Center.



## CYNTHIA T. MAZAREAS

Partner  
WilmerHale

Ⓒ 30 min. (0.50 CLE)

3:15 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

## Wellness Matters: Winning the Battle Against Stress & Burnout

Explore why mental health matters in the legal profession, discuss common stressors, and share strategies to combat stress and burnout.

Heather Ripley is a partner in Alston & Bird's Global Tax Services Group. She counsels U.S. and foreign businesses and high-net-worth individuals on tax-efficient structuring for their investments and activities, understanding U.S. tax obligations and risks, and rectifying noncompliance issues. Heather advises clients on tax issues for inbound and outbound investments, tax aspects of M&A transactions, and information return regimes. She also works with nonprofit organizations and other pro bono clients on tax matters. She is a frequent speaker and author on international tax developments. Heather holds leadership roles in the American Bar Association Tax Section and International Bar Association Taxes Committee. She also serves on the board of Volunteers of Legal Services and on the alumni board for UGA's Terry College of Business. Heather was identified as "One to Watch" by The Best Lawyers in America® in tax and recognized as a *New York Law Journal* Rising Star



**HEATHER RIPLEY**

Partner  
Alston & Bird



## RHINA M. ROBERTS

Associate General Counsel  
Freddie Mac

Rhina M. Roberts is an Associate General Counsel in the Mission, Equity, and Legislative Affairs Department in Freddie Mac's Legal Division. She advises the company on compliance with federal regulations regarding its mission, affordable housing goals, and charter authority. In this role, Rhina provides legal support to the Single-Family and Multifamily businesses in their efforts to meet these statutory and regulatory obligations. Before transitioning to the MELA Department in 2023, she advised Multifamily's Targeted Affordable Housing business on new originations of affordable multifamily loans. She joined Freddie Mac in 2018 after spending over 10 years in private practice, where she represented financial institutions in all aspects of commercial real estate financings with a focus on multifamily housing transactions. She holds a bachelor's degree from Davidson College and a Juris Doctor from Howard University School of Law, where she was a member of the *Howard Law Journal*.

Attorney and community leader Eugenia Blackmon is a high-functioning professional who values relationships. Before joining AbbVie, Eugenia was General Counsel and Compliance Director for UniWorld Group Inc., the longest-standing multicultural advertising agency in the United States headquartered in Brooklyn, New York. Before working in advertising law, Eugenia was a Corporate Mergers & Acquisitions Senior Associate for the national office of PriceWaterhouseCoopers in Washington, DC. Upon joining AbbVie, Eugenia expanded her expertise in Digital Marketing and led a digital transformation initiative for Allergan Aesthetics and Women's Health. Now, she sits within AbbVie Legal & Office of Ethics and Compliance (OEC) as Executive Director, Global EEDI Strategy. Eugenia is optimistic about the possibilities for more inclusive corporate culture as well as the opportunities for corporate leaders to leverage their expertise and knowledge for the benefit of those within marginalized communities. She graduated from UNC- Chapel Hill, received her Juris Doctor from North Carolina Central University, and her LLM from Georgetown Law Center.



## EUGENIA BLACKMON

Legal & OEC EEDI Strategist  
AbbVie



## EMILIA MCKEE VASSALLO

Partner  
Ballard Spahr LLP

Emilia McKee Vassallo is a Litigation Partner at Ballard Spahr. She focuses on conducting internal investigations in high-stakes and sensitive situations for major corporations, government agencies, and institutions. She has managed all aspects of internal investigations, including electronic device imaging and data retrieval. In addition, she routinely represents businesses, organizations, and individuals in white-collar defense and complex commercial litigation. She leverages her investigative and analytical skills and experience to craft winning litigation strategy in defending white-collar clients against civil and criminal charges and to litigate complex commercial disputes. Emilia is a co-leader of the Ballard Spahr’s Black Lawyers Group and a member of Ballard Spahr’s Hiring Committee and the firm’s Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council. Additionally, Emilia serves as a Commissioner on the Pennsylvania State Ethics Commission and is a member of the Executive Committee of the Temple Law Alumni Association. She received her B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania, *cum laude*, and her Juris Doctor from Temple University School of Law, *magna cum laude*.

Mia Batista is an experienced attorney in Seyfarth Shaw’s New York office, assisting clients with a wide range of employment-based immigration matters, including nonimmigrant and immigrant visa applications. She uses her prior experience as in-house counsel at Liberty Mutual to bolster her practice for her clients’ global programs. She advises companies and their employees on various issues, including immigration consequences of corporate mergers and acquisitions, I-9 employment verification, and employees’ maintenance of status. In addition to employment-based immigration work, she has experience with family-based immigration. She participates in various pro bono activities, including providing her expertise in citizenship and asylum clinics. Mia is bilingual and fluent in Spanish. Additionally, Mia serves as Communications Chair and Editor in Chief for *E-Noticias* for the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA), as vice-chair for Seyfarth’s Hispanic Affinity Group, and as co-chair for Seyfarth’s Boston and New York office Diversity Inclusion & Action Team (DIAT). Mia received her B.S. from Northeastern University, *cum laude*, and her Juris Doctor from Suffolk University Law School.



## MIA BATISTA

Senior Associate  
Seyfarth Shaw

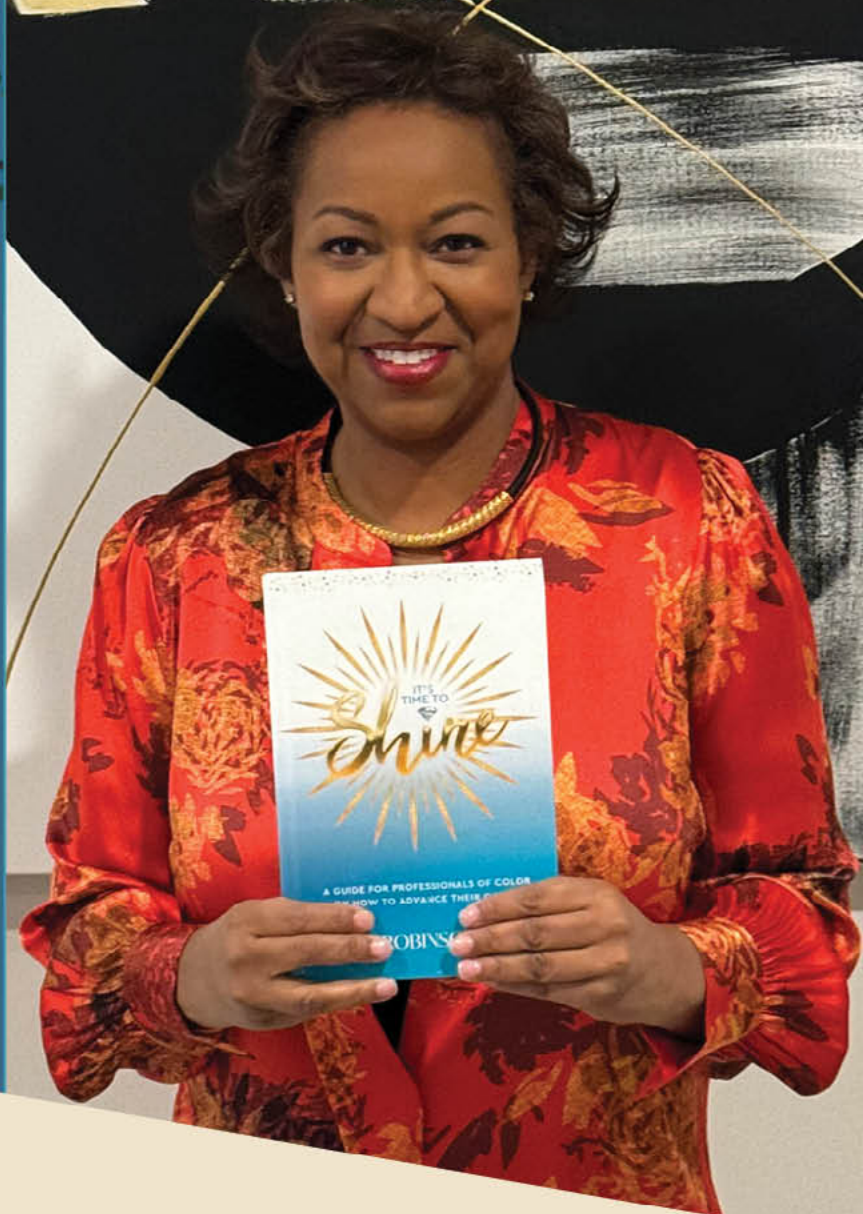


# It's Time to Shine

A Guide for Professionals of Color on How to Advance Their Careers



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Embark on a journey of self-discovery with **'It's Time to Shine,'** a memoir rallying professionals to embrace potential, break norms, and create thriving businesses. Join a community rewriting narratives, shattering ceilings, and conquering self-doubt.

## THE BOOK WILL DISCUSS HOW TO:

- 1** Believe in Yourself
- 2** Find Workplace Mentors and Sponsors
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- 4** Invest in Yourself
- 5** Advocate for Yourself
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- 8** Handle Your Finances
- 9** Be an Entrepreneur and Start Your Side Hustle
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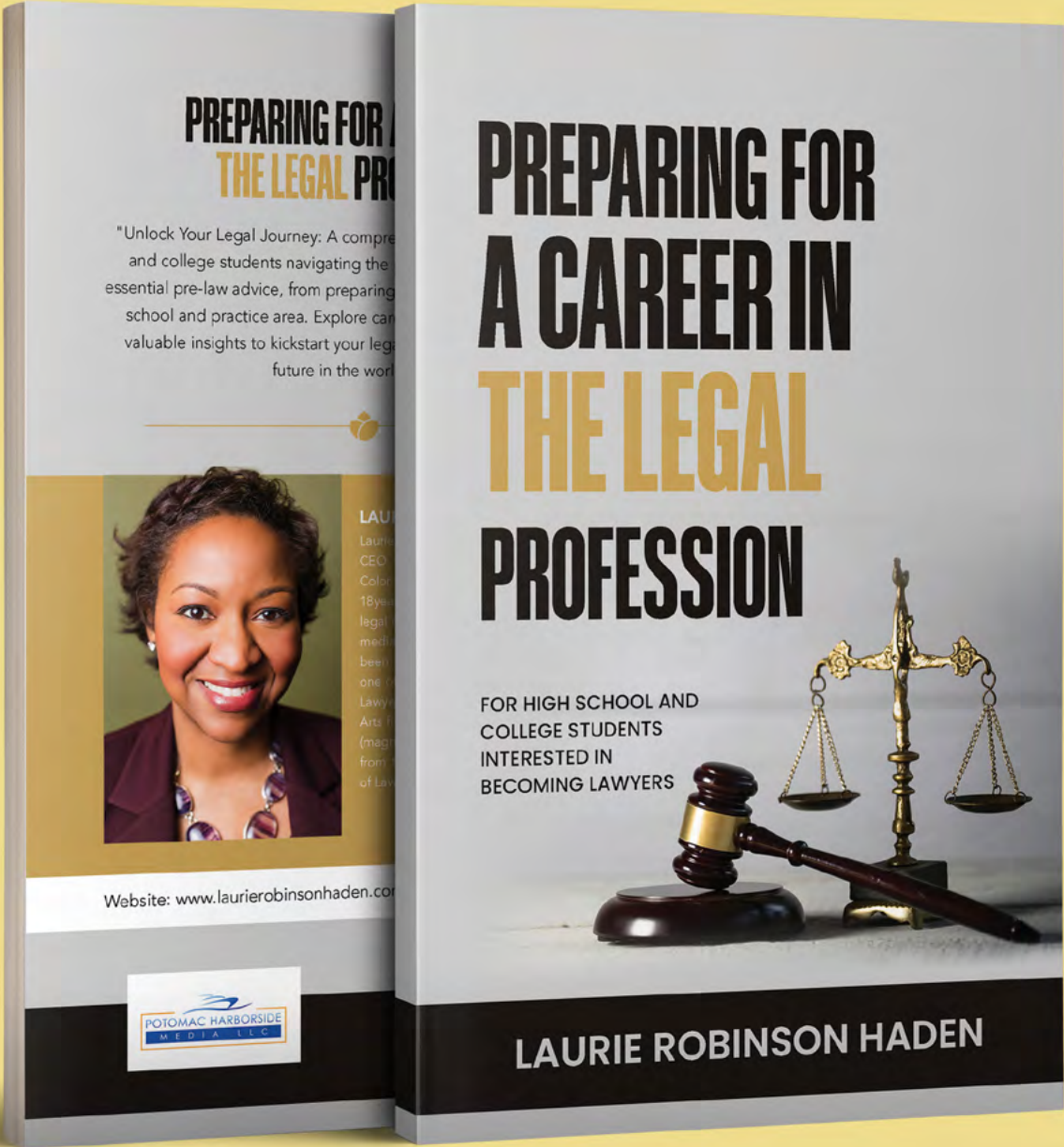
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