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INSPIRING TOMORROW.

**WWCDA® 2025  
AWARDS  
GALA**

**12.2.25**

WASHINGTON, D.C.



# WWCDA<sup>®</sup> 2025 AWARDS GALA PROGRAM

## WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS

Michele Roberts, Master of Ceremonies, Renowned Attorney and  
Former Executive Director of the National Basketball Players Association

Karen A. Popp, Global Chair & Co-Founder of WWCDA, Senior Counsel,  
Sidley Austin LLP

## PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

WWCDA Catherine M. O'Neil Mentoring Award

WWCDA Group Award

WWCDA Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg Outstanding Law Student Award

WWCDA Chapter Awards

WWCDA Laurie A. Miller Leadership Award

WWCDA Champion Award

## CLOSING REMARKS

Michele Roberts, Master of Ceremonies, Renowned Attorney and  
Former Executive Director of the National Basketball Players Association

Karen A. Popp, Global Chair & Co-Founder of WWCDA, Senior Counsel,  
Sidley Austin LLP

## MASTER OF CEREMONIES



**Michele Roberts**

## AWARD RECIPIENTS



**Jennifer Lieser**  
WWCDA CATHY O'NEIL  
MENTORING AWARD



**Julie Gruber**  
ACCEPTING THE WWCDA GROUP AWARD  
ON BEHALF OF GAP INC.



**Annie Hong**  
WWCDA JUSTICE GINSBURG  
LAW STUDENT AWARD



**Rita Mitchell**  
WWCDA LAURIE A. MILLER  
LEADERSHIP AWARD



**Kit Addleman**  
WWCDA LAURIE A. MILLER  
LEADERSHIP AWARD



**Rachel Brand**  
WWCDA CHAMPION AWARD

## PROGRAM SPEAKERS



**Karen A. Popp**  
WWCDA GLOBAL CHAIR & CO-FOUNDER  
SENIOR COUNSEL, SIDLEY AUSTIN LLP



**Professor Amanda L. Tyler**  
THOMAS DAVID & JUDITH SWOPE CLARK PROFESSOR OF  
CONSTITUTIONAL LAW, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
BERKELEY SCHOOL OF LAW



**Susan Bozorgi**  
WWCDA GLOBAL VICE CHAIR  
MANAGING PARTNER, BOZORGI LAW, PLLC



**Hannah Bornstein**  
WWCDA BOSTON CHAPTER SECRETARY &  
AWARDS PROGRAM COMMITTEE CHAIR  
PARTNER, NIXON PEABODY LLP



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- Elizabeth Franklin-Best, PC  
■ Elliott Kwok Levine Jaroslaw Neils LLP  
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■ Hinckley Allen  
■ Hogan Lovells  
■ Holland & Knight  
■ Hyman, Phelps & McNamara, PC  
■ Jenner & Block LLP  
■ Jones Day  
■ Kaiser PLLC
- Kaplan Marino  
■ King & Ruiz LLP  
■ King & Spalding  
■ Kirkland & Ellis LLP  
■ Lankler Siffert & Wohl LLP  
■ Latham & Watkins LLP  
■ London & Naor PC  
■ Lowenstein Sandler LLP  
■ Mathewson Law  
■ Mayer Brown  
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■ Miner Siddall LLP  
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■ Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP
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■ Nixon Peabody LLP  
■ Pacific Northwest Law, LLP  
■ Papetti Samuels Weiss McKirgan LLP  
■ Paul Hastings LLP  
■ Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP  
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■ Selendy Gay PLLC  
■ Seward & Kissel LLP  
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■ Sidley Austin LLP
- Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP  
■ Steptoe LLP  
■ Sullivan & Cromwell LLP  
■ Taft  
■ Thompson Coburn LLP  
■ Torres Trade Law, PLLC  
■ Vedder Price  
■ White & Case LLP  
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■ Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP  
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■ Winston & Strawn LLP  
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Karen A. Popp

Global Chair & Co-Founder of WWCD  
Senior Counsel, Sidley Austin LLP

WELCOME TO THE 2025  
WOMEN'S WHITE COLLAR DEFENSE  
ASSOCIATION® AWARDS GALA!

The Awards Gala is the materialization of the WWCD mission at its core. We are honored to celebrate leaders whose exceptional achievements have opened doors and advanced equality for all in the white collar and compliance field. Winning a WWCD Award is a lifetime distinction recognized across the profession and celebrated at this signature event, where excellence, progress, and the enduring strength of our legal community take center stage. This WWCD Awards Gala is a true celebration of the progress in our field and the extraordinary alliance we've built together.

What began as a small circle of dedicated members back in 1999 has grown into a powerful global community, with over 4,700 members spanning 51 chapters in 19 countries. Each year, through more than 150 events and countless initiatives, WWCD empowers and celebrates leaders and others who are shaping the future of the white collar defense and compliance field. WWCD continues to grow and offer new opportunities with more chapters in the pipeline. You can find additional information about WWCD's activities, membership, upcoming events, sponsorships, and partnerships at [www.wwcd.org](http://www.wwcd.org) and on social media using #WWCD.

We want to express our gratitude to all our 2025 WWCD Awards Gala Sponsors and WWCD Annual Sponsors! Your support strengthens our organization and empowers our mission to elevate excellence and advance inclusion in the white collar defense and compliance field.

Thank you for being here to celebrate with us tonight. Have a fantastic evening and please join me in congratulating our incredible 2025 WWCD Award winners!





Congratulations to Kit Addleman on receiving the Women's White Collar Defense Association's Laurie A. Miller Leadership Award for the advancement of women in white collar defense. This distinction reflects Kit's impact on the legal profession as a trailblazer in the white collar and government investigations practice and to her tireless support of the next generation of government defense lawyers and of the WWCD.

Kit is one of many Chambers-ranked and high-profile white collar defense lawyers at Haynes Boone. The firm, which was founded in Texas, now services clients nationally and around the globe to address the needs of companies, securities firms, and individuals in diverse industries and in a broad range of matters. The attorneys in Haynes Boone's White Collar and Investigations practice draw on extensive government and private sector experience as well as courtroom experience to achieve exceptional results in high-stakes white collar matters.

haynesboone.com  
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## OUR STORY

The Women's White Collar Defense Association (WWCD) was founded in 1999. Our founders recognized a glaring lack of equal opportunity in the white collar defense practice and in existing professional white collar organizations. Such professional activities are crucial in promoting equal opportunity for all in the practice, including providing educational programs and networking to develop business in the practice area.

Since those early days, WWCD has expanded to 51 chapters throughout North America, Europe, Latin America, and Asia Pacific. Membership in these chapters consists of more than 4,700 lawyers and other professionals in the practice of white collar defense. Many of our members have previously served in government positions and in corporate roles. Notable members include former corporate General Counsels and Chief Compliance Officers, as well as former prosecutors and high ranking government officials.

WWCD promotes the common business and professional interests of attorneys and other professionals who specialize in white collar and other defense and compliance work. Their clients are corporations, other organizations and individuals facing government enforcement actions (criminal, civil, regulatory, and administrative), internal investigations, compliance and other defense issues.

## WWCD MISSION STATEMENT

The Women's White Collar Defense Association (WWCD) promotes the common business and professional interests of attorneys and other professionals who specialize in white collar and other defense and compliance and ethics work. Their clients are corporations, other organizations and individuals facing government enforcement actions (criminal, civil, regulatory, and administrative), and/or internal investigations, other defense and compliance and ethics matters. WWCD promotes equal opportunity for all in the legal and consulting professions, including organizing business activities to facilitate networking and business development opportunities, and providing educational programming focused on the defense of government enforcement actions, conducting internal investigations, other defense matters, and counselling on compliance and ethics matters.



KAPLAN | MARINO  
WHITE-COLLAR CRIMINAL DEFENSE



*Kaplan Marino congratulates  
Partner Jennifer Lieser and the  
other 2025 WWCD Awards Gala  
award recipients*

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## WWCD GOALS

- Promote members specializing in the legal profession and in the legal fields of criminal, civil, regulatory, and administrative enforcement, as well as internal investigations, compliance and ethics.
- Provide networking and business development opportunities for our members and participants in their local markets, as well as nationally and internationally.
- Develop educational programming focused on the legal fields of criminal, civil, regulatory, and administrative enforcement, as well as internal investigations, compliance and ethics.
- Facilitate collaboration and communication among our members and participants.
- Develop resources to assist our members and participants.



SIDLEY IS PROUD TO SUPPORT THE

# WOMEN'S WHITE COLLAR DEFENSE ASSOCIATION

We are honored to stand alongside WWCDCA in championing excellence, leadership, and inclusion in the white collar and compliance field.

Congratulations to the 2025 award honorees for their outstanding achievements and dedication to the profession.

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## MASTER OF CEREMONIES **Michele Roberts**

Renowned Attorney and Former Executive Director  
of the National Basketball Players Association

Ms. Roberts was the Executive Director of the National Basketball Players Association ["NBPA"] for eight years, the first woman to serve in that role. Prior to joining the NBPA, she was an esteemed trial and white collar defense lawyer with Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom. Ms. Roberts has tried more than 150 cases to jury verdicts, representing clients in a wide variety of areas, including products liability, white collar, racketeering, securities regulation violations, Title VII issues and premises liability. She is a top ranked attorney who has received numerous accolades from Chambers Global, Chambers USA and Benchmark Litigation, among other notable publications, and was an early member of WWCDCA when she was in private practice.

Ms. Roberts is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers. She worked for eight years in the office of the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia, where she was named Chief of the Trial Division. Ms. Roberts is a frequent lecturer and presenter to both the bench and bar on a variety of topics related to litigation and trial practice. She taught trial advocacy as an adjunct member of the faculty at Harvard Law School and as an instructor with the National Institute of Trial Advocacy.

Ms. Roberts currently serves on the boards of Cresco Labs, The Marshall Project, The Southern Center for Human Rights and Wesleyan University, her alma mater.





WWCDA®

## CATHY O'NEIL MENTORING AWARD

**IN HONOR OF THE LATE CATHY O'NEIL** this award is given to an aspiring junior member of WWCDA in honor of the late Catherine M. O'Neil, and in commemoration of Cathy's excellence, integrity, grit, and tenacity in her legal advocacy; her enthusiasm and optimism for life and the law; her boundless energy and creativity; her dedication to mentoring young lawyers; and her generous and tireless donation of her time and talents for the public good, including the WWCDA. Cathy was the founding leader of the Atlanta Chapter of WWCDA and one of the forces behind the early growth of the global organization.

This award will include a continuing education stipend of \$2,500 that has been fully funded by the law firm of King & Spalding, where Cathy was a partner in its Special Matters and Investigations practice group. The stipend will be used to continue to develop the legal and leadership skills of the award recipient through, for example, trial advocacy courses, white collar conferences, executive coaching, or other leadership or management training sessions.

A nominee for this award must be a junior member of WWCDA who is engaged in WWCDA activities and displays the potential to be a future leader of WWCDA, is a rising star in the white collar defense bar with up to 10 years of experience and embodies the spirit and characteristics that made Cathy O'Neil such a beloved friend, mentor, advocate, and leader in WWCDA, her firm and the wider legal establishment.

### PAST RECIPIENTS

2024 Paulette M. Pagán

2023 Alyssa Hughes

2022 Emily Agnoli

2021 Jillian Trezza

2020 Aviva Gilbert

2019 Emily Ward



WWCDA®

## CATHY O'NEIL MENTORING AWARD RECIPIENT

# JENNIFER LIESER

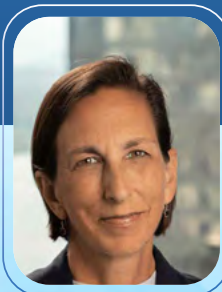
Partner, Kaplan Marino

Jennifer Lieser is a partner at the boutique Los Angeles defense firm Kaplan Marino, where she leads the firm's internal investigation and corporate compliance practice. Renowned in legal and academic circles, she brings a unique perspective shaped by her early career in corporate public relations and courtroom exposure at the Orange County Public Defender's Office. Jennifer's notable successes include securing dismissal of property fraud charges previously denied by another judge, preventing charges against a young entrepreneur in a complex tax fraud probe, negotiating a Deferred Prosecution Agreement for an attorney and City Council member under federal wire fraud investigation, and shifting a physician's status from target to witness in a multimillion-dollar Medicare fraud case. Her background in PR enhances her strategic approach to complex litigation, making her a formidable advocate in white-collar defense.



# Kostelanetz LLP is a proud sponsor of the Women's White Collar Defense Association.

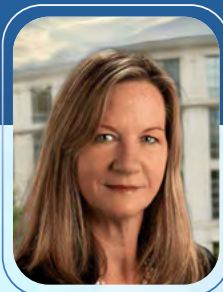
## Joining you at the 2025 WWCDA Gala:



Sharon L. McCarthy



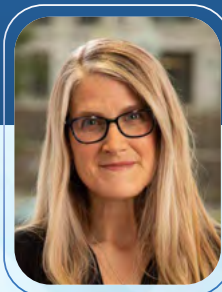
Jay R. Nanavati



Karen Kelly



Victor Suthammanont



Caroline D. Ciraolo



Abigail Burke

For nearly 80 years, Kostelanetz LLP has built a global reputation as a law firm of choice for clients facing high-stakes controversies and negotiations with government agencies. Kostelanetz attorneys have extensive experience in white-collar criminal defense and tax controversies and are regularly called upon to handle the most challenging and sensitive cases and internal investigations. Kostelanetz practice areas include civil and criminal tax controversies and litigation, domestic and international tax planning, estate planning, domestic and foreign trust planning and compliance, securities enforcement defense, civil and commercial litigation, government procurement, and government contracting.



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— Chambers and Partners

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ARTHUR COX

Proudly supporting the  
2025 Women's White Collar  
Defense Association Awards

Arthur Cox congratulates the 2025 WWCDA Awardees for their outstanding impact on the white collar and compliance profession. These attorneys and professionals exemplify leadership, equal opportunity and success across the global legal and consulting community.

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**“Miller & Chevalier have a deep bench of litigators who are very effective at handling corporate matters. The team has great judgment and are excellent with clients.”**

CLIENT TESTIMONIALS IN CHAMBERS USA

*Miller & Chevalier congratulates this year's honorees and wishes the WWCDA another year of success.*

OUR WWCDA MEMBERS



KATE ATKINSON



LAUREN BRIGGERMAN



LEAH MOUSHEY



ALEXANDRIA OBERMAN



KATHERINE PAPPAS



MARY LOU SOLLER



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# GROUP AWARD

**THE WWCDA GROUP AWARD** is an innovative award that honors outstanding team achievement in the white collar field while advancing equal opportunity for all. The winning team can be comprised of lawyers or other professionals who have collaborated on a project or projects that have an impact in the white collar field while highlighting and promoting inclusiveness.

This award honors teams from companies, law firms, government, academia, nonprofits and other organizations. This award emphasizes the power of teamwork and the importance that work can have in white collar and promoting equal opportunity.

## PAST RECIPIENTS

2024 GE Vernova

2024 GE Aerospace

2023 Microsoft

2022 Novartis

2021 Merck & Company

2020 Salesforce

2019 Olympus Corporation  
of the Americas



## GROUP AWARD RECIPIENT



## GAP INC. ACCEPTED BY JULIE GRUBER Chief Legal and Compliance Officer Gap Inc.

Julie Gruber is a seasoned Fortune 200 C-suite executive with deep boardroom experience and a track record of strategic leadership at Gap Inc. Reporting directly to the CEO, she has played a pivotal role in guiding the company through global transformation, multiple CEO transitions, and acquisitions, all in a disrupted retail landscape.

Julie's leadership spans the enterprise, including Legal, Compliance, Sustainability/ ESG, Government Affairs, Real Estate, Labor Relations, Asset Protection, Security and Business Continuity. She manages global teams and is on the front lines of risk management and cybersecurity, co-founding Gap Inc.'s Risk Committee and establishing its Cybersecurity and Privacy Council.

She is a trusted board advisor, working closely with the CEO and Board Chair, and currently serves as Director and Audit Chair at Susan G. Komen. Julie holds degrees from Yale (B.A.) and UC Law San Francisco (J.D.), and previously clerked for a U.S. District Court judge.





WWCDA®

## JUSTICE GINSBURG LAW STUDENT AWARD

**IN HONOR OF THE LATE U.S. SUPREME COURT JUSTICE RUTH BADER GINSBURG**, WWCDEA established the Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg Outstanding Law Student Award to be given to a student in the final year of legal education who best exemplifies the Justice's commitment to excellence, perseverance, resilience, extraordinary work ethic, and/or tireless efforts to ensure justice for all.

The WWCDA Justice Ginsburg Student Award commemorates the Justice's extraordinary life, her powerful advocacy, and her significant impact on American jurisprudence, particularly in the area of civil rights. She was a role model to all, and particularly to the younger generations. The Award celebrates those characteristics for which the Justice was best known, including her outstanding legal scholarship and expertise, her relentless optimism and commitment to social justice, her advocacy, and her tenacity and resilience in the face of obstacles (both personal and professional) to become one of the most effective and consequential lawyers and jurists in American history. The Award celebrates the Justice's commitment to helping those who came after her to surmount similar obstacles in their own endeavors and to participate in the legal process and increase access to justice for all. Finally, the Award celebrates Justice Ginsburg's ability to win the respect, loyalty, and even affection of others with whom she did not share the same background, gender, legal philosophies, or social views.

### PAST RECIPIENTS

2024 Edith Leghorn,  
Boston University School of Law

2022 Nancy Eriksen,  
Stetson University College of Law

2023 Swapanthi Mandalika,  
University of Alabama  
School of Law

2021 Sara Wood,  
Tulane Law School



SPEAKER

**Amanda L. Tyler**

Thomas David & Judith Swope Clark Professor  
of Constitutional Law

University of California, Berkeley School of Law

Amanda L. Tyler is the inaugural Thomas David & Judith Swope Clark Professor of Constitutional Law at the University of California, Berkeley School of Law, where she teaches and writes about the Supreme Court, the federal courts, constitutional law, legal history, and procedure. Tyler is the author of several books, including *Justice, Justice Thou Shalt Pursue: A Life's Work Fighting for a More Perfect Union*, with the Honorable Ruth Bader Ginsburg (University of California Press 2021) (paperback edition, Simon & Schuster 2023), *Habeas Corpus: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford University Press 2021), and *Habeas Corpus in Wartime: From the Tower of London to Guantanamo Bay* (Oxford University Press 2017) (paperback 2019), the latter of which the American Bar Association named a finalist for its 2018 Silver Gavel Award. Since 2016, Tyler has served as an editor of the celebrated legal treatise and casebook *Hart and Wechsler's The Federal Courts and the Federal System* (Foundation Press), recently publishing its eighth edition in 2024 (with William Baude, Jack Goldsmith, John F. Manning, and James M. Pfander).

Tyler's work has been cited and quoted by the Supreme Court and the Presidential Commission on the Supreme Court of the United States. In addition to her books, Tyler has published numerous scholarly works and written for a range of popular sources, appeared in numerous press outlets, and spoken in a range of venues around the world. At Berkeley Law, Tyler has won the Rutter Award for Teaching Distinction and been chosen by her students to deliver the faculty address at graduation. For the University, Tyler serves on the Faculty Athletic Council and as Faculty Fellow to the Cal Women's Soccer Team. She holds a degree in Public Policy, with honors and distinction, from Stanford University, and a J.D., magna cum laude, from Harvard Law School. Prior to entering academia, Tyler served as a law clerk to the Honorable Guido Calabresi at the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit (1998-1999) and the Honorable Ruth Bader Ginsburg at the Supreme Court of the United States (1999-2000).



# JUSTICE GINSBURG LAW STUDENT AWARD RECIPIENT



## ANNIE HONG

MPA, J.D. Candidate '26  
University of California, Irvine School of Law

A Los Angeles native, Annie Hong is a third-year law student at the University of California, Irvine School of Law. She serves as the Lead Articles Editor for the UC Irvine Law Review and is a Research Fellow with the UC Irvine Korea Law Center. Annie is also an Admissions Ambassador and volunteers with the Veterans Legal Institute, providing pro bono support to veterans with discharge upgrades and family law matters. Previously, she worked as a summer associate at Allen Matkins, LLP and externed in the Criminal Division of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Central District of California. Annie earned her Master of Public Administration and B.A. in Cognitive Science from the University of Southern California and currently serves in the United States Army Reserve as a Finance Officer for a brigade-level command.

STONETURN IS PROUD TO SUPPORT THE 2025 WWCDA AWARDS GALA

### Congratulations to the 2025 Honorees

Rachel Brand, Rita Mitchell, Kit Addleman, Jennifer Lieser, Annie Hong,  
GAP INC, WWCDA India Chapter and WWCDA New York Chapter



**Abby Barasch**  
Managing Director,  
New York



**Tanya Bodell**  
Partner,  
Boston



**Kaitlyn Cecala**  
Managing Director,  
Boston



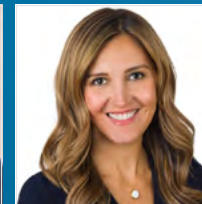
**Annie Cooper**  
Managing Director,  
Houston



**Kyla Curley**  
Partner,  
Boston



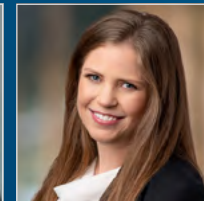
**Michele Edwards**  
Partner,  
Chicago



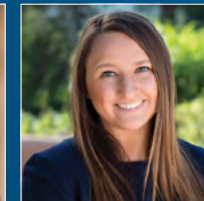
**Snežana Gebauer**  
Partner,  
New York



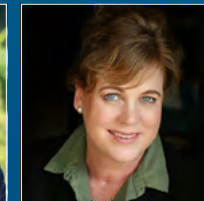
**Laura Greenman**  
Managing Director,  
New York



**Melissa Haley**  
Managing Director,  
Houston



**Ksenia Ioffe**  
Managing Director,  
New York



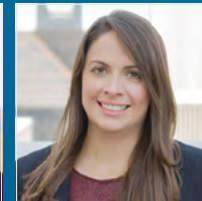
**Louise Jordaan**  
Partner,  
Johannesburg



**Sarah Keeling**  
Partner,  
London



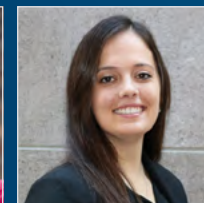
**Lauren LaRocca**  
Managing Director,  
Washington, DC



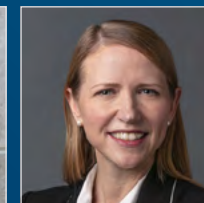
**Tiffany Lewis**  
Partner,  
Houston



**Phathu Makhadi**  
Managing Director,  
Johannesburg



**Minetta Manna**  
Managing Director,  
Johannesburg



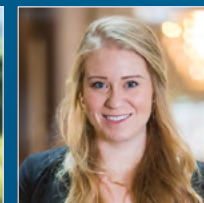
**Victoria Middleton**  
Director,  
London



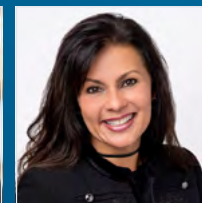
**Tanya Philip**  
Managing Director,  
New York



**Katie Prichard**  
Managing Director,  
Houston



**Kimberly Ratto**  
Managing Director,  
San Francisco



**Ambreen Salters**  
Partner,  
Houston



**Shari Schindler**  
Partner,  
Chicago



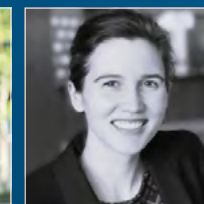
**Amanda Stephens**  
Managing Director,  
Chicago



**Lisa Van Houten**  
Managing Director,  
Chicago



**Rae Vogelmann**  
Managing Director,  
New York



**Mairea Workman**  
Managing Director,  
New York



**Cindy Yu**  
Managing Director,  
San Francisco

**Leaving no stone unturned.** StoneTurn, a global professional services firm, works with law firms, corporations, and government agencies in solving the most complex and consequential business issues. Known for our deep expertise in investigations, compliance, economics, technology, cybersecurity, and business and litigation advisory, we have earned the trust of clients and regulators worldwide by deploying multidisciplinary teams of industry leaders to provide unique expertise and practical solutions to high-stakes challenges. Founded in 2004, StoneTurn operates from offices across five continents and is widely lauded for its commitment to collaboration, integrity, and independence.



# Applause & admiration

White & Case is proud to support the **Women’s White Collar Defense Association** and congratulates tonight’s WWCDA Awards Gala honorees.

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HK>A

HKA is proud to support the Women’s White Collar Defense Association’s 2025 WWCDA Awards Gala and Honorees

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# WWCDA<sup>®</sup> CHAPTERS

The 51 Women’s White Collar Defense Association® chapters shown depict the global reach of our organization. Our commitment to creating equal opportunity for all in law knows no geographic boundaries. We recognize working together to advance each other in white collar law is a powerful force. WWCDA will continue to expand its global footprint in pursuit of our mission.

North America West Coast Region		North America Midwest Region		North America East Coast Region		Europe and Latin America Regions		Asia Pacific Region	
Denver		Austin		Atlanta	Boston	Belgium		Australia	
Los Angeles		Chicago		Connecticut	Florida	Brazil		Hong Kong	
Oregon/Idaho		Dallas		New Jersey	New York	France		India	
Phoenix		Houston		North Carolina	Philadelphia	Germany		Japan	
San Diego		Indianapolis		Pittsburgh	Puerto Rico	Ireland			
San Francisco		Louisiana		Québec	South Carolina	Italy			
Seattle		Michigan		Virginia	Washington, D.C.	London			
Vancouver		Minnesota				Luxembourg			
		Missouri				Netherlands			
		Ohio				Peru			
		Tennessee/Alabama				Poland			
		Toronto				Spain			
						Switzerland			



# WWCDA<sup>®</sup>

## CHAPTER AWARD RECIPIENT

### NEW YORK

#### LEADERSHIP



**Chapter Co-Leader**  
Jillian Berman, Lankler Siffert  
& Wohl LLP



**Chapter Co-Leader**  
Amanda Kramer,  
Covington & Burling LLP



**Chapter Social Media  
Coordinator**  
Ilene Jaroslaw, Elliott Kwok  
Levine Jaroslaw Neils LLP



**Chapter Size: 479**

The New York Chapter was founded in 2000 and currently includes approximately 275 attorney members (attorneys with ten or more years of relevant experience), and 479 total members (including consultants and junior attorneys). This is a substantial size increase from 2024. There were many chapter events hosted or partnered with other organizations throughout the year, including 'Cocktails and Conversations', 'Book Talk', 'Sip & Shop', 'Women in White Collar Kick-off Reception', 'Fireside Chat', as well as conferences and receptions featuring prominent speakers participating in enlightening and insightful discussions.



# WWCDA<sup>®</sup>

## CHAPTER AWARD RECIPIENT

### INDIA

#### LEADERSHIP



**Chapter Leader**  
Rupinder Malik, JSA



**Chapter Secretary**  
Shiraz Patodia, DUA Associates



**Chapter Social Media  
Coordinator**  
Saguna Sodhi, EY



**Chapter Size: 70+**

Since their initiation in 2020, the India Chapter strives on a community that operates in the niche domain of white-collar defense in India. The chapter meets regularly and has conducted various successful events such as the 'Diwali Mela' to commemorate the Indian festival of Diwali, 'The Summer Social' in Delhi, panel discussion on 'The Role of Emerging Technologies / Artificial Intelligence in Investigations and Admissibility Challenges', 'New Criminal Laws of India', and a curated networking event in Mumbai to combine knowledge-sharing with an art exhibition. The India Chapter plans to continue organizing events in various cities and virtually to expand their presence across the country.





WILLKIE PROUDLY JOINS

The Women’s White Collar Defense Association  
in honoring the achievements of leaders in white collar  
defense, investigations, and compliance at the  
**WWCDA 2025 Awards Gala**



We join in saluting  
our partner

**Rita Mitchell**

recipient of the Laurie A. Miller  
Leadership Award for the  
Advancement of Women in  
White Collar Defense



**LAURIE A. MILLER  
LEADERSHIP AWARD**

**IN HONOR OF THE LATE LAURIE A. MILLER** this award is given to a current or former member of WWCDA for achievement in the white collar field and trailblazing or tireless support in moving WWCDA forward in its mission to promoting equal opportunity in the white collar defense field around the world. This award was created in memory of Laurie A. Miller, a groundbreaking leader and brilliant practitioner in the white collar defense and government investigations field, who was unyielding in her advocacy of equal opportunity and inclusiveness in the practice around the world.

As one of the few women white collar defense lawyers practicing in Washington, D.C., in 1999, Laurie immediately gave her support when presented with the idea by Karen Popp and Beth Wilkinson to launch a women’s white collar defense group. Karen and Beth had just left the government and Laurie was instrumental in helping them move the concept forward in Washington, D.C., and beyond. Laurie attended the first meeting in 1999 and thereafter attended many more while lending her guidance as the group grew.

**PAST RECIPIENTS**

- |                            |                           |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2024 Joanelle O’Cleirigh   | 2021 Jamie Gorelick       |
| 2024 Wendy Wysong          | 2020 Karen Patton Seymour |
| 2023 Patricia Brown Holmes | 2019 Joan McPhee          |
| 2022 Leslie R. Caldwell    | 2018 Karen A. Popp        |





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# LAURIE A. MILLER LEADERSHIP AWARD RECIPIENT



## RITA MITCHELL

Partner  
Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP

Rita Mitchell is a partner in Willkie's Investigations & Enforcement and White Collar Defence Practices in London. Dual-qualified in the US and the UK, she advises and defends clients in a variety of criminal and civil investigation and enforcement matters, conducts complex, worldwide internal investigations in relation to bribery, corruption, fraud, money laundering, sanctions, and human/business rights, and helps clients develop best-in-class compliance programs and procedures. Rita is ranked in Chambers UK and Legal 500 UK for Corporate Crime and Investigations with clients describing her as having a "very approachable style" and as being "simply fantastic—she's knowledgeable, with keen insight and a great strategic thinker" and "able to get into the weeds and distil issues, providing sensible, pragmatic and helpful advice." Rita has co-led the London Chapter of the WWCDA since January 2020 alongside the fabulous Claire Halstead, a partner at PwC.

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# LAURIE A. MILLER LEADERSHIP AWARD RECIPIENT



## KIT ADDLEMAN

Partner  
Haynes and Boone, LLP

Known as a "powerhouse lawyer" in securities enforcement defense, Kit Addleman has built her nationwide practice advising public companies, officers and directors, investment advisors, private funds and broker-dealers concerning securities investigations. She has successfully defended clients in civil and criminal investigations and litigation by the Securities and Exchange Commission and Department of Justice, advised clients on compliance with securities regulations, and conducted internal investigations of suspected corporate misconduct. Kit is a partner at Haynes and Boone where she chairs the firm's government investigations defense group.

Prior to joining Haynes and Boone, Kit served at the SEC for 22 years which experience guides her advice to clients today. While at the SEC, Kit was the regional director of the Atlanta Regional Office leading the enforcement, examination and bankruptcy programs for the SEC in five Southeastern states. Kit also served the SEC in the Atlanta, Fort Worth, Denver and Philadelphia offices.



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Jennifer L. Beidel  
Bloomfield Hills, MI



Leigha Simonton  
Dallas, TX



Joanne L. Zimolzak  
Washington, D.C.



Sarah R. Douglas  
Dallas, TX



Tiffany H. Eggers  
Dallas, TX



Alison A. Furtaw  
Detroit, MI



Emma K.F. Blackwood  
Austin, TX



Lu W. Harmening  
Chicago, IL



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We're proud to stand with WWCDA as we honor excellence in white collar defense and recognize the attorneys whose work raises the bar for our profession.

Brown Rudnick's White Collar Defense, Investigations & Compliance team brings together former prosecutors and regulatory officials across the U.S. and U.K., offering deep insight into high-stakes investigations and enforcement risk. When issues arise, we move quickly to assess risk, launch proportionate internal inquiries, and tailor strategies to our client's situation. Our global, integrated perspective helps clients anticipate regulatory pressure and navigate crises with precision.

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**SAN DIEGO, CA**

**March 9-11, 2026**



# CHAMPION AWARD

**THE WWCDA CHAMPION AWARD** is given to a man or woman who has made a profound impact or achieved significant success in the white collar field while advancing equal opportunity for all in the field. This award honors women and men from the private sector, government, and academia who have made a difference in the white collar area while promoting inclusiveness. We honor trailblazers and those who use their own platforms to help make the professional equal for all. We applaud these great lawyers and other professionals as true champions for pursuing a successful path that advances both the white collar practice and equal opportunity in the field.

## PAST RECIPIENTS

**2024** The Honorable  
Valerie E. Caproni

**2023** The Honorable  
Beryl A. Howell

**2023** Lisa Monaco

**2022** U.S. Supreme Court Justice  
Ketanji Brown Jackson

**2022** Lisa Osofsky

**2021** Sally Yates

**2020** Loretta Lynch

**2019** Mary Jo White



# CHAMPION AWARD RECIPIENT



## RACHEL BRAND

Executive Vice President of Global Governance, Chief Legal Officer and  
Corporate Secretary, Walmart Inc.

Rachel Brand is Walmart's Executive Vice President of Global Governance, Chief Legal Officer, and Corporate Secretary. She oversees the company's global legal, compliance, ethics, corporate governance, digital citizenship, aviation, investigative, enterprise risk management, and corporate security functions, including Walmart's Global Security Operations Center.

Immediately before joining Walmart in 2018, Rachel served as the United States Associate Attorney General. She had previously served in the U.S. Department of Justice as the Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legal Policy during President George W. Bush's administration. Also during the Bush administration, Rachel served as Associate Counsel to the President at the White House. Her other government service includes an appointment by President Obama to serve as a Member of the U.S. Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board. She served as a law clerk to Justice Anthony Kennedy on the Supreme Court of the United States and Justice Charles Fried on the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts. In the private sector, she was a lawyer in private practice at two law firms in Washington, D.C. and served as the Vice President and Chief Counsel for Regulatory Litigation at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Litigation Center.

Rachel serves on the boards of directors of the Walmart Foundation and of Walmart of Mexico and Central America. Outside of Walmart, she serves on the board of trustees of the National Constitution Center and she is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the American Law Institute.

Rachel earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Minnesota-Morris and her J.D. from Harvard Law School.



# Congratulations to the WWCD A 2025 Awards Gala honorees

AFS is proud to support WWCD A and to help champion equal opportunity in white collar defense.



**Maggie Hickey**

Partner and Co-Leader,  
White Collar Practice | Chicago



**Michelle J. Shapiro**

Partner | Boston/New York  
WWCD A Global Vice Chair



**Lynn Fiorentino**

Partner  
San Francisco/Los Angeles



**Sarah B. "Cissy" Jackson**

Counsel  
Washington DC



**Kaitlin G. Klamann**

Counsel  
Chicago



**Nadia Patel**

Partner  
Washington DC



**Patricia A. Pileggi**

Partner  
New York



**Brittany H. Sokoloff**

Partner  
New York



**Jessica Sprovtsoff**

Partner  
Ann Arbor



**Laura Zell**

Partner  
Washington DC



**Nardeen Billan**

Associate  
Boston



**Elizabeth Satarov**

Associate  
New York



**Apeksha Vora**

Associate  
New York

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- Promoting Member Achievements in social media, press and beyond
- Encouraging Others to Champion Equal Opportunity in the Field



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## WWCDA® 2025 AWARDS GALA MENU

### FIRST COURSE

*Baby Romaine Hearts*

*Fruity Quinoa, Avocado Mousse, Cherry Tomatoes,  
Orange Cilantro Vinaigrette* <sup>GF</sup>

(Served with selection of Bread Rolls and Butter)

### MAIN COURSE

*Coq Au Vin*

*Chicken Breast, Parmesan Risotto Cake, Maple Carrots,  
Asparagus, Butternut Squash, Pearl Onions, Red Wine Jus*

### WINE SERVICE

*Root 1, Pinot Noir, Santiago, Chile*

*William Hill, Sauvignon Blanc, North Coast, California*

(if you have dietary restrictions please consult with your server)

Dessert Mingle & Cocktails to immediately follow the awards program





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EXCELLENCE.  
INSPIRING  
TOMORROW.

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