

2022 PDI Speaker Bios

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Tara Antonipillai **Founder & Principal, Cultivate**

Tara Owens Antonipillai is a well-being consultant, speaker, teacher, and author. Tara combines her unique expertise as a positive psychology practitioner, attorney, and mindfulness instructor to help attorneys thrive. Tara also helps law firms and other organizations develop and expand workplace well-being programs in a wide variety of formats. She received both her undergraduate degree and her J.D. from Georgetown University, and was a tax associate in Arnold & Porter's DC office, and has a Master's of Applied Positive Psychology from the University of Pennsylvania. Tara is the vice chair of the D.C. Bar Lawyer Assistance Committee and serves on the Institute for Well-being in Law Research and Scholarship Committee.

Susanne Aronowitz **Senior Consultant, Naomi Beard & Associates, Inc.**

Susanne Aronowitz is a Senior Consultant with Naomi Beard & Associates, Inc., where she provides executive, leadership and outplacement coaching and consulting services at the nation's leading law firms. In addition, she works directly with attorneys from a variety of professional settings, guiding them in navigating career transitions and finding deeper engagement in their work. She previously served as the Associate Dean for Law Career Services and Alumni Relations at Golden Gate University School of Law, where she taught as an adjunct professor and co-founder of the Law & Leadership Program. Susanne earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan, her law degree from UC Hastings, is a graduate of CoachU's Core Essentials Program and holds a Professional Certified Coach credential from the International Coaching Federation. She currently serves on the Leadership Committee of the Oregon Women Lawyers and the advisory board of the ABA Career Center.

Miriam Benor **Director of Attorney Coaching, Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP**

Miriam Benor, the Director of Attorney Coaching for Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP, provides individualized coaching, facilitates group forums, and delivers original presentations on a wide variety of professional development and legal industry topics. She began her career as a complex commercial litigator and later became the Associate Director of Career Development at Pepperdine University School of Law, before joining Pillsbury in 2017. She received her coaching training and certification from the Coaches Training Institute, and earned her J.D. from Harvard Law School and her B.A., summa cum laude, in Psychology from Columbia University.

Melissa Berry **Director of Professional Development & Diversity, Lane Powell PC**

Melissa Berry is the Director of Professional Development and Diversity at Lane Powell PC in Seattle, where she provides leadership and strategic direction for the firm's lawyer professional development and diversity, equity and inclusion efforts. After beginning her career as a judicial clerk and litigator at two international firms in Washington DC and Seattle, Melissa turned her focus to legal education and supporting law student development as a faculty member and administrator. She led career services at two schools, serving as Assistant Dean for Student and Career Services and Affiliate Instructor at the University of Washington School of Law and Assistant Dean of Career Services and Associate Professor at Chapman University Fowler School of Law. Melissa is currently Co-Vice Chair of NALP's Lawyer Professional Development Section's Professional Identity Formation Work Group. She also serves on NALP's Neurodiversity in the Legal Profession Task Force and the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee of the

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Institute for Well-Being in Law. Melissa holds a JD, cum laude, from Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law and BA, cum laude, from Tulane University.

Larry Brown

Interim Director of Professional Development, Fisher Phillips LLP

Larry Brown is a professional development leader and consultant with expertise in elevating individuals and teams through innovative, customized learning and development and through whole-self approaches to collaboration and engagement. He currently serves as Interim Director of Professional Development at Fisher Phillips, where he leads PD for the firm's 500 attorneys and 36 offices. Larry is also the founder and principal of Larry Brown Consulting through which he provides professional skills coaching, learning & development platforms, and delight-driven business strategies to leaders, young professionals and organizations of all sizes. He previously led professional development for over 25 years at an AmLaw 50 firm (Wilson Sonsini) and at an innovative, culture-rich legal & technology startup (Atrium), and has consulted for a newly-public global tech company (Talend) among other legal and technology businesses. Larry is a graduate of Princeton University and Conscious Leadership Coaches Training, and is a certified Achieve Global facilitator. He passed on attending law school. In his spare time, Larry serves on advisory boards for several leading-edge startups and nonprofits, including Chrysalis Arts Ministries which creates healthy foundational personal development experiences for young people.

Shannon Burke

Director of Talent Development and Diversity, Chapman and Cutler LLP

Shannon Burke is the Director of Talent Development and Diversity at Chapman and Cutler LLP. She works on all aspects of professional development, including administration of new professional development and mentoring programs, facilitation of internal professional development curriculum, competency and staffing models, and training and development. In the diversity space, she coordinates the firm's attorney resource groups as well as the firm diversity programming. Shannon is the co-chair of the NALP Lawyer PD Section.

Carmia Caesar

Assoc. Dean for Justice, Equity, & Inclusion, The George Washington University Law School

Carmia N. Caesar is the inaugural Associate Dean for Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion at GW Law. Dean Caesar brings extensive experience in programming, counseling, and experiential learning to this panel, having served as the Director of Externships and Experiential Learning and an adjunct professor at Georgetown University Law Center and Howard University School of Law, respectively. At Georgetown, Dean Caesar developed a menu of more than 30 classes that were taught as the mandatory components of the Externship Program reflection seminar, most centered on Professional Identity Formation. She is the co-editor of the Bias in the Legal Profession chapter in Learning From Practice: A Text for Experiential Education.

Christine Clapp

President, Spoken with Authority

Christine Clapp is the founder of Spoken with Authority, a Washington DC-based presentation skills consultancy that elevates the presence and expands the influence of attorneys and legal professionals. She is the co-author of Presenting Now (2022), Presenting Virtually (2020), and Presenting at Work (2016). Christine taught public speaking to undergraduate and graduate students at The George Washington University for thirteen years. She holds two degrees in communication: a master's degree from the University of Maryland, College Park, and a bachelor's degree from Willamette University, where she debated at regional, national, and international levels.

Paula Davis

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Carole Deeter

Professional Development Manager, Thompson Hine LLP

Carole Deeter is the Professional Development Manager at Thompson Hine LLP in Chicago. She was the president of CALPA, the Chicago city group for law firm professionals, in 2021, and she serves on the associate board for Open Books, a Chicago children's literacy non-profit. Carole received her Master of Arts Degree in Training and Development from Roosevelt University in May 2020. She approaches attorney training with a focus on adult learning principles and tries to include lessons learned from her previous career in performing arts administration whenever possible.

Paula A. Dixon

Director of Professional Development, Greenberg Traurig, LLP

Paula Dixon is the Director of Professional Development at Greenberg Traurig LLP, a global law firm with over 2,400 attorneys in 42 locations. She has over 20 years of experience in attorney training and professional development. Paula leads a team that is dedicated to integrating, training, and retaining the firm's attorneys. She is also responsible for designing and leading firmwide initiatives, including the Women's Initiative's "Good2Great" business development program as well as associate training and integration on an international basis. Prior to supporting attorneys in their professional development, Paula began her career after law school in attorney recruiting.

Kara Dodson

Consultant & Coach, Volta Talent Strategies

Kara Dodson is an ICF-credentialed coach and a member of Volta Talent Strategies, where she supports associates and partners to be as successful as possible, focusing on whatever areas they need to make that success happen. Kara brings to her coaching work her many years in the legal industry as a practicing attorney, a Talent Development professional, and a law school adjunct professor. Kara has spent her entire career in the legal community, as a practicing attorney, a leader in business services and as a coach and consultant. Having enjoyed her labor and employment practice, Kara's passion for coaching and lawyer development led her to become the Director of Recruiting and Professional Development at Young Conaway, before joining Volta. Kara is also an adjunct professor at Temple University Beasley School of Law, where she teaches an experiential program focused on transactional practice skills for law students. She received her law degree from Temple and her coaching certification from IPEC.

Lia Dorsey

Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer, Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C.

Lia Dorsey serves as the Chief Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer and is responsible for leading the development and execution of the firm's diversity strategy, as well as ongoing and new initiatives that will continue to build and support an inclusive culture. She collaborates with firm leaders, business resource groups, and practice group leaders to expand efforts around recruiting and retention, training and development, client management and practice development. Ms. Dorsey has experience in strategic change management, organizational development, and several talent management disciplines including leadership development, coaching and marketing and business development. Ms. Dorsey joins the firm from Dentons US LLP, where she was the Director of Diversity and Inclusion. There, she was responsible for the strategic oversight, design, and implementation of the firm's diversity

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and inclusion initiatives for lawyers and professional staff. Earlier, she served as the Director of Diversity and Inclusion for Eversheds Sutherland US LLP. She also held senior marketing and business development positions at Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC and DLA Piper LLP. Ms. Dorsey is a thought leader in the movement to advance diversity and a driver for inclusive change. She is a regular speaker and panelist on topics covering diversity and inclusion in Big Law and the greater legal industry.

Kelly Druten Green

Director of Attorney Development, Ogletree Deakins Nash Smoak & Stewart

Kelly Druten Green is committed to helping lawyers craft successful and fulfilling careers. At Ogletree, she is responsible for the training and development of attorneys in 50+ plus offices across the firm, and she oversees performance management for associates and counsel. Kelly is a frequent speaker and author for both legal and business organizations on a wide variety of topics related to attorney development and engagement. As a former practicing attorney and recruiting professional, she brings over twenty years of experience and depth to her role. She is an active member of NALP and the PDC and was the founding member of the local PDC group in Missouri. She is the current co-Vice Chair of the PD for the PD Professionals sub-section of the Professional Development Section.

Kelli Dunaway

VP of Coaching, DueCourse

Kelli Dunaway is the VP of Coaching at Due Course, Founder & CEO of Aspire, and a Councilwoman on the St. Louis County Council. A former bankruptcy lawyer, Kelli found her calling in helping people and communities rise to their potential through coaching, learning, and a culture of continuous growth. An industry thought leader, she has published a number of articles and regularly presents on leadership, equity, public policy, and the power in coaching. With more than 20 years experience working in law firms of all sizes and a demonstrated commitment to public service, Kelli Dunaway is a proven leader, collaborator and facilitator. She combines strong people skills with natural curiosity to uncover problems, lead teams that explore, iterate, and execute innovative solutions, and make meaningful change. Kelli received her J.D. from UCLA and her B.A. in History from Southern Illinois University. She is a member of the California Bar and an ICF Associate Certified Coach.

Stephanie Felder

Director of Professional Development & Diversity, Groom Law Group, Chartered

Stephanie Felder has over 15 years of experience in attorney professional development at two AmLaw100 firms. In her current role, she is responsible for creating a comprehensive training and development curriculum for all attorneys at the firm and developing and overseeing the execution of strategies related to diversity, equity, and inclusion. She works with firm leadership to build effective policies and programs to aid in the creation of an inclusive workforce and the overall professional growth of attorneys, including learning, performance evaluation and improvement, on-boarding, and mentoring programs for the firm. Stephanie has a background in human resources management and is a frequent speaker, writer, and volunteer with NALP and the PDC.

Darien Fleming

Coach and Trainer, Darien Fleming

Darien is a certified career coach and trainer. She started her career as an attorney at AmLaw 100 firms in Boston, MA. After 7 years of practice, she transitioned to Professional Development. She has spent over 12 years feeding her passion: training attorneys and legal staff in critical interpersonal skills, including: communication, delegation, delivering feedback, mentoring, imposter syndrome, and resilience, and coaching them to determine, set and

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achieve their goals. Darien is a double-eagle, graduating from both Boston College under grad and Law School. She is a certified Professional Coach through ICF and CTI, and is certified to lead Gallup Strengths sessions (like ours), DiSC sessions and Smart Collaboration workshops.

Leanne Fuith

Professor and Dean of Career and Professional, Mitchell Hamline School of Law

Leanne Fuith is an Associate Professor and the Dean of Career and Professional Development at Mitchell Hamline School of Law in Minnesota. Professor Fuith developed and teaches Mitchell Hamline's required one-credit professional identity formation course which includes a one-to-one mentoring component and curriculum for students and alumni located in Minnesota and across the country. As the Dean of Career and Professional Development, Professor Fuith is responsible for the integration of professional identity formation into the law school's curricular and non-curricular programs and collaborates with faculty, student services, and the Office of Diversity Equity, and Inclusion. Professor Fuith teaches courses in business and transactional law, civil procedure, gender, leadership and the law, and lawyering skills. She also publishes and presents on topics relating to lawyer and law student professional identity formation, business leadership, culture, and management, employee development, and access to justice issues in the legal profession. While in legal practice, Professor Fuith represented individuals in claims involving discrimination, sexual harassment, and other civil rights and employment issues and also advised small businesses on business start-up, formation, management, and leadership matters.

Matthew J. Galando

Director of Professional Development, K&L Gates LLP

Matt Galando is the Director of Professional Development at K&L Gates LLP where he leads a dynamic global team to drive learning & development strategy across the firm's 47 offices. Matt serves as an innovative and collaborative partner alongside firm leadership to develop impactful engagement initiatives, multi-stage experiential learning programs, continuing education, multimedia, and other resources focused on the K&L Gates PD mantra of Whole Person Development to ensure all personnel feel connected and supported at every level. Matt leads global engagement and leadership events for partners and associates, and recently led the development of the firm's new Associate Leadership Development Initiative and the Allied Excellence training series designed exclusively for the firm's Allied Professional business teams. In addition to his work at K&L Gates, Matt serves in leadership roles with nonprofits and educational institutions. Matt currently serves as a Trustee of Seton Hill University in Greensburg, PA. He is an Executive Committee member and Board Secretary of City Theatre Company in Pittsburgh, PA, and previously served as the Chair of the Edgewood Symphony Orchestra Board of Directors.

Tammie Garner

Chief Legal Performance Officer, Jackson Lewis

Tammie C. Garner is Director of Professional Development at Jackson Lewis, P.C., an AmLaw 100 labor and employment law firm with over 950 lawyers located in 60+ offices throughout the United States and Puerto Rico. As the firm's first Director of Professional Development, Tammie established "JL Academy" – Jackson Lewis' holistic approach to training and professional development that provides over 1600 employees the autonomy to "own their own career" through learning paths developed for each position and career stage. Through her work with JL Academy, Tammie seeks to increase knowledge, encourage professional excellence and collaboration, foster career satisfaction and build the JL culture throughout its community of lawyers, administration, and staff. Previously, Tammie served as the first Director of Professional Development for Boston-based Nutter McClennen & Fish LLP, which followed her time practicing law as a business litigator for Goodwin Procter LLP and serving as Goodwin's first Litigation Knowledge Management Attorney. While practicing law, Tammie taught as an Instructor for Boston

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University School of Law's Legal Research and Writing Program and taught advanced legal writing as an Adjunct Professor at Northeastern School of Law. She remains most passionate about teaching, learning, and developing others to their full potential. She received her J.D., cum laude, from Boston University School of Law where she served as the American Journal of Law & Medicine's case & note editor. She received her B.A., magna cum laude, Gettysburg College where she became a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

Elise Gelwicks **Founder and CEO, Eleview Consulting**

Elise Gelwicks has specialized in making communication skills and emotional intelligence concrete and actionable for over a decade. She founded her first company while in college to help students secure internships through networking. After working at Kimberly-Clark and in management consulting, she founded Eleview Consulting. In founding the firm, she interviewed hundreds of partners and executives to understand what qualities make someone a superstar. This insight is the foundation of the firm's programming. Eleview Consulting helps law firms and companies harmonize communication and understanding across their organization through interactive professional development workshops and resources. Their most popular workshop topics include personal branding, navigating critical conversations, improving communication, and strategic relationship-building. Elise has been featured in the New York Times, Chicago Tribune, and ABC News. She is LinkedIn's leading expert on career acceleration and networking. Elise is a sought-after speaker at universities, companies, and conferences. Learn more at EleviewConsulting.com.

Steve Gluckman **Founder & CEO, SkillBurst Interactive**

Steve Gluckman is a highly regarded speaker, author, and serial entrepreneur, and is the founder and CEO of SkillBurst Interactive, the leading developer of customized on-demand learning for the global legal industry. Steve is the author of E-Learning for Law Firms, a best-selling book published by the American Bar Association, and was appointed by Harvard University to serve as a Senior Fellow with Harvard's Center for Business and Government. Named a "Trusted Advisor" by the Professional Development Consortium every year since 2015 and a "Pioneer of Legal Microlearning" by the Centre for Legal Innovation, Steve is the author of a learning case study developed for Harvard's "Leadership for a Networked World" program. Steve led all Professional Development and Talent Management for a large US-based law firm (a NALP Award of Distinction for Innovation and Technology recipient). He has also supported scores of global law firms and in-house departments with a variety of award-winning online learning initiatives. Steve holds an MPA from Harvard University and a B.S. in Computer Science and Information Science from the Watson School of Engineering in New York.

Jennifer Greiner **President & Founder, Greiner Consulting Group**

With over 25 years' experience advising law firms and their attorneys, Jennifer is a market leader in legal career management, having built one of the premier consultancies in her field. She has established a preeminent reputation for an innovative and individualized approach to coaching, career counseling and transition planning. She works extensively with partners at all levels of seniority including those stepping into leadership roles within their firms and those transitioning out of senior management positions. As a testimony to her success, many of Jennifer's long-standing clients continue to rely on her for advice concerning a wide range of partner and associate development matters. Jennifer presents frequently on professional development topics and has made important contributions to the legal community at large, leading workshops and seminars for bar and professional associations and area law schools. In addition, Jennifer volunteers with the Public Service Network of the New York City Bar Association and Volunteers for Careers. A member of the Association of Career Professionals

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International, the International Coach Federation, and the Association for Psychological Type, Jennifer received both her B.A. and M.A. from The University of Dublin, Trinity College.

Lauren Hakala

Director of Learning & Professional Development, Milbank LLP

Lauren Hakala currently serves as the Director of Learning & Professional Development at Milbank LLP, where she oversees Milbank's learning and coaching programs for lawyers and business services professionals. She began her career as a capital markets and corporate governance lawyer, practicing in New York and London with Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP. Since then, she has held senior roles at Practical Law Thomson Reuters, Paul, Weiss and White & Case. Lauren is an ICF accredited executive coach, with a particular interest in time and self-management.

David Henderson

Presentation Skills Coach and Workshop Facilitator, Spoken with Authority

David Henderson has nearly three decades of experience in high-profile communication-based roles, including 20 years as a trial attorney during which he tried over 70 jury cases to a verdict. Previously, he served as an associate at Vinson & Elkins, LLP, an international law firm with approximately 700 lawyers worldwide, and then as a prosecutor in the Special Crimes Division of the Bexar County's District Attorney's office. Currently, he serves as a civil rights attorney at Ellwanger Law PLLC, specializing in civil rights, discrimination in the workplace, and fighting for sexual assault survivors. He is also a CNBC contributor who provides legal analysis on The News with Shepard Smith. David joined Toastmasters International in 2007, and in 2010 he was named World Champion of Public Speaking in a competition of more than 30,000 elite speakers from 113 countries.

Jessica Hernandez

Principal, JLH Coaching and Consulting

Jessica Hernandez is a certified executive coach and former attorney who partners with her clients to move beyond obstacles to a more fulfilling place in their lives. Jessica's experience includes 11 years practicing corporate law in New York City - at an AmLaw 100 firm, a smaller firm, and as in-house counsel at a hedge fund. She later served as career advisor at Georgetown Law, and then moved to an attorney development position in-house at a major law firm in 2010. Jessica became a Certified Professional Co-Active Coach in 2016 and started her own consultancy, JLH Coaching & Consulting, in 2018. Together with Jessica Natkin, she also launched Law Career Center in 2020, through which both providers offer career transition and outplacement services. In addition, Jessica is co-author with Jessica Natkin of Let's Coach All the Lawyers: An Essential Primer for Professionals Developing Legal Talent (NALP 2021).

Milana Hogan

Fiona Trevelyan Hornblower

President and CEO, The NALP Foundation

As President and CEO, Fiona Trevelyan Hornblower provides leadership for the Foundation's mission to improve the quality and delivery of legal services through research, education, and the expansion of diversity within the legal profession. Prior to joining the Foundation, Fiona served as Assistant Dean for Career Development and Public Service at Boston University School of Law for over six years, and as the National Director of Legal Recruiting for Bingham McCutchen for seven years. She practiced as a litigator at Bingham before leading the firm's recruiting,

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and has also worked as an independent consultant to law firms and as a Principal in a boutique practice. She has held numerous leadership positions in both national and local legal and recruiting organizations, including NALP and the ABA. She regularly publishes and speaks on a wide variety of issues in the legal profession. Fiona received her BA from Harvard University and her JD from Boston College Law School. Following law school, she clerked for the Hon. Frank M. Coffin, senior judge for the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit.

Steve Hughes **President, Hit Your Stride, LLC**

*Steve Hughes is a sought-after speaker and consultant who helps people look and sound smart when they talk. He's the author of *Captivate* and he has been featured on NPR, BBC Radio, CBS, and in *The Wall Street Journal* and *Businessweek*. He is the proud creator of "International Be Kind to Lawyers Day" which is celebrated annually on the second Tuesday in April. Today he works with a select list of blue-chip clients including top law firms, leading law schools, national associations, and Fortune 500 companies. Steve holds a BA in French Literature and European History from the University of Kansas and an MBA in Marketing from Washington University's Olin School of Business, where he was awarded the prestigious Olin Cup.*

Nakia V. Humphrey **Director of Professional Development, Perkins Coie LLP**

Nakia Humphrey is the Director of Professional Development at Perkins Coie LLP. In her role, she works closely with firm leadership and attorneys at all levels on various career development initiatives. She oversees the firm's training, mentoring, coaching and CLE initiatives. She also serves on the firmwide Attorney Development Committee, and is a member of the firm's Staff Diversity and Inclusion and Well-Being Taskforces. Nakia has spent most of her career in legal professional development. Before joining Perkins Coie, she served in various professional development roles at two large New York-based law firms. Nakia received her BA in Political Science from Rider University and holds an MBA and a Master's Degree in Organization Management from St. Joseph's College. Nakia is also a member of the Professional Development Consortium (PDC) and is past co-chair of the PDC Programming Committee.

Rebecca Jackson **Attorney Professional Development Manager, Blank Rome**

Rebecca Jackson is the Attorney Professional Development Manager at Blank Rome LLP, where she manages firmwide attorney professional skills training initiatives, Associate mentoring and advising programs, attorney performance feedback processes, and Continuing Legal Education (CLE). Rebecca has 15 years of experience in the Learning and Development (L&D) industry, with expertise in program management and training design, development, implementation, and evaluation. Rebecca has worked in legal, corporate, and non-profit sectors, and has organized hundreds of professional skills trainings in the U.S. and abroad. Rebecca is the co-founder of BR Parents, Blank Rome's parent and caregiver employee resource group. Rebecca has a bachelor's degree from Washington College and has taken courses in Organizational Development at Marymount University. She is a graduate of The Campaign School at Yale. She currently resides in the Washington, DC metro area with her two young children (ages 5 and 2.5)

Nicholas Jelfs-Jelf **CEO, Volta Talent Strategies**

Nicholas Jelfs-Jelf is the CEO of Volta Talent Strategies, a consultant and an ICF-credentialed and certified coach. As a consultant, he brings a deep experience and understanding of people management and the business of law to all

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his projects. These involve supporting firms with how to attract, develop, engage and retain talent, as well as advising on hiring and integration. His project-based work includes advising law firms on upward reviews and partner feedback programs. In addition, Nicholas's coaching practice focuses on coaching partners and senior business services professionals in law firms. He particularly enjoys working with firm leaders, practice group leaders and other partners on how to get the best out of their teams. Nicholas has held several leadership positions in global law firms. He began his career as a corporate associate, first at DLA Piper, and then at Freshfields. He later became a Partner and Head of Knowledge Management at Pinsents in London. Nicholas also served as the Chief Human Resources Officer at Dewey & LeBoeuf, where he led an integrated talent management function designed around the life cycle of an attorney at the firm. Nicholas completed his legal education in the UK at the College of Law, in Guildford, having graduated from the University of Surrey, with a BSc (Hons) in Linguistic and International Studies. He is admitted as an attorney (solicitor) in both England and Hong Kong.

Tasneem Khokha **Managing Director, GrowthPlay**

Tasneem K. Khokha has spent over 20 years in the professional services space working with lawyers and other professionals to grow their businesses and helping firms make the most of their relationships with their clients, their talent, and their recruits. Prior to joining GrowthPlay, Tasneem was a partner and the Director of Marketing at Katten Muchin Rosenman, where she led the firm's marketing and business development team. Tasneem previously practiced law in the corporate department of Latham & Watkins and the restructuring group of Kirkland & Ellis. Clients value Tasneem's prior experience as a practicing professional and executive leader in professional services organizations and her relentlessly optimistic approach. Tasneem speaks frequently on topics related to new business development, selling professional services, marketing, client experience, leadership, diversity, and women in professional services. She has spoken at several law schools, including Northwestern Pritzker School of Law, University of Chicago Law School, and University of Illinois College of Law. Tasneem graduated from the University of Chicago Law School and earned her Bachelor's degree, with honors, from the University of Chicago. Tasneem serves on the board of directors of Latinos Progresando, a Chicago-based nonprofit that provides immigration legal services.

Chandra Kilgriff **Chief Talent Officer, Saul, Ewing, Arnstein & Lehr**

Chandra Kilgriff is the Chief Talent Officer at Saul Ewing Arnstein & Lehr, where she provides strategic direction for all of the firm's talent functions. She leads the human resources, professional development, and recruiting teams, with a focus on building systems that foster an inclusive, collaborative, and growth-oriented culture. Chandra is a former practicing attorney, and holds a J.D. and Masters in Public Policy from Georgetown University. She also serves on the Board of Directors of Minds Matter Twin Cities.

Rudhir Krishtel **CEO, Coach, Keynote Speaker, Krishtel**

Rudhir Krishtel is an executive coach and consultant focusing on workplace wellness and intensity. Prior to becoming an executive coach and consultant, Rudhir practiced law for 15 years as a Federal Clerk, Patent Litigation Partner at Fish & Richardson, and then as Senior Patent Counsel at Apple. His lawyer days led him to train as a teacher for yoga (Baptist Institute) mindfulness meditation (Warrior One), as a professional Co-Active coach and leadership instructor (Coaches Training Institute), as well as in DEI principles, to serve as a much-needed support for the legal community. Rudhir and his team specialize in creating the space for having difficult conversations and growth at the intersection of Leadership, Well-Being and DEI issues. He focuses on corporate healing and provides tools for those affected by the most challenging aspects of work. Through work with groups and individuals,

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Rudhir leads his team to transform the workplace for busy professionals. Krishtel Coaching currently offers professional development workshops, business development circles and private 1:1 coaching.

Jon Krop **Founder, Mindfulness for Lawyers**

Jon Krop, J.D., has led mindfulness and well-being programs at Harvard, Stanford, Yale, the Pentagon, public defender's offices, Fortune 100 companies, and more than 70 top law firms. After graduating from Harvard Law School, Jon clerked on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and worked as a litigator at firms in Los Angeles and New York City. Jon has practiced mindfulness since 2006 and has studied with teachers from around the world, including psychologists, neuroscientists, and traditional Buddhist masters. In 2014, Jon completed a seven-month silent meditation retreat.

AJ Link **Founder, National Disabled Law Students Association**

AJ Link (he/him) is openly autistic. He received his JD from The George Washington University Law School and his LL.M in Space Law at the University of Mississippi School of Law. He is the inaugural director of The Center for Air and Space Law Task Force on Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity in Aerospace and an adjunct professor of space law at Howard University School of Law. AJ is the Communications Director for Mission: AstroAccess and works as a research director for the Jus Ad Astra project. He serves as the Space Law and Policy Chair for Black in Astro and was the founding president of the National Disabled Law Students Association. AJ is a policy analyst for the Autistic Self Advocacy Network. He has been actively involved with disability advocacy in the Washington, DC area and nationally within the United States. He serves on several advisory boards and steering committees that focus on disability advocacy and broader social justice movements.

Christopher Lynn **Professional Development Specialist, Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP**

Bio to follow

Joe Maguire **Assistant Director of CLE/Professional Development, Reed Smith LLP**

Joe Maguire is the Assistant Director of CLE and Professional Development at Reed Smith LLP. He administers Reed Smith University School of Law operations in the United States. He also develops, facilitates, and teaches business development, leadership and legal programs for lawyers and paraprofessionals.

Jennifer Mandery **Vice President for Research, The NALP Foundation**

As Vice President for Research, Jennifer Mandery provides expert leadership on the methodological, data and analytical aspects of the Foundation's research projects and expertly transforms data into critical insights and delivers actionable and strategic guidance. Prior to joining the Foundation, Jennifer served as a Consultant and Senior Research Analyst for Thomson Reuters where she conducted research within the legal industry and consumer markets. She has co-authored multiple research study publications and industry articles, and frequently presents on the Foundation's behalf to managing partners, hiring partners, chief talent officers, law school deans, faculty and legal administrators on a variety of legal industry topics. Jennifer received her BBA from the University of North Dakota and completed additional coursework in advanced and applied research. She serves as an authority on multiple quantitative and qualitative research techniques.

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Jessica Marinelli

Director of Employee Engagement, Morgan Lewis

Jessica Marinelli is the Director of Employee Engagement at Morgan Lewis. She has nearly twenty years' experience in HR in various industry sectors including law. She graduated with a BS in Business Administration - Human Resources from Drexel University. [Full bio to follow if selected]

Carrie Marker

Director of Career Counseling & Planning, Akin Gump Straus Hauer and Feld LLP

Carrie Marker is the Director of Career Counseling & Planning at Akin Gump. She provides career counseling and coaching on long and short-term goals to attorneys at all levels. Before joining Akin, Carrie was the in-house career counselor at Dechert LLP for 6 years. Carrie's career counseling combines her social work degree and over 25 years in the legal industry counseling attorneys, and managing professional development and recruiting programs. Carrie worked as a career consultant at Greiner Consulting and is the former Director of Legal Recruiting and Professional Development at McKee Nelson LLP. Before that she was the pro bono administrator at Lawyers Alliance for New York and recruiting manager at Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP. She is an LMSW, MBTI certified, and trained in coaching. She is a member of NALP and the Professional Development Consortium.

Megan McNulty

Manager of Professional Development, Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP

Megan McNulty is a Manager of Professional Development at Arnold & Porter. Megan is an accomplished project manager with experience conceptualizing, developing, implementing, and executing training programs and initiatives. She focuses on inclusive practices and cultivating a team approach to support the collective mission and overall success of the organization. Megan has prior legal experience as a Manager of Professional Development & Training at Covington & Burling. Before entering the legal world. She was in the Peace Corps as a Community & Economic Development Volunteer. Her background is in academia, having spent time as a teacher and curriculum developer for a school system in Wisconsin. Megan's love of curriculum development in academia has transitioned to a passion for professional development and curriculum building in the legal sector.

Julia Mercier

Principal, Mercier Talent Solutions LLC

Julia Mercier is the Principal of Mercier Talent Solutions LLC. A skilled executive coach and facilitator, she designs and delivers tailored training and coaching programs focused on leadership, communication, and collaboration skills. Her coaching style is engaging, results-oriented, and informed by her 7 years spent as a litigator at a large law firm and her 10+ years leading professional development strategy at global law firms. She received her law degree from Université de Montréal and a coaching certification from New York University.

Mark Michels

Lecturer in Law, Santa Clara University School of Law

Mark Michels is a Lecturer in Law at Santa Clara School of Law where he teaches IP litigation, electronic discovery, and Leadership for Lawyers. Mark served as the Senior L&D Manager at Winston & Strawn where, among other things, he designed and delivered a manager training program which included an intensive, one-day, experiential learning session focused on management fundamentals, goal setting, feedback, and employee career coaching. At Winston he also designed a training curriculum focused on productivity, communication, stress management, teamwork & collaboration, innovation, and management. Prior to joining Winston, Mark was a Managing Director

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at Deloitte LLP. In that role he was a facilitator in Deloitte's Leader Development program where he facilitated more than 100 hours of leadership training for more than 150 Deloitte professionals. Mark was a team leader and instructor for intensive professional development and coaching programs for more than 65 up-and-coming in-house attorneys on path to general counsel. He earned a Deloitte Faculty Excellence instructor certification which employs leading-edge, adult-learner instructional techniques. Mark was an associate attorney in an international law firm, an in-house attorney at Cisco Systems, and a legal services consultant at Deloitte LLP. In each of these roles he was a manager, a leader, and mentor to legal services professionals. Mark was a leader before he was a lawyer in the U.S. Army where he was a Military Intelligence officer.

Haley Moss **Attorney, Self-Employed**

Haley Moss is a lawyer, neurodiversity expert, and the author of four books that guide neurodivergent individuals through professional and personal challenges. She is a consultant to top corporations and nonprofits that seek her guidance in creating a diverse workplace, and a sought-after commentator on disability rights issues. The first openly autistic lawyer in Florida, Haley is the recipient of the 2021 American Bar Association (ABA) Making a Difference by Breaking Barriers Award. Her books include "Great Minds Think Differently: Neurodiversity for Lawyers and Other Professionals" (ABA Book Publishing; June 2021) and "The Young Autistic Adult's Independence Handbook" (Jessica Kingsley Publishers; November 2021). Her articles have appeared in outlets including the Washington Post, Teen Vogue, and Fast Company.

Jessica Natkin **Principal, Total Talent Design**

Jessica Natkin is a legal talent consultant and coach with over 20 years of experience in lawyer career development. She has counseled and coached over 1000 lawyers in Big Law and beyond. Jessica focuses on engagement and long-term career satisfaction and has coached attorneys on leveling up their performance, making partner in their firm, exploring and obtaining new positions, working on interpersonal matters, and flexible work. Jessica is Principal of Total Talent Design (www.totaltalentdesign.com) and Co-Founder, with Jessica Hernandez, of Law Career Center (www.lawcareercenter.com). She holds a law degree from Northwestern University School of Law as well as a graduate certificate in career development. Prior to founding Total Talent Design, Jessica was the Director, Attorney Career Development at Fenwick & West LLP. She previously worked as the Director of Programs for the Project for Attorney Retention, and she managed the career development programs at Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe, LLP and Wilson, Sonsini, Goodrich & Rosati, P.C. Jessica is co-author with Jessica Hernandez of Let's Coach All the Lawyers: An Essential Primer for Professionals Developing Legal Talent (NALP 2021).

Jordyn Pandolfo **Lateral Partner Onboarding Coordinator, Latham & Watkins LLP**

Jordyn Pandolfo is the Onboarding Coordinator at Venable LLP in Washington, DC. At Venable, Jordyn oversees and coordinates the onboarding and integration of all new Partners, Associates, and Business Professionals. In her role, she works with practice group leaders and managers on onboarding plans for new hires as well as serves as a point-person for new hires to go to throughout their transition. A continuous goal for her is to evaluate the onboarding process and one way she does this is by having guided discussions with new hires. Jordyn earned her M.P.S. in Human Resources Management from Georgetown University. She has a B.S. in Business Administration – Human Resources from California State University, Fresno.

Susan Parker **Managing Director, ELR Search**

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Susan is a Managing Director at ELR Legal Search where she consults with attorneys at all levels in a broad range of practice areas. Previously, she drove recruitment, professional development, and D&I initiatives at a leading technology company where she designed and delivered talent, culture and performance strategies in both English and Spanish in over twenty-five countries. A member of the Professional Development Consortium and PDC D&I Committee member, Susan is passionate about driving success for both her law firm clients and candidates. In prior years, Susan served as a Senior Consultant for a leading, New York-based Diversity & Inclusion consultancy; a legal and executive search consultant for two leading firms in Houston, Texas; and as the founder of CareerQuest, a job search consultancy. Additionally, Susan served as the Director of Job Training & Placement for Women Helping Women, a nationally recognized, award-winning 501(3)(c). Susan is also the author of Walking in the Deep End and speaks on well-being and mental health issues, remote work and the connection between culture, talent, and performance. Susan studied History at the University of Seville, Spain and obtained her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. She holds a certificate in Design Thinking from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (M.I.T.).

Chelsey Parrott-Sheffer

Director of Professional Development, Saul, Ewing, Arnstein & Lehr

Chelsey Parrott-Sheffer joined Saul Ewing Arnstein & Lehr as Director of Professional Development in February 2022. She is a certified executive coach, a Senior Professional in Human Resources, and a green flag-rated sailor at Community Boating in Boston. She is based in Chicago.

Rachel Phillips-Anderson

Clinical Social Worker/Therapist, LCSW-C, Private Practice

Rachel Phillips-Anderson, LCSW-C is a psychotherapist and meditation teacher. She specializes in using mindfulness and other evidence-based techniques to help individuals struggling with stress and anxiety. She has taught other therapists how to integrate the latest anxiety research into their treatment. As a long time meditator, Rachel has combined her knowledge of mindfulness and psychotherapy to deliver stress management webinars for organizations struggling with workplace stress during the pandemic. Rachel is passionate about helping people live more authentic and fulfilling lives.

Jeanne Picht

Director, Professional Development, Fried Frank Harris Shriver & Jacobson

Jeanne Picht serves as the Director of Professional Development at Fried Frank. She brings a combined 15+ years of experience in the legal industry as a practicing attorney, professional development, recruiting, and diversity professional, talent management consultant, and business trainer to her current role. She was awarded the PDC Richard Pearson Award in 2016 and recently received The Distinguished Service Award for service to her law school, Indiana University Maurer School of Law. Jeanne writes and speaks frequently for local and national legal organizations and has served in leadership roles within NALP and the PDC, leading legal recruitment and lawyer development organizations. She also serves on the ABA Law Practice Division Well-being Committee and the Law Practice Magazine Board. Jeanne currently is pursuing her ICF coaching certification.

Reva Pollack

Director of Professional Development, Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP

Reva Pollack is the Director of Professional Development at Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP, where she oversees training and development initiatives for the firm's associates. Reva started her career as a financial regulatory

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attorney in Washington DC before working in higher education at Yale Law School and Southern Methodist University. She holds a J.D. from Duke University School of Law, a B.A. from the University of California, Berkeley, and is a trained coach certified through Volta.

Erika Pont

Associate Professor and Interim Associate Director, Fundamentals of Lawyering, GW Law

Erika N. Pont is a Visiting Associate Professor and the Interim Associate Director at The George Washington University Law School. Professor Pont teaches in and helps to direct GW's Fundamentals of Lawyering Class— its innovative six credit required first year course that marries traditional legal research and writing with professional identity formation. She serves as the program's liaison to GW's Inns of Court Program and is responsible for incorporating principles of professional development and professional identity formation into the Fundamentals of Lawyering curriculum. Professor Pont joined the Fundamentals of Lawyering faculty in its inaugural year after nearly twelve years of teaching at GW as an adjunct professor. She has taught legal research and writing, introduction to advocacy, scholarly writing, and independent legal writing. Prior to joining academia full time, Professor Pont practiced for over a decade in the litigation department at McDermott, Will and Emery.

Jennifer Rakstad

Americas Senior Learning & Development Manager, White & Case LLP_

Jennifer Rakstad is the Americas Senior Learning & Development Manager at White & Case, where she works closely with a global team and leads the Learning & Development function in the Americas region. Jennifer has over 15 years of experience in talent development and eight years as a practicing attorney in Am Law 100 firms. Jennifer is Professional Certified Coach (PCC) through the International Coach Federation – certified through the Hudson Institute of Coaching – and oversees the White & Case Coaching Office, which provides coaching to lawyers and business services professionals globally. Jennifer has developed and delivered training programs for lawyers and firm clients in the U.S. and globally on topics including Creating and Executing Career Plans and Business Plans; The Art of Communication, Time Management, Delegation and Feedback; Lawyer Well-Being; Effective Networking and Business Development. Jennifer is certified in the Hogan Leadership Assessment and MBTI and developed an innovative global group coaching program for senior associates focused on career and business development. As a recognized thought leader, Jennifer is a frequent writer and presenter on a wide range of professional development topics, including at the NALP and PDI education conferences.

Tim Regan

Partner, ELR Search

For more than 15 years, Tim, a Houston Legal Recruiter and Career Coach, has assisted attorneys as they navigate their careers. As a former practicing attorney, he understands the difficulties every attorney faces as they plot a path to their career goal. He works with law firms as a retained career coach, career transition/outplacement counselor and legal recruiter strategically aligning the goals of the individuals and the firms. Tim has successfully placed and counseled partners and associates in top-tier regional, national, and international law firms, and has completed numerous in-house GC and Counsel level searches for prominent international corporations. Working as a Houston Legal Recruiter, Tim is consistently ranked as one of the Most Influential Legal Recruiters by LawCrossing. Tim is passionate about helping attorneys achieve their goals and takes pride in co-developing a career strategy with clients and candidates alike. He is able to use both his experience and network to provide legal outplacement, coaching and career transition services for partners and associates. He leads a team of professionals who share his passion of working with attorneys to strengthen their skill sets. As a result, attorneys experience higher career satisfaction and greater engagement. Prior to joining ELR, Tim was Managing Director and Office Leader for the Houston office of Major Lindsey & Africa, a large international legal recruiting firm. Tim earned his

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undergraduate degree from Louisiana State University and his J.D. from Loyola University New Orleans School of Law. While at Loyola, he served as the Student Bar Association President. Tim also supports attorney development at prestigious law schools around the country having worked with Georgetown Law, Harvard Law, Tulane Law, University of Houston Law Center and UC Berkley Law.

Larry Richard Dr., LawyerBrain LLC

Dr. Larry Richard is recognized as the leading expert on the psychology of lawyer behavior. He has advised dozens of the top AmLaw law firms on leadership, management, and related issues such as teams, change management, talent selection, assessment, and other aspects of strategic talent management. Widely known as an expert on the lawyer personality, he has gathered personality data on thousands of lawyers. A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania Law School, Dr. Richard practiced law as a trial attorney for ten years. He then earned a Ph.D. in Psychology from Temple University. For more than 20 years, he has provided consulting services exclusively to the legal profession. Formerly a partner with Altman Weil, and more recently the head of the Leadership & OD Practice at Hildebrandt International, in 2011 he established his own consulting firm, LawyerBrain LLC, which focuses on improving lawyer performance through personality science. He focuses on resilience, change management, leadership, and talent issues. He is a frequent author and speaker on the use of positive psychology and applied behavioral science in helping law firms to succeed. He is a Gallup-certified Strengths Coach, and a licensed user of the MBTI, DiSC, and 15 other assessment tools.

Denise Robinson Founding Principal, The Still Center

Denise A. Robinson is the Founding Principal of The Still Center LLC, a consultancy focused on facilitating personal well-being, meaningful interpersonal connections, and organizational diversity, equity & inclusion. Denise's work is informed by over 20 years of experience spanning legal, financial, and academic arenas. After counseling clients on a variety of labor & employment matters as a law firm associate, Denise pursued a career building diverse and inclusive institutions, including as a law school and college admissions officer focused on multicultural recruitment for Georgetown University. She continued this pursuit at O'Melveny & Myers LLP, where she was promoted through a series of roles to serve as the firm's Director of Diversity & Inclusion. Subsequently, Denise served as the Diversity Officer for the International Monetary Fund. Denise is also a registered yoga teacher with Yoga Alliance, which is the foundation of her work in mindfulness, meditation, and other contemplative practices. As a consultant, Denise performs cultural assessments, provides strategic advice, and delivers training on diversity, equity & inclusion, well-being, and other talent development topics. In addition, she has directed benchmarking surveys and other think tank projects to advance diversity, equity & inclusion in the legal profession. Denise earned her undergraduate degree from Ohio University's Honors Tutorial College, and she is a graduate of the University of Chicago Law School, where she served as the chapter president of the Black Law Students Association and a student advocate in the Mandel Legal Aid Clinic.

Ben Sachs Professor, University of Virginia School of Law

Ben Sachs is a law school professor and consultant with expertise in management, strategy, negotiation, and communication, and is the author of the forthcoming book, "All Rise: Practical Tools for Building High-Performance Legal Teams." He currently teaches practical skills courses at the University of Virginia School of Law and has taught thousands of attorneys through CLEs, seminars, and workshops. Ben is also president of The Landing Group, which provides consulting and training services for law firms, public sector, and private sector organizations in the United States and internationally. Ben's professional career spans law and business, first serving as a litigator at

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Sidley Austin LLP and then as a strategic management consultant at the Boston Consulting Group before moving to Storyblocks, a technology and media company repeatedly named among the fastest-growing companies by Inc. magazine. With deep experience in the tech industry, Ben served as Storyblocks's general counsel and chief operating officer, overseeing product development, marketing, content acquisition, customer retention, analytics, and strategy, ultimately helping secure the company's private-equity acquisition in 2020.

Adriana Santomero **Associate, Reed Smith LLP**

Adriana Santomero is a New Associate with Reed Smith's Philadelphia office. Since starting with the firm in September 2021, Adriana has concentrated on building her practice in the Life Sciences and Health Industries litigation group. At Reed Smith, Adriana gained exposure to the DueCourse platform in the form of weekly, skill-driven small-group discussions with other new associates hailing from Reed Smith offices other than her own. Adriana is an honors graduate of Notre Dame Law School, where she focused her studies on health law and bioethics, and of Duke University, where she earned a B.S. in Evolutionary Anthropology, a B.A. in Italian Studies, and a minor in Biology. Applying her science background to inform her practice at Reed Smith has thus far been one of Adriana's favorite elements of her career. Prior to law school, Adriana worked at the Duke University Hospital as a Healthcare Coach and mentor for young adults managing the challenges of various chronic illnesses. Through this work, she developed a passion for guiding others toward their goals at an achievable pace using participant-led methods. Based on her past experiences with coaching, Adriana was quickly able to discern the benefits of the DueCourse platform and she greatly enjoyed the opportunity to participate in DueCourse from the perspective of a coachee.

Jennifer Sarhaddi **Professional Development Manager, Jackson Lewis P.C.**

Jennifer Hollenbeck Sarhaddi joined the Jackson Lewis professional development and talent team in early 2021 after serving as the first Director of Professional Development for Clark Hill PLC, a global Am Law 200 law firm with 650+ attorneys throughout the U.S., Ireland and Mexico. Jennifer left active practice in commercial litigation to join Clark Hill and work with the CHRO and practice group heads to design and implement the firm's first competency-based training model and firm-wide formal training curriculum, and to revamp the related performance evaluation process for attorneys in the U.S. and Dublin. Prior to joining Clark Hill, Jennifer was a Partner at Saul Ewing Arnstein & Lehr LLP in Chicago, where she served as co-chair of the Women's Professional Development and Mentoring Committee and co-chaired the firm's Legal Scholars program that created a pipeline in law for diverse, talented youth. Jennifer began her legal career as a summer associate with Arnstein & Lehr LLP and clerked for Vedder Price in Chicago while obtaining her JD.

Stacey Schwartz **Professional Development and Recruiting Manager, Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP**

Stacey Schwartz is a Professional Development and Recruiting Manager at Katten. She has over 20 years of experience in Am Law 100 law firms, as a practicing litigator (Davis Polk and Akin Gump) and in a variety of talent development roles (Weil Gotshal and Skadden) including professional development, diversity and inclusion and recruiting. A certified professional coach through the International Coach Federation (ICF) the Co-active Training Institute (CTI), Stacey's passion is coaching. She has coached hundreds of lawyers and developed and delivered interactive, customized training on a range of career-related topics, including communication, delivering and receiving feedback, time management, mentoring, business development and career transition. Stacey particularly enjoys facilitating robust discussions on talent development topics at Katten, PDI and elsewhere.

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Deepa Selvam

Director of Professional Development, Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP

Deepa Selvam is the Director of Professional Development for Morgan Lewis. In this capacity, Deepa develops and implements professional development training for non-partner attorneys throughout the firm and across practice groups. In addition to the development and implementation of the professional development curriculum, she works with practice group leadership to design and implement practice-specific substantive training, and participates in other talent retention initiatives. Prior to joining Morgan Lewis, Deepa practiced health care law as an associate at another Washington, DC firm.

Morgan Smith

Chief Legal Talent Office, Frost Brown Todd

Morgan L. Smith is a legal talent leader and strategist focused on all aspects of lawyer life. She currently is the Chief Legal Talent Officer at Frost Brown Todd and previously worked in professional development, legal recruiting, diversity, and legal personnel at other law firms.

Jessie Spressart

Managing Director, Optia Consulting

Jessie is the Founder and Managing Director of Optia Consulting. She brings more than fifteen years of experience in talent management and law firm professional development to her coaching and consulting practice. Jessie founded Optia with the mission to help law firms improve well-being through solutions designed to capitalize on the strengths of each generation in the workforce today. Optia provides consulting and training on mindset, management skills, leadership, and well-being in the workplace. Jessie is certified by the National Council for Mental Wellbeing as an instructor for Mental Health First Aid and helps firms talk about and improve mental health among their attorneys and business professionals. Prior to founding Optia, Jessie worked in consulting and spent more than a decade building and leading the professional development department at a law firm in Washington DC. Jessie is an ICF-accredited executive coach and holds Master's degrees from Fordham University and St. Andrews University.

Johnna Story

Director of Professional Development, Finnegan

Johnna G. Story is the Director of Professional Development at Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner, LLP, a world-wide IP firm headquartered in Washington DC. Johnna began her career in law firm professional development at the firm over 26 years ago. In that time, she has managed all aspects of attorney professional development, including working closely with practice group leaders and firm management to identify training needs and develop innovative and impactful programs for the legal professionals at the firm, including a robust evaluation process. Johnna also invests much of her time in the firm's Attorney Well-Being initiative, by providing important resources, developing programming, and entering into partnerships with well-being professionals to help support the firm's attorneys and staff to prioritize and value their own personal well-being. She received her certificate in Mental Health First Aid in 2021.

Khara Tusa Kelsch

Manager of Coaching and Career Development, Steptoe & Johnson

Khara Tusa Kelsch is an experienced development manager and an Associate Certified Coach with 10+ years of experience working in a client service industry. She is skilled in leading talent efforts in the areas of professional

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coaching, wellness, employee engagement, human resources, diversity equity and inclusion, performance management, onboarding and integration, and staffing. She earned a JD from Cornell Law School and a coaching certification from the International Coaching Federation.

Lane Vanderslice **Coach/Consultant, Volta Talent Strategies**

Lane is a coach, trainer and consultant. He coaches associates, partners, law firm leaders and legal talent professional, supporting them in a variety of areas ranging from business development and leadership to job and career satisfaction. He delivered hundreds of programs to law firms on a variety of topics including people and project management, business development, leadership, career planning, mentoring/sponsorship, feedback and coaching skills. Lane has presented on talent management and legal industry issues at The Professional Development Institute (PDI), The National Association for Law Placement (NALP) Conference, many law schools and was an organizer of, and presenter at, the 2008 NALP Diversity Summit. Prior to joining Volta, Lane served as the Special Assistant to the Chairman of Mayer Brown, a role he assumed after spending several years as the firm's full-time Partner for Associate Development. During his tenure at Mayer Brown, Lane created the first in-house coaching/career counseling program at a US law firm. Lane was a leader of Mayer Brown's diversity initiative, which was the recipient of the Minority Corporate Council Association's Thomas L. Sager Award.

Charlotte Wager **Chief Talent and Strategy Officer, Jenner & Block**

Charlotte L. Wager is Jenner & Block's Chief Talent and Strategy Officer with responsibility for the development of people and execution of strategy across the firm. Her experience co-leading the Hiring Executive Committee is leveraged as she advances key initiatives related to the firm's growth and values-based culture. Ms. Wager previously directed associate evaluation, talent development, and lateral partner hiring firmwide. She works with firm leaders on all aspects of practice development including market assessment, innovation, and financial performance. Ms. Wager has deep experience designing strategic programs to mentor lawyers at all stages of their career, coach next generation leaders of the firm, and train litigation teams for success in the courtroom. She is an active member of the firm's Diversity and Inclusion Committee, Women's Forum, and Pro Bono Committees. Ms. Wager's law practice previously focused on counseling policyholders and reinsurers on a wide range of insurance-related matters. Ms. Wager has been a featured speaker on subjects relating to hiring, development and diversity and inclusion at programs sponsored by the American Bar Association, the Practising Law Institute, the Illinois State Bar Association, and numerous law schools. She is a former past president and longstanding member of NALP (The National Association of Law Placement). She is an avid runner, who has completed eight marathons.

Lora Whitticker **Director of External Career Opportunities, Sidley Austin LLP**

Lora Whitticker is the Director of External Career Opportunities at Sidley Austin LLP where she works with members of the Learning and Development Team to provide career services to Sidley attorneys, alumni, clients, and non-client friends of the firm seeking to transition to in-house counsel careers. Lora is a Volta-trained legal career coach and provides career advice to attorneys at all levels in Am Law 100 firms and Fortune 500 corporations. Lora started her career as a licensed attorney in 2002, and practiced commercial litigation, insurance and toxic torts at firms including Locke Lord LLP and Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal n/k/a Dentons. From there she went on to work on both the 2008 and 2012 Barack Obama presidential campaigns. Lora then moved into legal recruiting at Major Lindsey & Africa where she focused on interim and in-house legal placements. From there Lora joined Jenner & Block LLP as their first Manager of Alumni Relations and In-House Opportunities. Lora has been a featured

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speaker on subjects relating to alternative legal career strategies, in house recruiting, personal branding, social media engagement, and career coaching at programs sponsored by the Cook County Bar Association, Black Women Lawyers Bar Association, the National Bar Association, and several law schools. She credits her community involvement for helping her to develop a vast professional network of attorneys and in house counsel nationwide.

Josette Winograd **COO, Selendy Gay Elsberg LLP**

Josette Rodriguez-Winograd is the Chief Operating Officer of Selendy Gay Elsberg, where she is responsible for leading all operational and administrative functions, including recruiting, human resources, finance and accounting, information technology, marketing and business development, research and development, office administration, and litigation support. Working closely with Firm leadership, Josette drives the Firm's strategic plan while identifying and implementing process improvements across the Firm. She also serves on the Firm's diversity & inclusion committee. Prior to joining Selendy Gay Elsberg, Josette led business development departments at several AmLaw 100 firms. Josette earned her Ph. D. from the New School University. Josette is actively involved in the Association of Latino Professionals, Hispanic Federation, CHIEF and serves on fundraising committees at Trinity Place Shelter and the American Ballet Theatre.

Eva Wisnik **President, Wisnik Career Enterprises**

Eva Wisnik is the founder of Wisnik Career Enterprises, Inc., and former Director of Recruiting & Training for Schulte Roth & Zabel and Cadwalader. She has presented at many industry conferences on topics that affect law firms, including NALP, PDI and LMA.

Arna Zohlman **Director of Legal Personnel and Development, Akin Gump**

Arna Zohlman is the Director of Legal Personnel & Development at Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP. She has 20+ years of law firm experience, including recruiting, attorney development and human resources. At Akin, Arna partners with the Chief Legal Talent Officer and the firm's Professional Development Partner on all strategic and administrative aspects of legal personnel and development. Arna received a BA in Women's Studies from the University of Rochester and has a Certificate in Human Resource Management from New York University. Arna is a member of NALP and the Professional Development Consortium (PDC).