

# International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation

Summer • 2019



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## Members and Friends of IWIRC NY,

As the days get shorter and the crisp night air reminds us that the Summer is over and we are definitely heading into Fall, we look back on some really great Summer events and look forward to some amazing Fall and Winter activities!

Our annual Sail Around the City was packed this year - we reached full capacity for registrations and had to keep a waitlist (so, next year, remember to register early!). It was a beautiful night of networking with our sister networks of New Jersey and Delaware, as evidenced by the photos included in this newsletter. We are already looking forward to next year's boat event!

We closed out our Summer programming with a flower arranging class and networking session where everyone left with a beautiful arrangement, new friends and information on our upcoming elections. Keep your eyes on your email next week for election information and submission and voting timing! And, even if you decide not to run for a board position this year, definitely consider joining one of our committees and sharing your great ideas.

Looking ahead to Fall colors, the plethora of restructuring industry networking events and the fast approaching holidays, the Fall is always so busy. Make sure to flip to our "Tips" page for some tips from your IWIRC NY board on saving time and making it through the hectic Fall and holiday season.

No matter what else is on your schedule, save some time for IWIRC and mark your calendars for our upcoming Litigation Claims Financing panel on Tuesday, October 22 and hear from the Honorable Judge Stong and our other amazing women panelists on this hot topic. And, don't forget to join IWIRC in DC for the Fall Conference at the end of October!

We are looking forward to closing out 2019 with our annual Sponsor Appreciation event and starting 2020 with a pop-up gathering to warm our spirits during the NYC cold and the start of the new year, so watch your emails.

We are excited to see you at our upcoming events and getting you more involved in IWIRC NY over the next months!

**Samantha Martin and Jasmine Ball**  
**IWIRC NY Co-Chairs**

### Become a Member

Joining IWIRC NY is easier than ever.

[Sign up](#) and select New York as your primary network.

### Get Involved

Interested in joining an IWIRC NY subcommittee?

Do you have member news to share? [Drop us a line.](#)

IWIRC • NY [www.iwirc.com/networks/new-york](http://www.iwirc.com/networks/new-york)



## Joint Networking Event: Sail Around the City

July 30, 2019

Sophia Hepheastou and Maeghan McLoughlin—  
Networking Events Co-Chairs

On July 30, 2019, IWIRC NY, IWIRC NJ, and IWIRC DE co-hosted our fourth annual sail around the city!

IWIRC NY is already looking forward to the FIFTH Annual Sail Around the City in 2020!



### Substantive Events

#### Subcommittee Members

- Sharmeen Khan (Co-Chair)
- Alissa Nann (Co-Chair)
- Heather Aaronson
- Jasmine Ball
- Lily Liang
- Jessica K. Bonteque
- Katina Brountzas
- Hillary Davis
- Uchechi A. Egeonuigwe
- Shanté George
- Samantha Martin
- Summer McKee
- Jodi Porepa
- Jessica Weitzman
- Lara Sheikh



## Floral Class and Elections Info Session!

Wednesday, September 25, 2019

Sophia Hepheastou and Maeghan McLoughlin—  
Networking Events Co-Chairs

IWIRC NY hosted a flower arranging class where IWIRC NY members summoned their inner designer to create a fresh floral bouquet for their home or office. During the class our members learned the basics of designing and caring for beautiful blooms. This event also featured an elections information session in advance of IWIRC NY's October elections.





## Litigation Claims Financing: An Innovative Tool to Maximize Recovery ?

Tuesday, October 22, 2019

6:00 PM-9:00 PM

Alissa Nann and Sharmeen Khan—Substantive Events Co-Chairs

Please join IWIRC New York for an evening of networking and learning about litigation claims financing, and how you can potentially use this tool as an innovative way to maximize recovery and enhance liquidity on your next deal. We are thrilled to have with us a panel of eminent professionals and subject-matter experts who will share their varied perspectives and recent experiences in the field.

Our four panelists are:

**Hon. Judge Elizabeth S. Stong**, Eastern District of New York

**Daniela Raz**, Investment Manager, Legal Counsel, Bentham IMF

**Tatiana Markel**, Partner, BakerHostetler

**Jane Mitnick**, President, SM Financial Services





## Lily Liang

### Alix Partners, Vice President



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, each quarter, we recognize an “IWIRC NY Shining Star” to introduce you to exemplary members of the IWIRC NY community.

This issue we celebrate Lily Liang for her tireless contributions to IWIRC NY and as a member of the Substantive Events Committee for the past few years.

Congratulations, Lily!

### Professional Background

Lily Liang is a Vice President in AlixPartners’ Turnaround and Restructuring Services Practice. She helps companies navigate complex transformation processes across a broad range of industries. She has extensive experience in the areas of corporate turnaround, including liquidity management, business plan development, and performance improvement, and has represented numerous companies, creditors, and stakeholders in distressed situations. Lily is a CFA Charterholder, a CPA, and a Certified Insolvency & Restructuring Advisor (CIRA). She has previously served as Co-Chair of the Event Committee for AlixPartners’ Asian Leadership Insights & Growth Network (ALIGN). Lily is also a member of Women’s Empowerment Matters at AlixPartners, an employee resource group which aims to promote an inclusive and supportive work environment for women and enhance their professional and personal development.

### IWIRC Involvement

Lily has been involved with IWIRC since early 2016, when Carrienne Basler, current IWIRC Chair and Managing Director at AlixPartners, introduced her to the organization. Since then, she has been an active member and participated in a variety of events. She serves on the Substantive Events Committee in IWIRC NY and works with the team to organize events to connect, promote and empower women in the restructuring industry.

### Favorite IWIRC event

“Negotiating Skills for Women: Gaining a Place at the Leadership Table” at the National Arts Club. It was the first big event I helped organize with IWIRC. We had a great turn-out and an engaging discussion, but the most rewarding part was the friendships I built working with other IWIRC members to plan and organize the event.

### If you could have dinner with any celebrity, dead or alive, who would it be? Why?

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. I’m really inspired by her efforts to change the political and legal landscape for women. She’s never been afraid to stand up for her beliefs and be the voice of dissent. It would be great to discuss with her ways in which we can continue to make advancements for women’s rights in the current environment.

### If you could turn any activity into an Olympic sport, what would you have a good chance at winning a medal for?

Falling asleep the fastest on a 6am bumpy flight — one of the essential skills gained from a career almost always on the road.

## Back to “School” Tips from the IWIRC NY Board

With summer already a distant memory, the rigors of back to school season are in full swing. Whether or not you have children, there is something about Autumn that feels like starting over, a second new year of sorts. With that in mind, your IWIRC New York board members have put the following time-saving tips together for this very busy season:

- **New Clothes, Who Dis?** Gain significant time back by cutting out trips to the clothing store. Several of us love renting our clothes with monthly subscriptions at [renttherunway.com](http://renttherunway.com) and [anntaylor.com](http://anntaylor.com). For new clothes, [stitchfix.com](http://stitchfix.com) and [MM Lafleur](http://MMLafleur.com) are a life saver. If you do have to venture into a store (sigh), take advantage of stores that are open late or early (e.g., Target, BJ's). Speaking of, Target also has a same day delivery feature on the app that boasts weekly deals.
- **Divide and Conquer.** Instead of saving house cleaning for one day, we break it up so that there is never too much to tackle on one day (*i.e.*, bathrooms on Wednesday, sweep and mop on Friday). Better yet, some of us bite the bullet and hire someone else to take care of it. Pass the bon bons!
- **Frozen Foods Are Your Friends.** Some of us make sure to always have frozen vegetables on hand for last minute dinners. This tip also cuts down on the guilt associated with throwing away veggies we don't get around to preparing before they go bad.
- **Sundays Are for Scrambling.** Speaking of cutting down waste... every Sunday, throw together all the week's leftover veggies, cheese scraps, etc., and voila! You have a delicious, easy, and resourceful Sunday meal. One of our board members reports that the more random they are (think gouda, garlic and kale), the more tasty!
- **...And Meal Prep!** Collect a reliable bunch of recipes, unpack the crock pot and invest in some quality storage containers before cooking up big batches of staples and plan out your meals for the week. Recipe websites are seemingly endless; some of our favorites are [skinnytaste.com](http://skinnytaste.com), [foodgawker.com](http://foodgawker.com) and [allrecipes.com](http://allrecipes.com). There are many options to have your groceries delivered right to you to cut out time wasted at the market. Check out Whole Foods on Amazon in addition to Fresh Direct and Food Kick. Your wallet and waistline will thank you!
- **Have a Plan.** Mapping out your week will give you a sense of control over a chaotic schedule, and you'll be surprised how much time you find that you didn't know you had when you plan things out ahead of time, such as events you'll be attending, school functions, work out times and meals. An autumnal reassessment of where you are with savings goals following a busy summer of vacations and weddings is advised as well. This will be extremely helpful as we head into the craziness of the holiday season (eeeeek!).



Congratulate your fellow IWIRC NY members on their recent accomplishment! Click on a name to send a note.

Let us sing your praises! Email us your accomplishments for inclusion in our next newsletter.

## Speaking Engagements

**Lisa Donahue**, Managing Director, AlixPartners, participated in a fireside chat hosted by HBS Women's Association of Greater New York and moderated by Helen Zhang, Alix Partners, on September 12, 2019. Lisa and Helen discussed "Women in Restructuring".

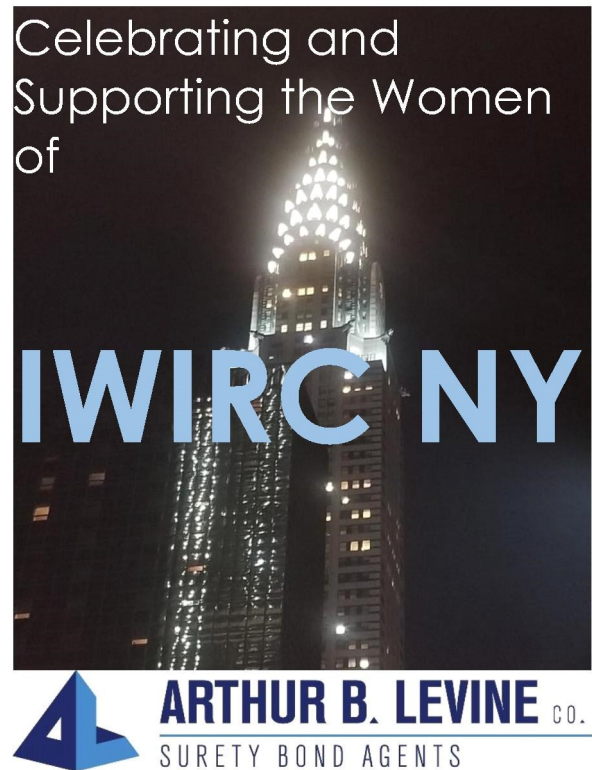
**BDO** hosted a Webinar Series: BDO 2019 Optimizing Operations: Inside Innovation which focuses on utilizing data and automation to optimize your finance and accounting function. BDO hosted on September 17, 2019 a NY Metro Learning Series: Tariffs and Data Privacy.

**Carrienne Basler**, Managing Director, AlixPartners, spoke at the KAYO Women's private Equity Conference and Credit Forum held in Boston on September 23, 2019. Carianne will be moderating the panel "Breakout—Evolution of Women Founders in Credit."

**Melissa Hager**, Kelley Drye & Warren LLP, spoke on the Welcome to the Jungle—Music, Entertainment and IP panel at the TIMA Annual Conference in Cleveland, Ohio on September 26, 2019.

**Jane Sullivan**, Epiq, will be on a panel titled Preparing the Debtor at ABI's Mid-Level Professional Development Program on November 4, 2019.

**Kaitlin Walsh**, Mintz Levin, will be speaking at a panel at ABI Winter Leadership titled "Recent Trends in the Credit Bidding of Assets and Cross-Border Issues" on December 6, 2019.



Congratulate your fellow IWIRC NY members on their recent accomplishment! Click on a name to send a note.

## Firm Changes, Promotions, and Personal

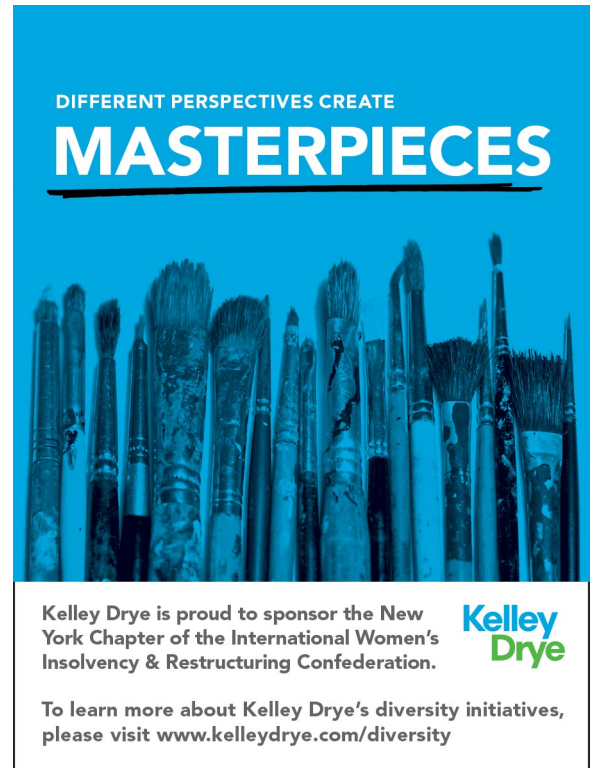
**Liz Park**, FTI Consulting, gave birth to a beautiful baby boy, Elias Parker Hu, on April 10, 2019.

**Melissa Hager**, IWIRC US Network Director and former IWIRC NY Membership & Sponsorship Director, recently joined the Bankruptcy and Restructuring Group at Kelley Drye & Warren LLP in New York City.

On August 1, 2019, **BDO USA, LLP** acquired Loughlin Management Partners & Co, Inc. ("LM+Co"), a boutique business advisory firm focused on corporate restructuring and turnaround services, interim management, as well as operational value creation services tailored for private equity investors and their middle market portfolio companies. The acquisition of LM+Co was effective as of August 1, 2019. LM+Co principal and managing director, James J. Loughlin, Jr., joins BDO as Managing Director responsible for leading the firm's business restructuring and operational value creation practices.

**Kaitlin Walsh**, Communications Co-Chair of IWIRC NY was promoted to Special Counsel at Mintz Levin.

**Denise Kaloudis** moved to Stretto as Managing Director.

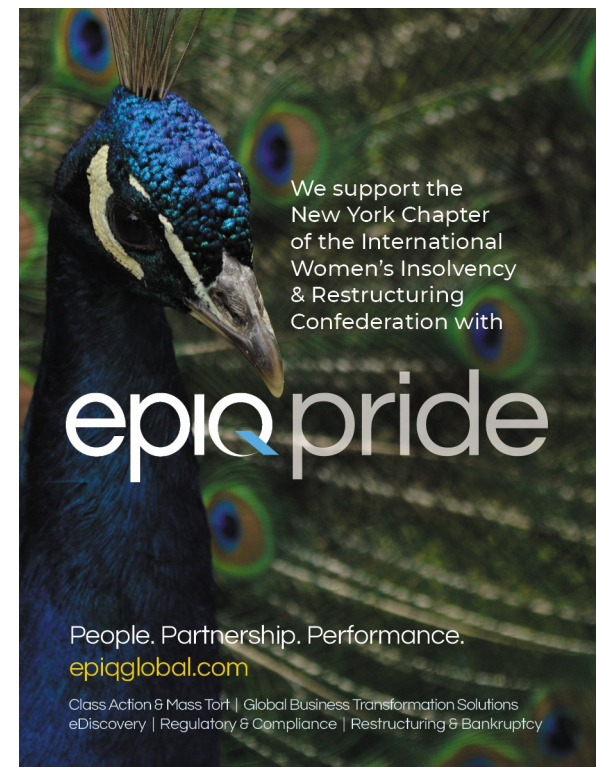


DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES CREATE  
**MASTERPIECES**

Kelley Drye is proud to sponsor the New York Chapter of the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation.

To learn more about Kelley Drye's diversity initiatives, please visit [www.kelleydrye.com/diversity](http://www.kelleydrye.com/diversity)

**Kelley Drye**



We support the New York Chapter of the International Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation with

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## Welcome to IWIRC NY's New Members

**Debra Dandeneau**

*Baker McKenzie LLP*

**Michele Maman**

*Cadwalader Wickersham & Taft LLP*

**Stephanie Wickouski**

*Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner LLP*

**Greta Hu**

*Nomura Securities Holdings*

**Daniela Raz**

*Bentham IMF*

**Ingrid Bagby**

*Cadwalader Wickersham & Taft LLP*

**Alexandra Graiser**

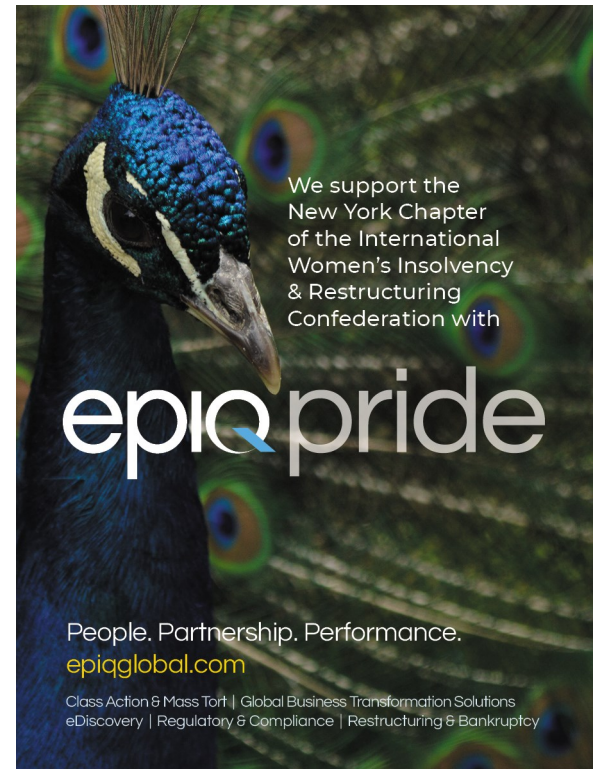
*A&G Realty Partners*

**Allison McNeely**

*Bloomberg News*

Drop them a line personally welcoming these new members by using the hyperlinks on their names.

Need to renew your membership or become an IWIRC NY member? We want to see you here in our next newsletter—Register or renew [HERE](#) today.



### Membership/Sponsorship Subcommittee

- Isabel Arana de Uriarte, Chair
- Shanté George
- Jennifer Kimble
- Carole Levine
- Samantha Martin

Ms. DiBlasi's practice focuses on debtors, creditors, and equity interest holders in all areas of domestic and international restructurings and crisis management, both in and out of court. Some of her recent notable engagements include her representation of National Public Finance Guarantee Corporation, in connection with the Title III cases of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and certain of its instrumentalities, Waypoint Holdings Ltd., the largest global helicopter leasing company, in its chapter 11 cases, CHC Group, a global helicopter service provider with more than 220 aircraft, in its chapter 11 cases, and LEGO, in connection with the Toys "R" Us chapter 11 cases, among others.

Ms. DiBlasi has been the recipient of numerous awards and accolades, including her most recent accomplishment in 2019 when she was honored with the Mega Company Transaction of the Year for advising Essar Steel Algoma Inc. by Turnaround Management Association. In 2018 she was selected by the American Bankruptcy Institute as one of its "40 Under 40" honorees and was recognized by New York Law Journal as one of its "Rising Stars". Ms. DiBlasi was also recognized by Turnarounds & Workouts magazine as one of its "Outstanding Young Restructuring Lawyers" for 2016 and previously was named a "Rising Star" for restructuring and insolvency in the U.S. by IFLR1000.

Ms. DiBlasi also represents, on a pro bono basis, the N.Y. Police and Fire Widows' & Children's Benefit Fund, and has helped several U.S. military veterans seeking assistance with applying for disability benefits. Her pro bono work has also included assisting a non-profit entity in connection with its out-of-court restructuring.

Ms. DiBlasi has served as a teacher's assistant at Cardozo School of Law and Harvard Law School. She frequently presents at bankruptcy seminars and participates in a variety of activities and initiatives focused on training, mentoring, recruiting, and diversity at Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP.

Ms. DiBlasi received a J.D. from Fordham University School of Law, and a B.A. from Colgate University.



**Kelly DiBlasi,**  
**Partner**  
**Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP**



Megan Hyland is a Senior Director in FTI Consulting's Turnaround & Restructuring practice and is based in New York. Ms. Hyland has experience as financial advisor to secured and unsecured creditors of companies in distressed situations and has worked with companies in a variety of industries, such as telecommunications, healthcare, energy, retail, education, mining and financial services.

Ms. Hyland's experience includes analyzing business plans, financial projections, and plans of reorganization/liquidation, monitoring cash flow and liquidity needs, and assessing financial and operational performance.

Prior to joining FTI Consulting, Ms. Hyland was an associate at JPMorgan Chase in the Corporate Real Estate group, which manages the company's portfolio of owned and leased properties.

Ms. Hyland holds a B.S. in business administration from Washington and Lee University and an M.B.A from Darden School of Business at University of Virginia.



**Megan Hyland**  
**Senior Director**  
**FTI Consulting**

## New York Metro Area

### **TMA Annual Fall “Wine-Down”**

October 16, 2019

New York, New York

### **TMA Pro Bono Networking & Speed Mentoring**

October 28, 2019

New York, New York

### **ABI Mid-Level Professional Development Program**

November 4, 2019

New York, New York

### **ABI Cross-Border Insolvency Program**

November 7, 2019

New York, New York

### **2019 Forty-Hour Bankruptcy Mediation Program**

December 8-12, 2019

New York, New York

## Regional / National

### **26th Annual IWIRC 2019 Conference**

October 29-30, 2019

Washington, D.C.

### **National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges**

October 30-November 2, 2019

Washington, D.C.

### **ABI Winter Leadership**

December 5-7, 2019

Rancho Palos Verdes, California



## Connect with Us

We now have a combined total of 595 followers on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter, and it's not too late for you to join the fun. 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!



### Additional Facebook Networks

[IWIRC](#)  
[IWIRC DC](#)  
[IWIRC Hong Kong](#)  
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[IWIRC So Cal](#)

### Additional LinkedIn Networks

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### Additional Twitter Networks

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[IWIRC New Jersey](#)  
[IWIRC Western Canada](#)  
[IWIRC Western Pennsylvania](#)



### Communications Subcommittee Members

- Kaitlin R. Walsh (Co-Chair)
- Krista L. Kulp (Co-Chair)
- Jasmine Ball
- Samantha Martin
- Hillary Davis
- Camille Bent
- Wendy Salz
- Sara Temes
- Alexa Mahnken
- Lindsay Brennan
- Katie Crispi

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## Co-Chairs

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**Samantha Martin**  
Stroock & Stroock  
& Lavan, LLP



**Jasmine Ball**  
Debevoise &  
Plimpton, LLP

## Board Advisor

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**Carren Shulman**

## Membership

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**Isabel Arana de  
Uriate**  
Alix Partners, LLP



**Christina Pullo**  
Prime Clerk LLC



**Gani Bardhi**  
Alvarez & Marsal

## Communications

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**Krista L. Kulp**  
Cole Schotz P.C.



**Sharmeen Khan**  
FTI Consulting, Inc.



**Sophia Heapheastou**  
Cullen and Dykman LLP

## Substantive Events

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**Kaitlin Walsh**  
Mintz



**Alissa M. Nann**  
Foley &  
Lardner, LLP



**Maeghan McLoughlin**  
Kelley Drye &  
Warren, LLP

## Networking Events

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