

IWIRC • NY

2015 Summer Newsletter

Goodbye Summer and Hello Fall!

What an eventful summer we had. Our 3rd Annual Golf Event was, once again, a success. Check your mailboxes this fall for our "Save the Date" on the 4th Annual Golf Event, taking place May 2016. Our UNCITRAL breakfast was another great event as we welcomed our UN delegates from around the globe and the Secretariat for a discussion on current topics: Enterprise Group bankruptcy, Recognition of Judgments and Director & Officer Liability. The Leadership Summit was very well received and again we thank not just our Board, but the subcommittees who were invaluable to getting that event off the ground in welcoming and hosting women from dozens of chapters and at least 6 countries. We were thrilled to see so many of our members at Thursday night's dinner at Ed's Chowder House. This was a great showing for our NY Chapter.

We are so excited about our Fall events. In keeping with our "personal branding" theme this year, we have two upcoming breakfasts with our panelists from the Spring event. We are holding our Town Hall meeting this year at Morrison & Foerster on September 10 and will be discussing the election process. Several members will be rotating off of the Board this year, so please consider running for an open position. We need great, hard-working, collaborative women. Don't hesitate to call us with any questions about opportunities, time commitment or the like; we want you involved and are happy to answer your questions.

We know you'll enjoy reading about the great events we continue to bring you. If you have an idea for an event, bring it to our attention, join a subcommittee or run for the Board. All are welcome. As we move into Fall and plan for the year, we continue to look for ways to grow as a Chapter and join with our sister Chapters to help each other professionally and personally. Thanks again for participating and we look forward to seeing you soon!

Carren Shulman and Samantha Martin
IWIRC NY Co-Chairs

In This Edition

- [Events Recap](#)
- [Events Preview](#)
- [2016 Elections](#)
- [Shining Stars](#)
- [Member News](#)
- [Industry Calendar](#)
- [Social Media](#)
- [IWIRC NY Tips](#)
- [Sponsor Spotlight](#)
- [IWIRC NY Sponsors](#)
- [IWIRC NY Board](#)



Remember, if it's underlined & blue, it's got something extra for you!

HAPPY CLICKING

IWIRC NY Events: Recap

UNCITRAL Breakfast & UNCITRAL Meetings

May 26–29, 2015



To kick off UNCITRAL's most recent session, IWIRC NY hosted a breakfast at Davis Polk with the UNCITRAL Secretariat and delegates. Moderated by [Carren Shulman](#), the panelists discussed director & officer liability, enforcement of bankruptcy judgments across borders, and insolvency of enterprise groups. IWIRC is invited to send 5 members to attend the UNCITRAL Working Group V sessions twice each year at the UN in Vienna, Austria and New York. Our members have been included in presentations to all of UNCITRAL and we typically have up to 2 members participating in expert sessions, a small group of practitioners that includes delegates and observers. For more info about UNCITRAL's important work, visit UNCITRAL's [website](#). To become involved in our IWIRC UNCITRAL working group, send us an [email](#) expressing your interest.

Third Annual IWIRC NY Golf Camp

June 9, 2015

[Saima Meyer](#) & [Cristine Pirro](#)

Despite the foreboding skies, on June 9, 2015, the ladies of IWIRC NY headed out to Harbor Links for the Third Annual IWIRC NY Golf Camp. While the pros kicked off on the executive course, the beginners and intermediates participated in a brief golf clinic and – just as the Harbor Links resident meteorologist (and golf pro) promised – the skies cleared up just as the lessons concluded and before they hit the links! After a full day of golf, we celebrated the day with a networking bar-b-que and afternoon cocktails. Looking forward to next year!



IWIRC NY Events: Recap

IWIRC International Leadership Summit July 15–17, 2015

This summer, the IWIRC NY Network had the honor and privilege to host the Annual IWIRC International Leadership Summit! The event was well attended, with 100 women in attendance from the U.S., Canada, Europe, China, and Japan. We're sincerely grateful for the hard work of our subcommittee members and everyone who helped, but we must take a moment to thank [Samantha Martin](#) and [Carren Shulman](#) for their tireless work and determination in making sure the event was a huge success!



IWIRC NY Events: Preview

Ladies' Night: Painting Event

October 22, 2015

[Saima Meyer](#) & [Cristine Pirro](#)



On October 22, IWIRC NY will partner with [Drink Creatively](#) to host a night of painting and cocktails, giving networking a whole new creative spin. Get excited to don your grade-school smock as you create your own unique painted canvas, while getting to know fellow restructuring budding artists. No prior artistic experience needed – we look forward to discovering who is our secret Picasso!

IWIRC at The Shore

Save the Date: March 3–4, 2016

Borgata Hotel, Atlantic City, NJ

[Blanche Zelmanovich](#)



Please save the date for the 4th Annual IWIRC at the Shore Conference! The conference will be held on March 3–4, 2016 at the Borgata Hotel & Casino in Atlantic City, NJ. IWIRC NY is pleased to participate in this exciting conference and we encourage you to check it out! The 4th Annual Conference will feature both social and educational networking events, including a CLE/CPE seminar, a reception and dinner, as well as a spa event. The conference save the date brochure is available [HERE!](#)

Personal Branding: Breakfasts

Sept. 10th & Oct. 8th

[Janice Grubin](#) & [Tanya Meerovich](#)



Join us for an intimate breakfast with our panelists from the April 30, 2015 discussion on "Personal Branding: How to Set Yourself Apart." Discuss personal branding with panelists [Jamila Justine Willis](#) and the [Honorable Melanie Cyganowski](#) on Sept. 10th, and with [Deirdre McGuinness](#) and [Gina Gutzeit](#) on Oct. 8th. We have just a few spots left, so register soon. We hope to see you there!

IWIRC NY Elections

2016 Board Elections Info Session & Candidate Cocktails

Find out how YOU can run for the
2016 IWIRC NY Board!

Join us for an election info session and candidate
cocktails. Learn about open positions, meet
your current board and network with other
IWIRCers at this free event.

Thursday, September 10th
6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Elections Info Session
6:00 p.m. at Morrison & Foerster LLP
250 West 55th Street

Candidate Cocktails
7:00 p.m. at Tanner Smith's
204 West 55th Street

This event is free for all attendees.



IWIRC NY 2016 Board Elections are quickly approaching. We are very excited to bring new ideas, enthusiasm and talent to our board. A handful of open positions will be on this year's ballot and all New York members are encouraged to run.

Serving as a member of the IWIRC NY board is a great opportunity to build your own personal brand and to increase your presence in the international restructuring community. Past NY board members have continued on to successful roles on the IWIRC International board, sat on numerous expert panels and even been recognized with the Rising Star and Melnik Awards for exceptional contributions to IWIRC and the industry as a whole.

Those interested in impacting change and joining the IWIRC NY board are encouraged to attend our Elections Info Session and Candidate Cocktails on Thursday, September 10th.

This event is free but registration is required. [Click here](#) to register today!

[Contact us](#) with any questions.

IWIRC NY Shining Stars

The success of our Chapter is due in no small part to the contributions and enthusiasm of our incredible members. In celebration of that fact, this year we introduced the “IWIRC NY Shining Star” recognition.

This monthly recognition allows us to introduce you to exemplary members of the IWIRC NY community. Meet Blanka, Michelle, and Jamila, our April, May, and June 2015 IWIRC NY Shining Stars. For more information, click each picture.

About Blanka

[Blanka K. Wolfe](#) has eight years of experience as an associate in the Finance & Bankruptcy Practice Group in Sheppard Mullin Richter and Hampton LLP’s New York office. Blanka represents international and domestic clients in domestic bankruptcy cases, foreign insolvencies, and creditors’ rights litigations.

About Michelle

[Michelle M. McGreal](#) has almost six years of experience as an associate and now counsel in the Insolvency and Restructuring Group in Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP’s New York office. Michelle’s practice focuses on a wide range of corporate restructuring and bankruptcy matters.

About Jamila

[Jamila Justine Willis](#) has five years of experience as a corporate restructuring associate. She currently works in the New York office of DLA Piper LLP (US). In her practice, Jamila has represented debtors, creditors, official and ad hoc committees, lenders and strategic parties in both Chapter 11 and Chapter 15 cases, and in out-of-court restructurings.



April 2015

Blanka K. Wolfe
Sheppard Mullin

May 2015

Michelle M. McGreal
Davis Polk & Wardwell



June 2015

Jamila Justine Willis
DLA Piper (US)



Debevoise & Plimpton

Debevoise is proud to support
IWIRC New York

www.debevoise.com

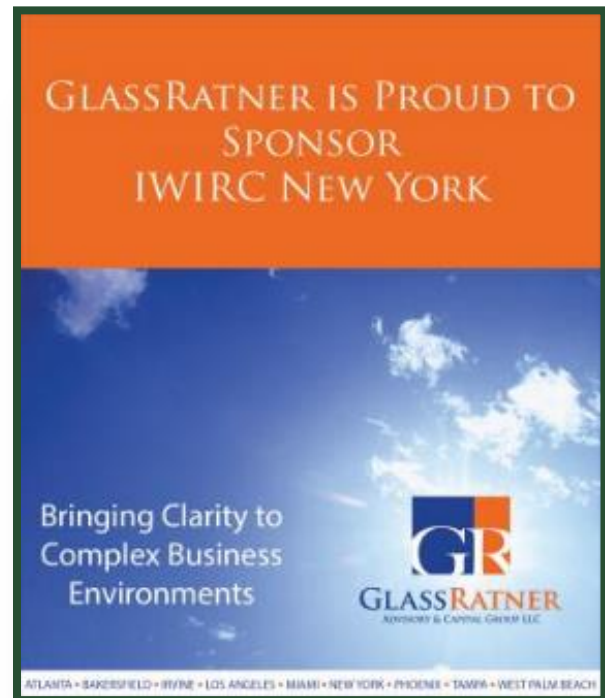
Member News

Congratulations to our IWIRC NY members on their recent accomplishments. Let us sing your praises! [Email us](#) your accomplishments for inclusion in our next newsletter.

Recognitions

Melissa Hager was elected to the IWIRC International board as an At-Large Director. [Congratulate her!](#)

Sarah Frankel has launched [the525group](#), a recruitment firm focused on bringing a more personal and industry-specific approach to the professional service firms in the bankruptcy and restructuring community. [Congratulate](#) or work with her today!



[Sharon L. Levine](#) will be honored at the Citizens Committee for NYC Autumn in the Park event. [Congratulate her!](#)

[Jill Bienstock](#) gave birth to a beautiful baby boy, Samuel Issac Bienstock, on August 5th. [Congratulate her!](#)

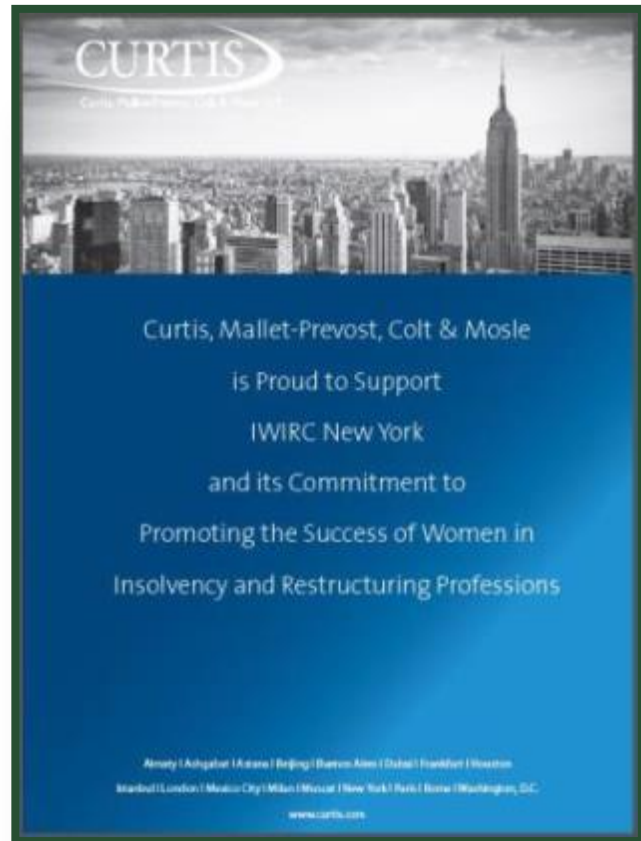
Member News

Congratulations to our IWIRC NY members on their recent accomplishments. Let us sing your praises! Email us your accomplishments for inclusion in our next newsletter.

Recognitions

[Denise Kaloudis Ryan](#) joined Drinker Biddle as a Business Development Director. [Congratulate her!](#)

[Camille Bent](#) was selected as a finalist for IWIRC's Rising Star Award for her contributions to IWIRC. [Congratulate her!](#)



Recognitions (cont'd)

IWIRC NY welcomes Puerto Rico as IWIRC's newest network, and [Sonia Colon](#) as Network Chair. [Congratulate them!](#)

Member News

Welcome to IWIRC NY's New Members Through September 3, 2015

[Pamela Corrie](#)
Epiq Systems

[Krista Faltin](#)
Moritt Hock & Hamroff LLP

[Deborah Sue Friedland](#)
EisnerAmper

[Laura Hall](#)
Allen & Overy LLP

[Venetia Manners](#)
Epiq Systems

[Rita Tobin](#)
RCTobinLaw, PLLC



SheppardMullin
proudly supports the International Women's
Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation

Beijing | Brussels | Century City | Chicago | Del Mar | London
Los Angeles | New York | Orange County | Palo Alto | San Diego
San Francisco | Seoul | Shanghai | Washington, D.C.

www.sheppardmullin.com

Not an IWIRC NY Member Yet?
We want to see your name
here for our Spring 2015
Newsletter!

**Sign Up Today And You Could be
Lucky Member 1,500 in 2015**

IWIRC International is offering a complimentary second year of membership AND a prize package filled with valuable IWIRC-branded items for the 1,500th member of IWIRC. As added incentive, the network with lucky member 1,500 receives a \$500 bonus for future events.

Come on New Yorkers, we got this! [Click here](#) to join IWIRC.

Upcoming Industry Events

September 10, 2015

[IWIRC NY Personal Branding: Small Group Breakfast](#)
New York, NY

September 10–12, 2015

[ABI Southwest Bankruptcy Conference](#)
Las Vegas, NV

September 17, 2014

[TMA NY 9th Annual Evening of Dining, Wine Tasting and Networking](#)
New York, NY

September 24, 2015

[10th Annual ABI/NYIC/IFA Golf & Tennis Outing](#)
Montammy Country Club, Alpine NJ

September 24, 2015

[CCNYC Autumn in the Park Honoring Sharon Levine](#)
Central Park Boathouse, New York, NY

October 8, 2015

[IWIRC NY Personal Branding: Small Group Breakfast](#)
New York, NY

October 9, 2015

[ABI: Views From the Bench](#)
Washington, D.C.

October 22, 2015

Ladies' Night: Painting Event
New York, NY

October 29, 2015

[NYIC: 4th Annual Future Leaders Awards Ceremony and Reception](#)
New York, NY

Want us to feature your event?
[Email us](#) details today!



We are proud
to support
IWIRC New York.

Akin Gump

STRAUSS HAUER & FELD LLP

akingump.com

© 2015 Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP. All rights reserved.

IWIRC NY Social Media

Social Media

[Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) & [LinkedIn](#)

2015 has been our best social media year yet! We've almost doubled our followers this year alone, with a combined total of over **400 followers** on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter.

Being a "Friend" of IWIRC NY on social media has become more rewarding than ever! Continue to look out for more giveaways to upcoming events on [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)! [Like](#), [follow](#), or [join](#) us today!

Leadership Summit Social Media Contest

Congrats to the **Hong Kong Network** and its co-chairs, [Catherine Read](#) and [Eloise Fardon](#), the winners of our Leadership Summit social media contest! They promoted the Summit by posting pictures using the #ladyleadersNY hashtag! Congrats ladies!

Helpful IWIRC Web Resources

IWIRC NY

[Home Page](#), [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#) and [Direct Email](#)

IWIRC International

[Homepage](#), [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#)

Additional Facebook Networks

[IWIRC Houston Facebook](#)

[IWIRC DC Facebook](#)

[IWIRC Hong Kong Facebook](#)

[IWIRC Delaware Facebook](#)

Additional IWIRC [Twitter Accounts](#)

@iwirc, @iwrchouston, @Michigan_IWIRC, @IWIRCDE, @WPAIWIRC, @IWIRCNJ

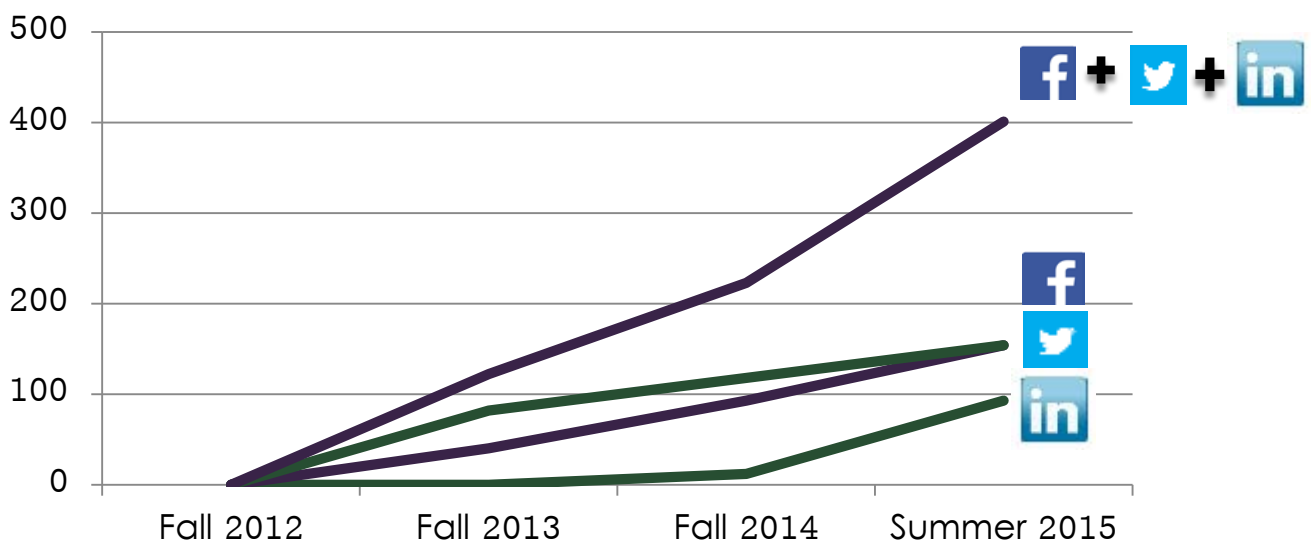
Additional LinkedIn Networks

[IWIRC Chicago](#)

[IWIRC Greater Maryland](#)

[IWIRC Western Canada](#)

IWIRC NY Followers By the Numbers



IWIRC NY TIPS: The Leadership Summit Edition

Tips to Be a Successful Leader

Each month we feature 5 TIPS on how to do something just a little bit better! This month we're featuring tips shared by our board members with this summer's Leadership Summit Attendees.

1 – **Aim to Inspire** – The best leaders inspire others by their own example. Whenever you act, first think whether you would want people to mimic your behavior.

2 – **Act with Integrity** – The most valuable quality of leadership is integrity. Act honorably despite challenges and pressure.

3 – **Be aware of your surroundings** – Great leaders surround themselves with smart and talented people. Smart and talented friends and acquaintances can inspire and empower you, and serve as a source for learning and professional and personal growth.

4 – **Recognize problems** – One of the tests of leadership is the ability to recognize a problem before it becomes an emergency. Recognizing and addressing problems at the outset will save you and others hours of time and effort doing damage control later on.

5 – **Learn!** – Leadership and learning go hand and hand. Learn from

your experiences, learn from the experiences of others, learn from your co-workers, your friends, or your family. No one is perfect and the best leaders are able to use all aspects of their life to become a better, more well-rounded leader.



Sponsor Spotlight: Member Profile



**Isabel
Baumgarten**
Garden
City Group

Isabel Baumgarten is a Senior Director in Operations for the Garden City Group, LLC (“GCG”). In this role, Isabel leads and supervises several teams and has assisted Debtors and their professionals through pre-bankruptcy and all phases of Chapter 11 case administration, including complex noticing, claims processing, claim reconciliation, solicitation and distribution. Isabel also assists in the day to day management of the Bankruptcy Group and has been instrumental in the continued development of cutting-edge client based tools and reports, including online platforms for claims processing (“EPOCs”) and balloting.

Since joining GCG in 2009, Isabel has worked on many large and complex chapter 11 cases, including Quicksilver Resources Inc., American Airlines, Edison Mission Energy, General Maritime Corporation, Genco Shipping and Jackson Hewitt.

Before joining GCG, Isabel was an attorney in the Business Restructuring and Bankruptcy Group at Blank Rome in NYC, and prior she worked at Healy & Baillie LLP, where she practiced maritime and bankruptcy law. While at Blank Rome, Isabel was an active member in Blank Rome’s Israel Initiative Team and was New York Co-Chair of their Women’s Forum Steering Committee.

A Founders Day Award Scholar who also received honors from Kappa Tau Alpha and the National Journalism Honor Society, Isabel completed her undergraduate work at New York University where she graduated cum laude with a B.A. in Journalism and Mass Communications. She received her J.D. from Brooklyn Law School, where she served as Articles Editor of the Journal of Law and Policy, participated in the United Nations Honors Internship Program in Jerusalem, Israel and received the Dean’s Merit Scholarship and the CALI Excellence for the Future Award in Legal Writing and Trial Advocacy.

Isabel is a proud member of the New York IWIRC community. She looks forward to participating in the continued growth and development of IWIRC this year. She is also a member of the Women’s International Shipping and Trade Association (“WISTA”) and the New York Maritime Association (“NYMAR”).

When she is not working, Isabel likes to participate in UJA and AIPAC events and enjoys traveling, spending time with her husband and four children and volunteering her time to local community causes. Her latest endeavor was assisting in the party planning for a fundraiser to sponsor needy children going to camp.

Sponsor Spotlight: Member Profile



**Blanche
Zelmanovich
GlassRatner**

Blanche Zelmanovich began her career in the forensic accounting consulting practice of Kroll Inc., in the Philadelphia and London offices. Prior to joining GlassRatner, she was a Director at Zolfo Cooper, LLC a boutique restructuring firm.

Blanche focuses on both creditor- and debtor-side engagements involving clients in a broad range of industries. Clients have included businesses of all sizes, private equity and financial institutions, lawyers, and insurance companies. Her industry experience includes manufacturing, banking/finance, energy, service providers, food production, construction, telecommunications, law enforcement, real estate, union, retail, mining, shipping, and not-for-profit.

Since joining GlassRatner, Blanche has worked on various matters including the refinancing and operational restructuring of Gracious Homes, a two store retail business well known throughout New York City. She has worked as the financial advisor to the Official Unsecured Creditors' Committees of Alsip Acquisition, LLC, and Ultimate Nutrition, Inc. and ProStar, Inc. Blanche also assisted one of the country's "mega yacht" manufacturers in their out-of-court restructuring efforts.

Blanche is a Certified Insolvency and Restructuring Advisor (CIRA). She holds a Masters in Accounting and Financial Management from the Keller Graduate School of Management. She also has a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Drexel University, graduating cum laude.

Blanche is a member of the Association of Insolvency & Restructuring Advisors (AIRA), and is currently the Interim Treasurer of IWIRC NY. She has also assisted IWIRC with the 2015 Leadership Summit, and is on the planning committee for the March 2016 "IWIRC at the Shore" regional conference.

In her spare time, Blanche enjoys playing golf, trying new restaurants, and traveling. She recently returned from a trip to Sydney and Bali. Blanche is also fluent in Russian.

Thank You to Our 2015 Sponsors!

PLATINUM

**MORRISON
FOERSTER**

**Debevoise
& Plimpton**



GOLD

Akin Gump
STRAUSS HAUER & FELD LLP

ARTHUR·B·LEVINE
A COMPANY
SURETY BOND AGENTS



GCG
Garden City Group, LLC™

haynesboone



Davis Polk

**Sheppard
Mullin**

KIRKLAND & ELLIS

SILVER

Prime Clerk



BDO BDO CONSULTING

LR
LECLAIR RYAN

CAHILL

Weil

Your 2015 IWIRC NY Board

CHAIRS



Carren Shulman
Sheppard Mullin



Samantha Martin
Morrison & Foerster

VICE CHAIRS



Camille Bent
Communications
Stevens & Lee



Christina Pullo
Secretary
Prime Clerk

MEMBERSHIP



Melissa Hager
Morrison &
Foerster

BOARD ADVISOR



Sarah Frankel
the525group, LLC

INTERIM TREASURER



Blanche Zelmanovich
GlassRatner

SUBSTANTIVE EVENTS



Tanya Meerovich
FTI Consulting



Janice Grubin
LeClair Ryan

NETWORKING EVENTS



Saima Meyer
KCC



Cristine Pirro
Kirkland & Ellis