



Advancing Women in Law Around the World

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## **WWCDA Announces Recipients of 2020 WWCDA Awards Recognizing Champions in White Collar Law**

### ***Awards Highlight Professionals' Contributions to Diversity, Equality, and the Advancement of Women***

(WASHINGTON, D.C.) The Women's White Collar Defense Association (WWCDA) is pleased to announce the recipients of its 2020 *WWCDA Awards*. These awards recognize women and men who have made significant impacts in the white collar practice, including the areas of defense, government enforcement, investigations and compliance. WWCDA established the Awards to honor those whose efforts have enhanced the white collar practice and made it more diverse and equitable or who have otherwise used their platforms to support women in this field.

“Since the founding of WWCDA over two decades ago, we have been committed to equality and inclusion, both in our profession and more broadly,” said Co-Founder Karen Popp. “In this year of national strife, it feels especially important that our *WWCDA Awards* honor champions in the white collar bar who have enhanced equality in our profession, making us all, and the work we do for our clients, stronger and better. We are proud to recognize these professionals who have embodied these values throughout their careers.”

The awards will be presented to the recipients at a virtual gala on December 1, 2020, at 7 p.m. Eastern. Former Deputy Attorney General Sally Yates will serve as Master of Ceremonies, and famed NPR correspondent Nina Totenberg will be the keynote speaker. The gala will also feature a memorial tribute to the late Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and a performance by Kim Bullard, keyboardist for Elton John.

WWCDA is pleased to open this year's virtual gala to the public at no cost. Registration details, as well as more information on sponsorship opportunities, can be found through the [WWCDA Awards Gala](#) event page.

The *WWCDA Awards* consist of four unique award categories. WWCDA is pleased to announce the distinguished winners for each of these awards.

**The WWCDA Champion Award will be presented to former U.S. Attorney General Loretta E. Lynch of Paul Weiss.**

The WWCDA Champion Award recognizes an individual who has made a difference in the white collar practice while advancing women. Throughout her groundbreaking career, Loretta Lynch has truly demonstrated the gold standard for making a difference.

Ms. Lynch has three presidential appointments, two as U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of New York and, in 2015, as Attorney General of the United States. Ms. Lynch was the first Black female appointed to Attorney General. During Ms. Lynch's time in private practice, while securing important victories for her clients, she also found time to serve on the Board of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and as Special Counsel to the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda. Throughout her career, Ms. Lynch has promoted women to positions of trust and authority in her offices and law practice, many of whom have gone on to leadership positions in state and federal governments and in the judiciary – creating important gender diversity in those key public roles.

The WWCDA applauds Ms. Lynch's many accomplishments and the doors she has opened for generations of women and diverse attorneys.

**The WWCDA Group Award will be presented to Salesforce Office of Global Ethics and Integrity.**

The WWCDA Group Award is for a group that has demonstrated achievement in the white collar area while advancing women. Salesforce's Office of Global Ethics and Integrity, through its leadership, composition and work, measurably promotes the advancement, mentorship, support and professional development of women in the fields of white collar defense, investigations, ethics, compliance and consulting. The team, which started with a single female attorney, has grown to 22 professionals under her leadership, 14 of whom are women. The work of the Office of Global Ethics and Integrity is a key reason that Salesforce.com has consistently been named by Ethisphere as one of the "World's Most Ethical Companies®." WWCDA is pleased to recognize Salesforce's visible commitment to promoting women.

**The Laurie A. Miller Leadership Award for the Advancement of Women in White Collar Defense will be presented to Karen P. Seymour, Executive Vice President and General Counsel of Goldman Sachs.**

Karen Seymour's achievements in her career as a white collar defense attorney exemplify Laurie A. Miller's groundbreaking leadership in white collar defense and in advancing women in the practice. Karen's successes in private practice are legion, but she has spent as much time developing and promoting young women attorneys both in her firm and in the professional associations to which she belongs. Karen is one of the founding members of the WWCDA's New York chapter and has helped WWCDA grow throughout the world. Her commitment to promoting diverse leadership has been steadfast throughout her career. Today, she is a member of the Board of Advisors, Goldman Sachs' \$500 million commitment to invest in companies and investment managers with diverse leadership.

**The Catherine M. O'Neil Mentoring Award will be presented to Aviva Gilbert of Farella Braun + Martel**

Aviva Gilbert, the Global Chair of the WWCDAs Young Professionals Committee, receives this award in honor of the late Catherine M. O'Neil. The award commemorates Cathy's enthusiasm, optimism, and dedication to mentoring lawyers. This award will include a continuing education stipend that has been fully funded by the law firm of King & Spalding, where Cathy was a partner in the Special Matters and Government Investigations Group.

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*Founded in 1999, with the goal of addressing the large gender gap in white collar law and compliance, the Women's White Collar Defense Association (WWCDA) promotes the common business and professional interests of women attorneys and other professionals who specialize in the representation of corporations and individuals facing government enforcement actions, internal investigations, compliance and ethics matters. WWCDA promotes diversity in the legal profession, facilitates networking and business development, and provides educational programming. WWCDA initiatives facilitate women connecting, collaborating, and advancing in white collar defense around the world.*

*The WWCDA has grown to more than 2,200 members in 43 chapters throughout North America, Europe, Latin America and Asia Pacific. WWCDA Chapters are located in Washington, D.C., New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Florida, Denver, Dallas, Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Atlanta, Houston, Phoenix, Michigan, Minnesota, Seattle, Indianapolis, New Orleans, Connecticut, New Jersey, Ohio, Oregon/Idaho, Tennessee/Alabama, North Carolina, Missouri, Pittsburgh, Missouri, San Diego, London, Ireland, France, Hong Kong, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Puerto Rico, Toronto, Vancouver, Australia, Italy, Germany, Brazil, Peru and Japan.*

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