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A

Eric L. Adams

Mayor
New York City

Like so many New Yorkers, Mayor Eric Adams grew up with adversity—and overcame it.

As one of six children, born in Brownsville and raised in South Jamaica by a single mom who cleaned houses, Adams and his family did not always know if they would come home to an eviction notice on the front door or food on the table. And when he was beaten by police in the basement of a precinct house at 15, he faced a life-changing act of injustice.

But instead of giving into anger, Adams turned his pain into purpose and decided to change the police department from within. He joined the NYPD and became one of its most outspoken officers, calling out racism and bias in the department and pushing for major reforms.

As a founder of 100 Blacks in Law Enforcement Who Care, Adams would often police the streets in a bulletproof vest one day during the high-crime 1980's and 1990's and protest bad behavior by cops the next, marching side-by-side with his fellow civil rights advocates. He rose to the rank of captain, helping to build the first computerized system for tracking crime in the City, which led to historic gains in public safety.

His efforts to change policing began his lifelong work to improve and protect New York. From the NYPD, he moved on to the State Senate, where he represented sections of central and Brownstone Brooklyn. In Albany, Adams built winning coalitions to advance New York City's values and goals, helping to push through measures to protect tenants and workers, combat gun violence, end the NYPD's abuses of stop and frisk, and advance human rights — including marriage equality. He also became the first person of color to chair the Senate's Homeland Security Committee.

Adams was then elected Brooklyn borough president in 2013 by putting together a diverse coalition of Brooklynites to become the borough's first Black leader. As the representative of one of the nation's largest counties, he fought tirelessly to grow the local economy, invest in schools, reduce inequality, improve public safety, and advocate for smart policies and better government that delivers for all New Yorkers.

When the COVID-19 pandemic struck the City, Adams moved a mattress into his office and worked around the clock to deliver donated meals and PPE to essential workers and vulnerable New Yorkers, demanding that government produce more equitable relief.

In addition to continuing to fight for struggling New Yorkers and a better quality of life for all, Adams became a national leader on public health policy after learning he had developed Type 2 diabetes. Following his diagnosis, he completely changed his diet and his body, reversing the disease and launching a personal mission to educate New Yorkers about preventative care and wellness. His work has already led to successful proactive public health efforts across the City and increased education in schools and with high-risk populations in lower-income areas, partnering with civic organizations and health experts.

Adams is a lifelong New Yorker. He received his master's degree in public administration from Marist College, and is a graduate of New York City Technical College and the John Jay College of Criminal Justice. He is also a proud product of New York City public schools, including Bayside High School in Queens. Today he lives in Bedford-Stuyvesant, where he has resided for over 20 years. Adams is the proud father of Jordan, an aspiring filmmaker and graduate of American University.



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Joe Ahmed-Youssef

**Executive Vice President, Business Intelligence and Ddata Solutions
Amadeus' Hospitality Division**

Joe Ahmed-Youssef currently serves as executive vice president, business intelligence and data solutions for Amadeus' Hospitality Division. He has more than two decades of executive experience in travel technology, distribution, strategy, and marketing.

Prior to his current role in Hospitality, Ahmed-Youssef served as the global leader of strategy, marketing, and corporate development leading both the organic and inorganic growth strategies as well as the marketing strategy for Amadeus Hospitality globally.

Having joined Amadeus in 2006, he was previously Madrid-based global director for operations and business development for the Hospitality division. He also has served as regional director - marketing & operations, and markets director for Middle East and North Africa. As head of the Arab Air Carriers Organization (AACO) Program, Ahmed-Youssef and his team elevated Amadeus into a regional leadership position in the Middle East and Africa region.

Prior to Amadeus, Ahmed-Youssef worked for several global blue chip companies, including American Express Travel, as director of operations & business travel, SHOWTIME networks, and Kanoo Travel.

Ahmed-Youssef holds a BA in Business Administration with a major in marketing from the University of Cairo. He completed executive management post graduate studies at Canfield University in the UK and speaks both English and Arabic fluently.

Reza Akhavi

**Managing Director and Co-Head of Real Estate Investment Banking
Deutsche Bank Securities**

Reza Akhavi is global co-head of Deutsche Bank's Real Estate, Gaming, Lodging and Leisure («REGLL») Investment Banking team. He is responsible for advisory and capital markets client coverage across industries under the REGLL umbrella, including market leaders in the US and international gaming industry, lodging REITs and C-Corps, and general leisure operators. Akhavi joined Deutsche Bank in 1998 and joined the REGLL group as a vice president in April 2005. Prior to joining Deutsche Bank, he was an agency equities trader for Herzog, Heine, Geduld, a leading Nasdaq Market maker. Akhavi earned his BS, cum laude, in finance with a concentration in economics from the University of Maryland, College Park in 1997. He was a member of the Financial Management Honors Society, the National Business School Honorary Society and received the Nations Bank Educational Endowment Award.

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Michele Allen

Chief Financial Officer
Wyndham Hotels & Resorts

Michele Allen is chief financial officer of Wyndham Hotels & Resorts, the world's largest hotel franchising company with approximately 9,000 hotels across 22 brands and nearly 95 countries.

A seasoned hospitality industry veteran with more than 20 years of experience, she was promoted to her current role in December 2019 after serving as executive vice president and treasurer, where she oversaw capital markets activity, global cash management, risk management, and business intelligence.

Before her role as treasurer, Allen served five years as senior vice president of finance for Wyndham Worldwide, where she played a critical role in helping spin off Wyndham Hotels & Resorts into a pure-play hotel company in 2018.

Prior to Wyndham Worldwide, Allen held a variety of financial leadership positions of increasing responsibility with Wyndham and its predecessor, Cendant Corporation. Throughout that time, she worked on the initial public offerings for Jackson Hewitt and Wright Express, as well as the spin-offs of Realogy and Wyndham Worldwide. She began her career as an independent auditor with Deloitte, where she earned her CPA.

Allen holds a bachelor's degree from Cedar Crest College in Allentown, Pa. and is an advocate for female education in third-world countries through her work with organizations like the BlinkNow Foundation and New Light. She also serves as co-chair of Empower, Wyndham's associate business group dedicated to supporting the growth and advancement of women in the workplace.

Allen is based at Wyndham's global headquarters in Parsippany, NJ.

Alex Alt

Senior Vice President and General Manager
Oracle Hospitality

Alex Alt leads Oracle's vertical software business that serves the hospitality, casino, and cruise industries. Dedicating most of his career to hospitality with experience as an operator and a technology provider, Alt joined Oracle in November 2019 to lead the technical, operational, and cultural transformation of the industry's leading provider of property management, point of sale, distribution, analytics, and loyalty solutions. The start of his tenure coincided with Oracle's debut of its next-generation suite of cloud solutions, which achieved early acclaim and is experiencing rapid adoption among the world's most-renowned hotel brands. Adhering to the pillars of service orientation, innovation, and execution precision, Alt and the Oracle Hospitality team are focused on powering exceptional guest experiences. With more than 20 years in the travel and hospitality industries, he spearheaded global development and strategy for renowned luxury operator Rosewood Hotels & Resorts, led Sabre's Hospitality Solutions business, and served industry clients as a consultant with McKinsey & Company. He has established a track record of growing and scaling businesses and delivering innovative technology solutions underpinned by a customer-centric service and support model. Alt, who earned an MBA from Harvard Business School and a BBA from the University of Texas, is passionate about hospitality technology and has been a featured presenter at multiple industry and customer conferences. He is married with two children and enjoys cycling, tennis, and all things outdoors.

Rob Andrews

Brand Chief Operating Officer
The Hoxton

Rob Andrews is brand COO for The Hoxton. Before Ennismore, he held roles as VP, lifestyle at Highgate Hotels, and area managing director at Two Roads Hospitality, where he opened the iconic Beekman Hotel. His hotel career has spanned three continents and includes Kimpton Hotels, GrandLife Hotels, Hyatt Hotels, and InterContinental Hotels Group.

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Craig Amos

Executive Vice President Design and Construction
RLJ Lodging Trust

Craig Amos serves as executive vice president, Design and Construction for RLJ Lodging Trust (NYSE: RLJ). He is responsible for leading the RLJ Design and Construction team in their commitment to increase shareholder value through the development, protection, maintenance, and improvement of hotel assets.

Amos holds a Bachelor's of Business from the University of Queensland, Australia, a Master's of Business Administration from Duke University, and is an alumnus of the Harvard Graduate School of Design AMD Real Estate Program. Amos and his wife, Jennifer, reside in McLean, Virginia with their two daughters.

Moneesh Arora

CEO
UniFocus

Moneesh Arora, CEO of UniFocus, is an operating executive and team builder with 25+ years of experience creating value for clients, team members, and investors, in private and public companies. He has extensive experience building and growing technology-enabled businesses, with a particular focus on the human capital management (HCM) and workforce management (WFM) space.

Arora has served in numerous senior leadership and executive roles at ADP, Paycor, Thomson Reuters, Dun & Bradstreet, and PwC. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering from the New Jersey Institute of Technology, College of Engineering, and a Master of Business Administration in Finance from the NYU Stern School of Business. He currently serves on the board of Greenshades Software, a leading provider of payroll and HR solutions for mid-market companies.

Andrew J. Arthurs

Chief Information Officer
Aimbridge Hospitality

Andrew J. Arthurs is chief information officer of Aimbridge Hospitality, a leading, global hospitality company. He joined the company in 2019 as a result of the merger between Aimbridge and Interstate Hotels & Resorts, where he was CIO. Prior to Interstate, Arthurs was CIO at Two Roads Hospitality where he oversaw the integration of Destination Hotels and Commune Hotels and Resorts to create the world's largest independent, lifestyle hotel management company. He also held various IT leadership positions at Vail Resorts, where he spent 13 years. Since joining Aimbridge Hospitality, Arthurs has overseen several strategic initiatives, including a major investment in data and analytics.

Arthurs earned an undergraduate degree from the University of Vermont and an MBA from the Leeds School of Business at the University of Colorado.

Gary Axelrod

Partner
Latham & Watkins

Gary Axelrod's practice focuses on complex business transactions in the real estate, hospitality, gaming, and leisure industries. His clients include real estate private equity sponsors and funds, REITs, institutional investors, operating companies, and entrepreneurial developers engaged in all aspects of real estate investment and development. In addition, he has extensive experience in complex asset-level and corporate-level restructurings.

Axelrod has significant experience in the hospitality industry and is co-chair of the firm's Hospitality, Gaming & Leisure Industry Group. He regularly represents owners and operators in connection with the sale, acquisition, development, financing, ownership, and management of hotel, resort, and gaming properties.

He also represents corporate, venture capital, and other private equity clients in bankruptcies, restructurings, mergers, acquisitions, and dispositions involving portfolio companies and their real estate assets. Axelrod's practice also has a substantial cross-border element including projects in Canada, China, Dubai, India, Abu Dhabi, and Mexico.

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B

Geoff Ballotti

**President and Chief Executive Officer
Wyndham Hotels & Resorts**

Geoffrey A. Ballotti has served as president and chief executive officer of Wyndham Hotels & Resorts and a member of its Board of Directors since June 2018. Prior to that, he was CEO of Wyndham Hotel Group for four years, which spun off from the former Wyndham Worldwide in 2018 to become a pure-play, publicly-traded hotel company. From March 2008 to March 2014, Ballotti served as chief executive officer of Wyndham Destination Network. From October 2003 to March 2008, he was president of the North America Division of Starwood Hotels and Resorts Worldwide. From 1989 to 2003, he held leadership positions of increasing responsibility at Starwood Hotels and Resorts Worldwide, including president of Starwood North America, executive vice president, operations, senior vice president, southern Europe and managing director, Ciga Spa, Italy. Prior to joining Starwood Hotels and Resorts Worldwide, Ballotti was a banking officer in the Commercial Real Estate Group at the Bank of New England.

Ballotti currently serves on the Executive Committee of the American Hotel & Lodging Association Board. He previously served as chairman of the US Travel Association and on the Executive Committee of the American Resort & Development Association. He also served on the board of directors for Christel House International, a not-for-profit organization that supports impoverished children throughout the world.

Keith Barr

**Chief Executive Officer
IHG®**

Keith Barr has been chief executive officer of IHG® since July 2017. He is responsible for implementing IHG's strategy for high-quality growth and generating industry leading value creation for hotel owners, operators and shareholders. This strategy focuses on strengthening a diverse portfolio of differentiated brands, building scale in key markets, creating lifetime guest relationships, and delivering highly profitable revenues to hotels.

Barr has spent more than 25 years working in the hospitality industry across a wide range of roles, having started his career in hotel operations. He has been a member of IHG's Executive Committee since April 2011 and served as chief commercial officer (CCO) for four years before being appointed CEO. Prior to his role as CCO, he spent four years as CEO of IHG's Greater China business, where under his leadership, IHG drove outstanding results and helped set the foundations for growth in a key market.

Barr joined IHG in 2000 and subsequently held a number of senior positions in IHG's Americas and former Asia, Middle East and Africa (AMEA) regions. He was previously vice president of operations for Midscale brands in North America, vice president of operations for the Holiday Inn brand in North America and chief operating officer for Australia, New Zealand, and South Pacific.

Prior to joining IHG, Barr held several senior positions at Bristol Hotels and Resorts, which was acquired by IHG in 2000. He is a non-executive director of Yum! Brands. He also sits on the Board of WiHTL (Women in Hospitality Travel & Leisure). Barr is a graduate of Cornell University's School of Hotel Administration and is currently a member of the Dean's Advisory Board for The School of Hotel Administration, Cornell SC Johnson College of Business.



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Celia Barrett

Principal Designer and CEO
Barrett Design Studio

An interior designer for 30+ years, Celia Barrett founded Barrett Design Studio in New York in 1995. The boutique firm now specializes in hospitality, senior living and multi-family design. Prior to hospitality design, Barrett was a senior designer for several leading New York City architectural firms, including GHK, IA, and CRSS. She was a senior store designer for Macy's Corporate Stores handling New Jersey and upstate New York, where she designed multiple retail spaces and restaurants, all for Macy's. Her many years in Manhattan helped shape her design sense. With her team, Barrett has won 33 design awards in hospitality, retail, and residential design.

She holds a bachelor's degree in interior design from the Auburn University College of Architecture. She continued her studies at Auburn and Parsons School of Design in New York in both set design and antiques. She also studied theatre at New York's renowned Neighborhood Playhouse School of the Theatre, and now uses this training to help develop the story or "script" for each project she designs. Her professional theatre company, The Acting Group, produced 13 new American plays in New York City.

Barrett has been a panelist for many discussions on hospitality design, including:

High Point Market, Fall 2021, *Beyond Boundaries, Expanding the Creative Process*

BITAC® Conference 2021, *Future Trends of Hospitality Design*

BITAC® Conference 2021, *The Next Chapter of Hospitality Design, After Covid*, and several other national panels and podcasts.

Her projects have been published in multiple national magazines. She also has designed a furniture line for a major NY hospitality manufacturer. Barrett has lectured on hotel design for multiple universities and design conferences. Her firm's primary office is now in her home state of Mississippi, near her family and she keeps a satellite office in NY.

Kathryn Barrett

Vice President, Revenue Management and Digital Strategy
Dream Hotel Group

As vice president of revenue management and digital strategy, Kathryn Barrett is responsible for the successful integration of new technologies and synergies between sales, revenue, eCommerce, and digital marketing through the analysis of the consumer's digital journey and market trends to drive profitability for Dream Hotel Group and its portfolio of lifestyle hotels worldwide. With 15 years of experience working with major hospitality brands and independents, including six years at Dream Hotel Group, Barrett has a proven record in the opening and repositioning of assets, leading winning revenue management teams and driving digital strategies to success. Prior to returning to Dream Hotel Group in 2018, Barrett served as regional director of revenue strategy at Revenue Optimization Consultants, overseeing annual market and submarket forecasts, budget strategy and analysis for a team managing 80 properties along the US east coast. Prior roles also include area director of revenue management for New York Hotel Management, where she was tasked with increasing performance at the Staybridge Suites Times Square and opening the Holiday Inn Downtown Brooklyn, and revenue manager at Dream Hotel Group, overseeing the 334-room Best Western President, now The Gallivant, in Times Square, as well as management positions at Cape Resorts Group, notably opening The Beach Shack in Cape May and The Chelsea Hotel in Atlantic City.

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Sébastien Bazin

Chairman and CEO
Accor

After five years working in several financial positions in New York, San Francisco, and London, Sébastien Bazin was appointed CEO of Hottinguer Rivaud Finances, an investment bank, in 1990, and then CEO of L'Immobilière Hôtelière, a hotel developer in France, in 1992. In 1997, he moved to Colony Capital, a private real estate investment firm, to head its European branch and to lead several acquisitions, principally in the hospitality sector (Générale des Eaux, Club Méditerranée, Lucien Barrière, Fairmont & Raffles, Buffalo Grill, Château Lascombes, Stadia Consulting, and others).

Bazin joined the Accor Board of Directors in 2005, and via Colony Capital, he became a Paris Saint-Germain Football Club shareholder in 2006 and the club's chairman in 2009.

In August 2013, Bazin resigned from his duties at Colony Capital and was appointed chairman and CEO of Accor.

Bazin has served as chairman of the Théâtre du Châtelet Board of Directors since 2015 (and a board member since 2013), as vice-chairman of the Gustave Roussy Foundation's Supervisory Board, and as a member of the GE Board of Directors since 2016.

Peter Benudiz

Partner
Sidley Austin LLP

Peter Benudiz is co-leader of Sidley's global real estate practice and also leads the firm's global hospitality group. Recognized as one of the leading hospitality lawyers in the United States, Benudiz's multidisciplinary practice focuses on all aspects touching hospitality and real estate. He is regularly called upon to provide strategic advice and guidance to boards of directors and senior management of operating businesses on various cross-border and domestic matters.

Benudiz has advised on billions of dollars of hospitality, real estate, corporate finance, and M&A deals, including domestic and cross-border leveraged private equity deals. He has worked on well over 1,000 hotel transactions across the globe. He has counseled some of the world's leading financial institutions and private equity funds on the acquisition, financing, and restructuring of major real estate and hotel projects. Benudiz is resident in Sidley's Century City office.

James Bermingham

Chief Executive Officer
Virgin Hotels

James Bermingham is responsible for delivering Virgin Hotels' global growth, operational excellence, multi-award-winning customer experience, and unique culture. With over 35 years of hospitality experience, he began his career in his hometown of Dublin, Ireland, followed by 10 years in London, England, including executive roles with ITT Sheraton Corporation and the Luxury Collection. His career then led him to the United States, where he held prestigious general manager roles at the St. Regis Hotel in Houston and the Montage Laguna Beach. Since 2008, he served as executive vice president, operations for Montage International, where he oversaw all aspects of operations for the award-winning Montage and Pendry Hotel brands seven hotels and resorts, including owner relations, culture development, and sales and marketing.

Bermingham has served on many not-for-profit and hospitality industry boards and committees, including chair of Visit CA, Preferred Hotels and Resorts Advisory Board, and Forbes Travel Standards Advisory Committee.



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Laura Lee Blake, Esq.

**President & CEO
AAHOA**

Laura Lee Blake, Esq., serves as the president & CEO of AAHOA, the foremost resource and advocate for America's hotel owners. A highly accomplished attorney with more than 25 years of experience, Blake most recently served as a partner at Connor, Fletcher, and Hedenkamp in Irvine, California. Blake brings decades of experience in the fields of law, government, business, and academia to AAHOA.

Blake previously worked for AAHOA for nearly 10 years, from 2005 to 2014, as general counsel & vice president of fair franchising and government affairs.

As president and CEO, Blake is focused on promoting fair franchising and franchise advocacy, evaluating the franchisor-franchisee relationship in an effort to improve the ROI, and helping to educate members about the legal aspects of their franchise agreements. Blake also is prioritizing strategies for legislative advocacy and building alliances with those who support the travel industry.

Her passion is to serve women and children in poverty-stricken areas in the world, and has traveled to several third-world countries to raise awareness and make an impact.

She earned her Bachelor of Arts in Communication and Media Studies with highest distinction from the University of Iowa, and her JD law degree with high distinction from the University of Iowa College of Law.

Barry A.N. Bloom

**President and Chief Operating Officer
Westmont Hospitality Group**

Barry A.N. Bloom, PhD is president and chief operating officer of Xenia Hotels & Resorts, a NYSE-listed real estate investment trust. Additionally, he currently is an adjunct faculty member at Florida International University. From 2011 to 2013, Bloom served as an associate professor of the practice in the School of Hospitality Administration at Boston University.

From 2008 to 2011, he co-founded and was a principal of Abacus Lodging Investors. Previously, Bloom was executive vice president of portfolio management & administration with CNL Hotels & Resorts, and prior to CNL, he served as vice president - investment management for Hyatt Hotels Corporation. In addition, Bloom has worked for Tishman Hotel & Realty, VMS Realty Partners, and Pannell Kerr Forster (now CBRE Hotels). He earned a BS in Hotel and Restaurant Management as well as an MBA from Cornell University and a PhD in Hospitality Management from Iowa State University.

Michael D. Bluhm

**Managing Director, Global Head of Gaming and Lodging
Morgan Stanley - Investment Banking**

As a managing director of investment banking at Morgan Stanley, Michael Bluhm is responsible for capital raising and financial advisory services to the real estate industry. Additionally, he is head of Morgan Stanley's global gaming and lodging practice. Throughout his career, he has been involved in more than \$150 billion of public and private debt, equity, and equity-linked offerings, as well as a range of merger, acquisition, and restructuring assignments, primarily with publicly traded companies. For the period of 2017 through 2019, Bluhm stepped down at Morgan Stanley to take the role of EVP, CFO, and head of strategy at Host Hotels & Resorts, an S&P 500 company and the largest owner of hotels in the United States. Bluhm returned to Morgan Stanley in 2019. He is an active member of The Real Estate Roundtable, Nareit, and AHLA, including an elected role on IREFAC.



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Oliver Bonke

Chief Executive Officer, Deutsche Hospitality
Advisory Board Member, NYU Tisch Center of Hospitality

Oliver Bonke is currently the CEO of the Deutsche Hospitality Group, operating Steigenberger, Intercity, Zleep and other brands across Europe and the Middle East. In parallel he serves as a senior advisor to the Boston Consulting Group.

Prior to his current role Bonke served as president for Shangri-La Hotels and chief commercial officer for Loews Hotels and IHG.

Bonke currently resides in Frankfurt.

Lisa Borrromeo Checchio

Chief Marketing Officer
Wyndham Hotels & Resorts

Lisa Borrromeo Checchio leads revenue generation and commercial strategy for Wyndham Hotels & Resorts, the world's largest hotel franchising company with approximately 9,000 hotels across 22 brands in 95 countries.

As chief marketing officer, Borrromeo Checchio champions Wyndham's portfolio of iconic, globally-recognized brands and its loyalty program, Wyndham Rewards, the number one hotel rewards program as named by readers of USA Today and U.S. News & World Report. A passionate brand builder focused on delivering meaningful experiences for the world's everyday travelers, she guides a talented team spanning sales, customer engagement, marketing, digital, communications, loyalty, distribution and revenue management as they help fulfill Wyndham's mission of making hotel travel possible for all. Embodying the company's owner-first mentality, Borrromeo Checchio is a trusted partner of Wyndham's thousands of franchisees and committed to their long-term success.

Throughout her tenure at Wyndham, Borrromeo Checchio has received recognition across the hospitality industry, most recently being named one of Global Business Travel Association's 2020 "Top 50 Women in Travel" for her work helping Wyndham and its franchisees navigate the COVID-19 pandemic. She has also been honored by a number of industry and trade publications including, *Ad Age's* "40 Under 40" in 2019; *Hotel Management's* ranking of the Most Influential Women in Hospitality in 2018; *Lodging's* 15 Women Making their Mark on Hospitality in 2017; and Hospitality Sales and Marketing Association International's (HSMIA) Top 25 Extraordinary Minds in 2016.

Borrromeo Checchio currently serves on the Board of Directors for the American Hotel & Lodging Association and HSMIA Americas. She also serves on the Board of Trustees for the American Hotel & Lodging Association Foundation as well as Raritan Valley Habitat for Humanity.

Before joining Wyndham in 2015, Borrromeo Checchio spent 11 years at JetBlue Airways overseeing brand strategy and the execution of marketing programs, advertising, sponsorships, brand communications and design. Prior to JetBlue, she worked in event management in professional tennis (a personal passion). She earned her Bachelor's Degree in Economics from The George Washington University.

Borrromeo Checchio lives in New Jersey with her husband and three sons. She is based in Wyndham's Parsippany, NJ offices.



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Ben Brunt

Principal & Chief Investment Officer
Noble

Ben Brunt is a principal and chief investment officer with responsibility for leading the teams that source and underwrite new investments encompassing individual asset and portfolio acquisitions, land and new development opportunities, market and investment analysis, and brand positioning.

Prior to joining Noble in 2005, Brunt held senior investment roles at Sony Partners and Hardin Capital. He began his career in hotel operations and has nearly 25 years of hospitality industry experience.

Brunt earned an MBA from Southern Methodist University and a BA from Trinity College. He is a former professional violinist and spent two years as a member of the Memphis Symphony Orchestra. Brunt currently serves as a board member of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, the Atlanta Midtown Alliance, and the Buckhead Coalition. He also is a member of the AHLA Lodging Investment Council and a member of the Urban Land Institute.

Kate Burda

Kate Burda & Co

Kate Burda leads a consulting firm that focuses on revenue acceleration and overall revenue strategy to increase profitability.

They have recently launched IGNITE, a technology program enabling sales, marketing, and revenue teams in how to be more effective and profitable in today's environment. Think Turbo Tax for Revenue Performance.

They are passionate in how to think differently to be relevant and differentiated in a very crowded marketplace. They lovingly challenge the status quo and legacy thinking to give way to innovation and revenue growth.

Their core customers are investors, owners, brands, management companies.

They have done revenue transformation within our industry to companies, such as Marriott, Loews, Goldman Sachs, and independent boutiques, as well as a clientele outside of hospitality, such as Abbott, Medtronic, Boehringer Ingelheim and Ricoh.

Kate has been Head of Revenue within REIT, VP of Revenue, and had been VP of Sales at Hyatt Hotels. Her working with in hotels encompasses 28+ years. She has lead teams through disposition, bankruptcy, financial downturns, and shifts within the marketplace.

She is a member of the International Society of Hotel Consultants and speaks regularly within the Strategic Account Management Association Academy on Account-based marketing. Kate teaches Revenue Management and distribution management, Global Marketing and Finance. She also is on the board of Boutique and Luxury Lodging Association.

She received her MBA at University of Colorado and currently lives in Dallas, Texas.



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Ron Burgett

**Senior Vice President, Extended Stay Development
Choice Hotels International**

Ron Burgett is senior vice president, Extended Stay Development for WoodSpring Suites, MainStay Suites, Everhome Suites & Suburban Extended Stay at Choice Hotels International, Inc. (NYSE: CHH), one of the world's largest hotel companies. In this role, he is responsible for leading franchise development for the recently launched Everhome Suites as well as the other extended stay brands for Choice.

Burgett joined Choice for a second time in February 2018 during the WoodSpring Suites acquisition, where he served as the executive vice president, franchise development and operations. He previously spent 13 years at Choice in various management positions, including serving as national vice president of development.

Prior to WoodSpring, Burgett served as the executive vice president of lodging and brand development for Red Lion Hotels Corporation. He also was founder and president of Indianapolis-based brokerage firm Hospitality Sales Group, which is a hotel real estate investment and management consulting firm. He has extensive experience in property management, having worked for Maxim Management Corporation.

Burgett earned a BS degree from Indiana University and earned his Certified Hotel Administration designation in 1990.

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C

Ben Cadwell

**Chief Operating Officer, United States
Accor**

Ben Cadwell is chief operating officer, North & Central America for world leading hospitality group Accor, whose portfolio comprises more than 40 internationally acclaimed brands, including Fairmont, Raffles, Sofitel, MGallery, Pullman, Swissôtel, Novotel, and ibis.

Based in New York City, Cadwell oversees Accor's portfolio of hotels in the United States, where the Group continues to strengthen its position as the second largest luxury operator. He plays a critical role in powering the continued growth and development of the Group and its brands across the region by driving operational performance and excellence, cultivating strong relationships with key partners, and building long-term value for owners.

Cadwell's most recent position was executive vice president, asset and investment management for Kingdom Hotel Investments, one of the world's most diversified hotel investment platforms. During his 16-year tenure with Kingdom, he was involved in transactional and asset management for over 20 luxury hotel investments in North America, Europe, Africa and Asia, as well as Kingdom's trophy hospitality investment portfolio which included the Four Seasons Hotel George V in Paris and The Savoy in London. He played a key role in the \$3.3 billion sale of Fairmont Raffles Hotels International and \$600 million sale of Movenpick Hotels, both to Accor.

Prior to joining the Kingdom organization, Cadwell was an associate with Ernst & Young LLP's Transaction Real Estate practice in New York City. He received a Bachelor of Science degree with distinction in Hotel Administration from Cornell University and serves on the Cornell University Council.

Dave Cairns

**Senior Vice President – Office Leasing
CBRE Limited**

Dave Cairns is an independent-minded person who started off his career out of university as a professional poker player where he was ranked as one of the top 100 online tournament players in the world for a time.

In 2012, he transitioned from poker to commercial real estate, becoming an office leasing broker in downtown Toronto, Canada.

Over the last 10 years Cairns has become one of the top office leasing brokers in Canada and also become equally known as a thought leader on the Future of Work and in turn, the Future of the Office.

When Cairns is not busy writing on the happenings of the times or the future of the office industry he spends his time working with Fast Sector companies, large financial institutions like CIBC, space operators from the Flex Office sector like Convene and large office landlords like First Capital REIT.

A fun fact you might not know about Cairns is that he's a remote worker living on Prince Edward Island off the east coast of Canada where neither his company nor any of his clients have an office! This gives him a very unique and timely lens when advising companies or landlords as he deeply understands the value of the office and also equally understands the value of remote work.

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Janis Cannon

Senior Vice President, Upscale Brands
Choice Hotels International

Janis Cannon is senior vice president of Upscale Brands and a member of the senior executive team for Choice Hotels International, Inc. (NYSE: CHH), one of the world's leading lodging franchisors. In this role, she is responsible for the overall performance and growth of the company's upscale portfolio and leads the brand strategy, positioning and performance of Cambria Hotels and the Ascend Hotel Collection.

Since joining Choice Hotels in 2016, Cannon has increased Cambria's hotel openings and pipeline developments by more than 100 percent, driven revenue and top RPI performance in key urban and leisure markets, and grown the Ascend Hotel Collection, recognized as the industry's first "soft" brand, to more than 300 properties worldwide, with 200 open hotels and resorts in the U.S.

Prior to joining Choice Hotels, Cannon spent more than 25 years in branding, design and construction, sales, marketing and hotel operations. She most recently served as vice president and global brand leader of Upscale and Lifestyle Brands at IHG, where she developed and implemented brand strategy, and facilitated development projects and positioning efforts for the company's portfolio globally. Previously, she held senior leadership positions as deputy commissioner in the Georgia Department of Economic Development, and Global SVP at Swissotel Hotels and Resorts.

Cannon was named Female Executive of the Year by Hotel Interactive Inc. in 2019, and recognized by *Hotel Business Magazine* as one of the industry's "Top 10 to Watch" in 2018. Recently, she was appointed as an advisory board member for the Travel Industry Executive Women's Network (TIEWN), and is currently the executive sponsor for Choice Hotels' hospitality internship program for students attending Historically Black Colleges and Universities. She serves on the Executive Planning Committee for NYU's International Hospitality Industry Investment Conference and is a lecturer at Cornell University. Cannon earned her bachelor's degree in speech communication from Valdosta State University.

Anthony Capuano

Chief Executive Officer
Marriott International

Anthony Capuano is chief executive officer of Marriott International. In his role, Capuano presides over the world's largest hospitality company and some of the most iconic brands in travel.

Capuano joined Marriott in 1995 and was instrumental in its steady growth over the years which culminated in the acquisition of Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide in 2016. The company now has approximately 8,000 properties across 139 countries and territories and 30 brands. It also has the travel industry's largest customer-loyalty program, Marriott Bonvoy, which has more than 160 million members.

Before his appointment as CEO in February 2021, Capuano was group president, global development, design and operations services where he led the strategic unit growth of all of Marriott's brands while overseeing the global design team as well as Marriott's global operating standards and protocols for thousands of properties around the world. He also was responsible for oversight of the EDITION Hotels, a unique concept in the luxury lifestyle hotel space conceived by hotelier Ian Schrager and Marriott International.

Capuano began his Marriott career as part of the Market Planning and Feasibility team, where he helped the company assess the overall economic viability of new and existing hotels, balancing the company's interests with the needs of hotel owners and developers, investors, lenders and operators.

That role prepared him to lead Marriott's development efforts in the Western United States and Canada for its full-service hotel brands. Later, his responsibilities expanded to include North America, the Caribbean and Latin America. In 2009, Capuano assumed global development responsibility. He began overseeing global design in 2014 and global operations in January 2020.

Capuano earned a bachelor's degree from Cornell University in Hotel Administration. He is an active member of the Cornell Hotel Society, The Cornell School of Hotel Administration Dean's Advisory Board, as well as the Business Roundtable and the American Hotel and Lodging Association's IREFAC Council. Additionally, Capuano is an active member of the Board of Directors of Save Venice, a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving the artistic heritage of Venice, Italy. He resides in Potomac, Maryland with his wife and daughter.

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Peter Caputo

Principal
Deloitte

Peter Caputo is a principal in the valuation practice of Deloitte Transactions and Business Analytics, and US Hospitality subsector leader, supporting Deloitte's hotel, cruise, timeshare, and OTA clients.

Leveraging his engineering, accounting and valuation background, he provides clients assistance in appraising a company's assets, liabilities and overall business. He has led various assignments during his 27-year tenure with Deloitte including both domestic and international projects. Caputo has advised clients on pre- and post-merger valuation issues, construction advisory, reorganization and tax planning with primary focus on travel, hospitality, and real estate.

Kevin Carey

Executive Vice President & COO
AHLA

Kevin Carey serves as executive vice president and chief operating officer at AHLA. In this role, he is responsible for all revenue generating operations including membership engagement, partnership & business development, and conferences & events. Carey is also responsible for strategic planning and oversight of financial operations for AHLA and its Foundation. He works closely with AHLA's CEO and executive team to guide the association, which represents over 26,000 properties and more than 3 million hotel rooms. He also supports AHLA's Officers, Executive Committee, Board of Directors, educational foundation and 16 committees and councils. Prior to joining AHLA, Carey held senior executive leadership roles at American Express Company and American Express Global Business Travel. Most recently, he served as managing director and head of The Americas Region, and was responsible for the largest strategic customers and revenue generating region in the global business travel joint venture company. He spent more than two decades rising through the ranks at American Express, beginning his career in public affairs as a member of the company's government affairs office in Washington, D.C. before transitioning to client management and sales leadership roles in the company's card, merchant services, and travel business units. Carey has a breadth of experience across the travel and hospitality industries through his service as a board and executive committee member in numerous travel and tourism industry associations, including US Travel and the Travel Business Roundtable. He also presently serves as an advisory board member at both Johns Hopkins University and Penn State University.

Doug Carrillo

Chief Marketing Officer
Virgin Hotels

Doug Carrillo was on the team that helped launch and build the Virgin Hotels brand. In this role, Carrillo leads the brand marketing, sales and revenue management for Virgin Hotels. He has more than 35 years of experience in the hospitality industry. His background includes senior executive level sales, marketing and revenue management positions with Morgan's Hotels Group, Desires Hotels, and Carnival Hotels and Casino.

In his capacity at Morgan Hotels Group, he was directly responsible for overseeing the sales, marketing and revenue management disciplines for Delano, Shore Club, and Mondrian South Beach. Prior to joining Morgan's Hotel Group, Carrillo was senior vice president of sales and marketing and a partner at Desires Hotels. Throughout his tenure, he developed a robust sales and marketing platform and solutions for e-commerce and revenue management that led to significant REVPAR premiums across the portfolio. In 2002, he co-developed Desires Hotels, and helped grow the portfolio from four to 35 modern boutique hotels. In 2009, he received the prestigious "Adrian Award" from HSMAI for website design and was honored as one of the "Top Twenty-Five Sales & Marketing Minds. Carrillo graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Hospitality Management from Florida International University.

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James Carroll

**President & CEO
Crestline Hotels & Resorts**

James Carroll is the president & CEO of Crestline Hotels & Resorts. As CEO, he oversees the management of the Company's portfolio of over 130 managed properties in 29 states throughout the United States. With a dedicated team of over 4,000 associates, Crestline has grown to become one of the top ten independent hotel management companies in the country, and earned the elite status of being qualified to manage any of the Marriott, Hilton, Hyatt, and IHG products.

During its 20+ year history, Crestline has also formed and spun off multiple hotel real estate companies, both domestically and internationally, with equity value of over \$2.0 billion, and performed asset management on portfolios in excess of 140 properties and \$600 million in revenues.

Carroll joined Crestline in 2004 from Dell, Inc. He served as treasurer and CFO prior to his promotion to president & CEO in 2010. He holds the degree of Master in Business Administration from the Harvard Business School, and is a graduate of the US Naval Academy. Previously, he served as a naval aviator and lieutenant in the United States Navy. Carroll is a Board member for AHLA, and serves on the Board of Directors for Armada Hoffler Properties (NYSE: AHH) and for ServiceSource.

Jennifer (Jenn) Chick

**Senior Vice President & Global Head, Hilton Honors & Customer Engagement
Hilton**

Jenn Chick is the senior vice president and global head of Hilton Honors and Customer Engagement at Hilton. Jenn has more than 20 years of experience developing innovative marketing strategies across a variety of industries, including hospitality, travel and consumer packaged goods. In her current role, she is focused on elevating the customer experience and driving acquisition and retention for Hilton Honors, as well as overseeing performance and benefits, setting reward pricing and strategy, and providing overall program management. As a Hilton Honors member for almost a decade, her favorite benefit is the warm welcome and hospitality she receives no matter where in the world she stays.

Most recently, Chick served as vice president of marketing execution and operations at Hilton, where she transformed marketing operations through the use of analytics, process optimization, automation and organizational transformation. She was responsible for developing a global integrated marketing strategy and delivering customer-centric content and creative to drive better marketing returns and customer experiences.

Prior to joining Hilton, Chick worked for MarketBridge, McCann-Erickson, and Arnold Worldwide in various marketing, sales, and advertising roles. She holds an MBA from The Darden Graduate School of Business at the University of Virginia and a BS in Marketing from George Mason University. While Chick can most frequently be found at a roadside Hampton by Hilton with her husband and three children, she always appreciates an opportunity to use her Hilton Honors Points for a special getaway at one of Hilton's luxury resort properties around the world.

Wee Ming Choon

Wee Ming Choon is a technology and startup lawyer with a focus on blockchain and emerging technologies. Choon is deputy general counsel at Ava Labs. He was previously a transactional attorney at a global law firm and, prior to becoming a lawyer, he was a quantitative software engineer at a hedge fund.

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Rod G. Clough, MAI

President, HVS
Americas, HVS

As president of HVS Americas, Rod Clough oversees strategy execution for HVS throughout its 40 Americas locations. His tenure with HVS spans over 25 years, during which time he has played an important role in growing the company from a few locations across the Americas to 40. In a typical year, Clough's group consults on over 2,500 existing or proposed hotels and resorts, and in 2021, he oversaw the 568-hotel Extended Stay America appraisal portfolio. In 2003, he founded the firm's sister appraisal division, U.S. Hotel Appraisals, which completes roughly 1,000 hotel appraisals annually. Clough is a founding owner/partner of HVS Mexico-Latin America, and he re-launched the firm's U.S. Brokerage and Capital Markets division in 2018. He is a designated member of the Appraisal Institute (MAI) and a licensed real estate broker. Furthermore, he is proudly Latino and gay, and his firm is welcoming of all races and colors, sexual orientations, ages, genders, and gender identities. Once associates join HVS, they tend to stay due to the extraordinary culture Clough has inspired, a culture defined by the ideals of balance, connectivity, efficiency, collaboration, honesty, integrity, kindness, and excellence, among others. Clough resides in northern Colorado where he and his husband Jeff are raising their daughter, Rory.

John Cohlan

Chief Executive Officer
Margaritaville

John Cohlan is the chief executive officer of Margaritaville Holdings, a lifestyle brand management company operating in the diversified hospitality business—including resorts, hotels, vacation and active living residential communities, vacation ownership, gaming and restaurants; alcoholic beverages; lifestyle consumer products; and media. The brand inspired by the iconic music, lyrics and life of Jimmy Buffett, is based on the concept of Island Escapism.

Prior to joining Jimmy Buffett in 1997 to form Margaritaville Holdings, Cohlan worked for TRIARC, a publicly traded holding company comprised of consumer businesses, including Arby's, Snapple, and RC Cola.

Cohlan graduated from Princeton University in 1979, attended the London School of Economics, and graduated from the Georgetown Law Center in 1984.

With his wife Louisa and their three sons, Cohlan lives in Palm Beach, Florida during the winter and in Skaneateles, New York during the summer.

Michael C. Coolidge

Chief Investment & Development Officer
HRI Hospitality

Michael Coolidge is chief investment & development officer for HRI Hospitality, based in New Orleans, LA. In this role, Coolidge leads all acquisition, disposition, and new development activities for the hospitality and mixed-use company, which currently owns and operates 31 lodging properties and 40 multi-family facilities in top urban markets throughout the United States. While HRI continues to be a national leader of adaptive reuse projects, it is also growing aggressively through urban new-build projects, value-add acquisitions, and joint venture opportunities. HRI has completed over 90 projects involving more than \$3 billion of investment activity over the past 15 years.

Coolidge was previously senior vice president-real estate & acquisitions for Watermark Capital Partners, a private equity investment firm based in Chicago, and co-advisor of Carey Watermark Investors, Incorporated (CWI), a \$1 billion publicly-registered REIT. In his role at CWI, he was responsible for handling all real estate acquisitions activity as well as supervising the asset management activities related to CWI's portfolio.

Coolidge has also served as vice president of real estate for Hyatt Hotels Corporation, responsible for handling all full-service real estate activity in the western United States and Canada. Earlier in his career, he was with Sage Hospitality overseeing all the company's Urban Heritage Development projects, implementing approximately \$1 billion in real estate development.

Coolidge is a graduate of Cornell University's School of Hotel Administration and Paul Smith's College. He serves as a member of the Dean's Young Alumni Advisory Council for the Cornell School of Hotel Administration.

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Tiffany Cooper

Senior Vice President, Development for the Americas
The Kimpton Hotel & Restaurant Group

Tiffany Cooper is the senior vice president, development for the Americas for The Kimpton Hotel & Restaurant Group. She is responsible for delivering growth to The Kimpton Hotel & Restaurant Group by expanding the development pipeline and footprint for the Americas via quality hotel projects to include conversions, adaptive reuse and new build opportunities. Tiffany is a hospitality professional with over 27 years of experience, having begun her career working in sales & marketing/hotel operations for The Kimpton Group in 1995. Cooper joined Starwood Hotels & Resorts in 1999 and continued working in operations, leading sales teams for various Starwood properties until 2005 when she transitioned to the Real Estate Development Group for Starwood. During this time, she extensively grew Starwood's portfolio, expanding the brand footprint throughout the Western Region. In September, 2016, following the Marriott acquisition of Starwood, Cooper joined the Marriott International development team, focused on full service and luxury hotel development until moving back to Kimpton in April 2018.

Cooper has a Bachelor's Degree in Communications & Public Relations from California State University, a Hotel Real Estate Investments and Asset Management Certificate from Cornell University's Hotel School, and a Master of Business Administration, Hospitality Degree from Johnson & Wales University.

Brian C. Crawford

Executive Vice President of Government Affairs
American Hotel and Lodging Association

Brian Crawford serves as executive vice president of government affairs for the American Hotel and Lodging Association (AHLA). He joined the association in February of 2014 after serving more than eight years as a senior staffer on Capitol Hill. He was promoted to be department head in December 2017.

In this role, Crawford leads the association's advocacy efforts on Capitol Hill and across the country in state capitals, coordinating with key policymakers and stakeholders on AHLA's priority advocacy issues. He also oversees the lodging industry's largest political action committee, Hotel PAC, ensuring that the association's political voice is strong and united by investing in federal candidates who support the industry. In 2020 and 2021, Crawford was recognized by *The Hill* magazine in their annual list of top lobbyists.

Crawford came to AHLA following eight years in the U.S. House of Representatives, having served five years as Chief of Staff to U.S. Congressman Tom Rooney (FL-17). He previously served as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Florida Congressman Ric Keller (FL-08) and held senior roles in other national trade associations.

Eileen Crowley

Partner; Vice Chair – U.S. Transportation, Hospitality and Services Co-Leader
Deloitte & Touche LLP

Eileen Crowley leads Deloitte & Touche LLP's US Audit & Assurance Transportation, Hospitality & Services practice. She has a history of serving large, complex multinational companies on Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) reporting matters, mergers and acquisitions, information technology, and capital transactions. Eileen delivers high quality and well-coordinated Deloitte services. She previously was in Deloitte's National Office, focused on SEC matters and has developed an extensive network of consultative resources across Deloitte's global network of member firms. Crowley is a licensed certified public accountant in Connecticut and Ohio.



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Larry Cuculic

President and Chief Executive Officer
Best Western® Hotels & Resorts

Larry Cuculic is president & CEO of Best Western® Hotels & Resorts. He was appointed to the position by the company's Board of Directors in October 2021 and assumed office in December. Cuculic leads the parent company, BWH Hotel Group®, which is comprised of Best Western Hotels & Resorts, SureStay Hotel Group®, and WorldHotels™ Collection. He oversees the company's global portfolio of 18 dynamic brands, which boasts approximately 4,700 hotels across all chain scale segments. He continues to drive the organization's impressive financial success - with a RevPAR Index reaching a new record level in 2020 of 113.9 - and achieving industry-leading guest loyalty and hotel satisfaction.

Cuculic's vision is to lead through collaboration with the company's Board of Directors, hoteliers, executive leadership, and associates. He recognizes the greatest strength of this global powerhouse brand is its organizational structure, which is founded on empowering the voice of its members. Through this thoughtful, deliberate, collaborative approach, Cuculic is focused on driving the development and execution of BWH Hotel Group's vision, mission, strategic initiatives, policies, and programs.

Cuculic is an active member of hospitality associations and currently sits on the American Hotel & Lodging Association's (AHLA) Executive Committee and serves as a director on the Board of the Arizona Lodging & Tourism Association. Under Cuculic's leadership, BWH Hotel Group will continue to be actively involved in supporting and participating in global industry associations and events. He has made a commitment to build on the company's strong relationships with partners such as AHLA, the U.S. Travel Association, the Asian American Hotel Owners Association, and the Global Business Travel Association, among others.

Since 2009 Cuculic has served as senior vice president, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary for the company. In this role Cuculic was responsible for all legal and governance matters, including serving as counsel for the Board of Directors. Cuculic was also responsible for leading the company's Human Resources team and the brand's Call Center.

Before joining BWH Hotel Group, Cuculic was senior vice president, general counsel, and corporate secretary for Lafayette, Ind.-based Wabash National Corporation (NYSE: WNC). Previously, Cuculic served as Vice President Legal and Corporate Secretary for American Commercial Lines, Inc. in Jeffersonville, Ind., and was a partner in the law firm Gambbs, Mucker & Bauman. Before retiring from the US Army and being awarded the Legion of Merit, Cuculic served as a Judge Advocate General's Corps officer in various legal positions, including appointment as a military judge. His military awards also include three Meritorious Service Medals, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal and the Parachutist Badge.

Cuculic received his BS from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and his JD from Notre Dame Law School. He also earned an LLM degree from the US Army Judge Advocate General's School in Charlottesville, Va., and graduated from the US Army Command and General Staff College in Ft. Leavenworth, Kan. Cuculic is licensed to practice law in the Supreme Court of the United States of America and the Supreme Court of the State of Indiana.

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D

Vijay Dandapani

Chief Executive Officer
Hotel Association of New York City

Vijay Dandapani is a hotel industry veteran who co-founded Apple Core Hotels, an owner-operator of boutique hotels in Manhattan in 1993 and was president of the company until December 2016. He was appointed president and chief executive officer of the Hotel Association in January 2017.

He is an active participant in the hospitality industry and has spoken on hospitality issues at many forums sponsored by organizations such as the Lodging Conference in Phoenix, Arizona, the ALIS conference, University of California at Los Angeles, Columbia University, New York University, and the National Association of Corporate Real Estate Executives.

In 1998, he was recognized by Crain's New York Business as one of the top 100 minority business leaders in New York City. In 2002, the Asian American Business Development Center, New York selected him as one of 50 Outstanding Asian Americans in Business. He has written in a number of industry publications and the mainstream media on topics affecting the hotel industry.

As a part of New York's response to the COVID crisis, Dandapani was appointed by Mayor de Blasio to the COVID-19 Arts, Culture and Tourism Sector Advisory Council. He also was appointed by Governor Cuomo to the "New York Forward Advisory Board" tasked with guiding the State's reopening strategy in the aftermath of the Covid-19 crisis.

Dandapani holds a master's degree from Cornell University's School of Hotel Administration and is a winner of the Aga Khan Foundation Scholar for graduate studies. He also holds the CHAE certification from HFTP.

Pete Dannemiller

Managing Director
Hodges Ward Elliott

Pete Dannemiller is a managing director in the Hospitality Investment Advisory practice at Hodges Ward Elliott. Since joining HWE in 1996, Dannemiller has become one of the leading producers within the firm and the hotel investment sales and financing industry. He has closed sales and financing transactions totaling over \$50 billion in volume during his tenure with the firm, including over \$5 billion in debt placement.

Dannemiller is a frequent speaker at industry events, including the Americas Lodging Investment Summit (ALIS), the Atlanta Hotel Investment Conference, the UNC Real Estate Conference, Hotel Asset Manger's Association (HAMA) Conference, The Lodging Conference, the Midwest Lodging Investment Summit, Meet the Money, and the NYU International Hospitality Industry Investment Conference and has been quoted in *Hotel Business*, *Real Estate Forum*, and *Lodging Hospitality* magazines as a hospitality brokerage expert.

Dannemiller holds a Bachelor of Science in Business from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and an MBA from Emory University.

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Jeffrey Davis

Senior Managing Director, JLL's Hotels & Hospitality
Co-Head, Americas Capital Markets

Jeffrey Davis is a senior managing director of JLL's Hotels & Hospitality Group and co-heads the Americas Full-Service Investment Sales team. He is based in the firm's New York office and as a leading strategist and investment advisor for JLL, he has advised on and transacted in excess of \$50 billion of high profile lodging transactions and hybrid use developments globally in his 18 years with JLL. Davis has been involved in recent high-profile sales and marketing efforts for the Westin Grand Central, The Boca Resort, the Royalton Hotel, and the Lexington Hotel NYC.

For more than 20 years, Davis has been intricately involved in all aspects of real estate in the US from both an institutional and entrepreneurial perspective. With a career as a consultant, investment banker, private developer, and with institutional acquisitions, he has worked with world-renowned institutional real estate companies as well as celebrity entrepreneurs.

Prior to joining JLL, Davis served as vice president of asset management and business development for Ian Schragger at Morgans Hotel Group, where he was responsible for sourcing and structuring over \$100 million of new development projects, including the Gramercy Park Hotel, the Bond Street residential project, and the proposed conversion of the Shore Club in South Beach to a full-service condominium hotel. He gained consulting experience at Arthur Anderson as a national hospitality consultant and corporate finance experience thereafter at Salomon Smith Barney where he completed more than \$15 billion of private and publicly traded real estate transactions.

Davis holds an MBA in real estate finance and strategic planning from the Anderson School at UCLA, and a Bachelor of Science degree from Cornell University's School of Hotel Administration where he graduated with honors.

Sloan F. Dean III

President & CEO
Remington Hotels

Sloan Dean is an award-winning hospitality professional and CEO & president of Remington Hotels. Dean joined Remington Hotels in January 2018 as chief operating officer before being promoted to his current role in January 2020. A graduate of the Georgia Institute of Technology, Dean drives financial results and fosters an accountable and driven culture at the third-party management company, which currently manages 82 hotels in 24 states with annual revenues over \$1 billion. Prior to joining Remington Hotels, Dean worked with established brands including Ashford Inc., Interstate Hotels & Resorts, Alliance Hospitality Management, Noble Investment Group, InterContinental Hotels Group, and Oliver Wyman. He is active in the hospitality community and is a member of the Young Presidents Organization, AH&LA Board of Directors, Hilton's Distribution Owner Advisory Council, and ASFONA Board of Directors, among others. Outside of the office, Dean is a fitness enthusiast and enjoys spending quality time with his kids.

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Michael J. Deitemeyer**President and Chief Executive Officer
Aimbridge Hospitality**

Michael J. Deitemeyer is President and Chief Executive Officer of Aimbridge Hospitality, a leading global hospitality company. In his role, Deitemeyer presides over the Company's growth, operations, and corporate disciplines worldwide with a current portfolio of over 1,500 hotels in 23 countries.

Before his appointment in January 2021, Deitemeyer was Global President of Aimbridge following a merger with Interstate Hotels & Resorts in October 2019. Prior to that, he was President and Chief Executive Officer of Interstate Hotels & Resorts for nearly three years. Deitemeyer had a highly successful tenure with Omni Hotels & Resorts including 13 years as President, helping to grow Omni's organization through management roles in operations, development, sales and finance.

Deitemeyer holds current board memberships with the AHLA Executive Committee (2021-present), the U.S. Travel Association CEO Roundtable (2021-present), the Culinary Institute of America Society of Fellows, and MINA, representing the company as an At-Large Board Member of Marriott International's franchise advisory board (2018-present). Deitemeyer was a founding board member and served as chairperson of the Global Hotel Alliance (GHA), the world's largest alliance of independent hotel brands. In December 2018, Lodging magazine named Deitemeyer its Person of the Year. He is a graduate of Fitchburg State University, where he also received an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters.

Joe Delli Santi**Senior Vice President, Acquisitions and Development
MCR**

Joe Delli Santi is SVP, acquisitions & development, of MCR. In this role, he is responsible for assisting with the company's acquisition, development, and capital markets activities.

Prior to joining MCR in 2016, Delli Santi was a senior associate with Starwood Capital Group, where he was responsible for managing several of the firm's investments in the full- and limited-service hotel sectors. He also served as vice president of corporate development for TMI Hospitality, one of the country's largest hotel owner-operators with a portfolio of more than 180 select service and extended stay properties that Starwood Capital Group acquired in January 2015. In that role, he was responsible for the execution of the firm's growth-related initiatives, the disposition of non-core assets and various other functions.

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E

Sara Eisen

Anchor of CNBC's "Closing Bell"

Sara Eisen is co-anchor of CNBC's "Closing Bell" (M-F, 3PM-5PM ET). She is known for her deep expertise in financial markets and the global economy as well as regular news making interviews with some of the most prominent names in the financial world, including Phil Knight, Leon Black, Janet Yellen, and Christine Lagarde, among others.

Previously, Eisen was co-anchor of the 10AM ET hour on CNBC's "Squawk on the Street" (M-F, 9AM-11AM ET), which broadcasts from Post 9 at the New York Stock Exchange. Before that, she was co-anchor of CNBC's "Power Lunch" (M-F, 2PM-3PM ET) and co-anchor of CNBC's "Worldwide Exchange" (M-F, 5AM-6AM ET), both of which broadcast from CNBC Global Headquarters in Englewood Cliffs, NJ. She joined CNBC in December 2013 as a correspondent, focusing on the global consumer.

Prior to CNBC, Eisen was co-anchor of "Bloomberg Surveillance" as well as a correspondent for Bloomberg Television, where she covered global macroeconomics, policy, and business. During that time, she covered the European debt crisis, and the tsunami aftermath and Fukushima nuclear crisis in Japan. Eisen also hosted the Bloomberg Radio program, "On the Economy."

She is the editor of "Currencies After the Crash: The Uncertain Future of the Global Paper-Based Currency System" published by McGraw-Hill in Jan. 2013.

Eisen holds a master's degree in broadcast journalism with a concentration in business reporting from the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University.

Scott Ellman

Managing Director Eastdil Secured

Scott Ellman is a managing director with Eastdil Secured in New York. He has more than 14 years of real estate experience advising clients on sales, financings, and strategic capital markets activities in both the United States and Europe. He is responsible for marketing and sourcing single asset, portfolio, and structured joint venture transactions within the commercial real estate capital markets, with a specific focus on hospitality related transactions. . Ellman joined Eastdil Secured in 2007 and has since participated in the sale, financing and capital raising of over \$50.0 billion in transactions. Prior to joining Eastdil Secured, He held internship positions with the Buccini/Pollin Group, a full-service real estate ownership and development company based in Wilmington, DE and HVS International, a leading hospitality consulting and appraisal firm based in Mineola, NY. Ellman received his BS in Hotel Restaurant and Institutional Management with a minor in Business Administration from the University of Delaware in 2007 and is a licensed real estate salesperson in the State of New York.



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Deric S. Eubanks

Chief Financial Officer
Ashford

Deric Eubanks is the chief financial officer of Ashford (NYSE American: AINC) and serves as the chief financial officer of both Ashford Hospitality Trust (NYSE: AHT) and Braemar Hotels & Resorts (NYSE: BHR).

Eubanks oversees all corporate finance and financial reporting initiatives and is involved in all capital market activities including equity raises and debt financings. He also oversees investor relations. Eubanks formerly served as the senior vice president of finance. Prior to this role, he was vice president of investments and was responsible for sourcing and underwriting hotel investments including direct equity investments, joint venture equity, preferred equity, mezzanine loans, first mortgages, B-notes, construction loans, and other debt securities for Ashford Trust.

Eubanks has been with Ashford Trust since its initial public offering in August of 2003. He has written several articles for industry publications and is a frequent speaker at industry conferences and industry round tables. Before joining Ashford, he was a manager of financial analysis for ClubCorp, where he assisted in underwriting and analyzing investment opportunities in the golf and resort industries. Eubanks earned a BBA from Southern Methodist University and is a CFA charter holder. He is a member of the CFA Institute and the CFA Society of Dallas-Fort Worth.

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F

Franco Famularo

Chief Investment Officer
Ohana Real Estate Investors

Franco Famularo joined Ohana Real Estate Investors in 2015 and serves as chief investment officer. He is responsible for directing Ohana's credit and equity investment strategies and helping to set the strategic direction for the organization. Since joining the firm, Famularo has been instrumental in the creation of Ohana's fund and separate account businesses and in establishing Ohana as a leading investor and lender in the hotel sector. Prior to joining Ohana, Famularo was a principal at Blackstone in New York, where he focused on opportunistic and distressed investing across multiple property types and served as an advisor to Starrett Companies, a residential and commercial real estate investment platform that was a Blackstone portfolio company. Famularo currently serves on the Board of Directors for Montage International. He graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and received an MBA from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University.

Warren Feldman

Chief Executive Officer
Nehmer/HVS Design

Warren Feldman, AIA, ISHC is chief executive officer of Nehmer, a leading architecture, interior design, and project management firm specializing in the Hospitality industry. He is also a principal with HVS Design. With more than 35 years of experience, his expertise includes work as architect and owner's representative in the direction and management of multi-million dollar commercial, institutional, educational, residential, and hospitality projects.

Prior to joining Nehmer, Feldman worked on the feasibility, design, and construction of diverse projects including hotels, high rise commercial corporate headquarters, educational facilities, civic projects, and housing development projects.

He received his Bachelor and Master of Architecture degree from the Washington University in St. Louis and is a member of the American Institute of Architects. Complementing his education in architecture, Feldman completed his Juris Doctorate from Georgetown University in December, 1999, and is a member of the Maryland Bar.

William J. Ferguson

Chairman
Ferguson Partners

William J. Ferguson serves as chairman of Ferguson Partners. He conducts chief executive officer searches and recruiting assignments for Boards of Trustees/Directors. He also conducts CEO succession planning assignments and facilitates public company Board assessments and senior management assessments.

Before founding Ferguson Partners, he was a managing director with one of the leading international executive recruiting consultants. There, he co-managed the firm's national real estate practice. Prior to focusing on real estate, he worked for General Mills in Minneapolis in strategic marketing.

Ferguson holds a bachelor's degree from Harvard University, where he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, and an MBA in Marketing from the Wharton Graduate School of Business.



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Bill Fortier

**Senior Vice President Development, Americas
Hilton**

William B. Fortier was named senior vice president – development, Americas in June 2008. He is responsible for developing both the managed and franchised businesses for all of Hilton’s brands in both North and South America, A&C Americas and Contract Services and Owner Relations.

Fortier joined Hilton in 1996 as VP franchise development, where he worked with owners to develop Hilton and Hilton Garden Inn franchised hotels in the western US. At that time Hilton Hotels Corporation had just over 250 hotels. Prior to Hilton, he spent 10 years at Marriott International where he was vice president of development, and prior to that was a consultant with Pannell Kerr Forester for just under four years from 1983 to 1996.

Fortier earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Hotel/Restaurant Management from the University of Houston’s Conrad N. Hilton College of Hotel and Restaurant Management in 1983.

Greg Friedman

**Managing Principal, Chief Executive Officer
Peachtree Hotel Group**

Greg Friedman has successfully led Peachtree in more than \$6.0 billion in hotel acquisitions, investments and development since co-founding the company.

Friedman has more than 22 years of hospitality experience with an emphasis on deal-structuring and financing. He was formerly senior vice president of business development for Specialty Finance Group, a direct lender providing hotel-first mortgage and FF&E financing, originating more than \$2 billion of hotel debt. Previously, he was vice president of Business Development for GMAC Commercial Mortgage’s Asset-Backed Lending Division. He originated, closed, and funded more than 300 hospitality FF&E financing transactions with an aggregate capital structure exceeding \$10 billion during his six-year tenure.

Friedman holds a Bachelor of Arts in Biology from the University of Texas at Austin. He currently is a board member for the American Hotel & Lodging Association.

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G

Matt Gaghen

CEO
Under Canvas

Matt Gaghen is the CEO of Under Canvas, the leader in upscale, outdoor hospitality, with 10 resorts in North America and more in development. He joined Under Canvas from KSL Capital Partners where he was a principal on the strategic operating team and responsible for oversight of investments in the hospitality, wellness, and ski sectors. Before this, Gaghen held senior positions at Starwood Hotels, where he focused on brand growth, loyalty and innovation.

Gaghen earned his Master of Business Administration from the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth and his undergraduate degree from Amherst College. Based in Denver, Gaghen is an outdoor enthusiast and loves to spend time with his family in the mountains of Colorado and Montana where he grew up.

Stacy Garcia

Chief Executive Officer and Chief Inspiration Officer
Stacy Garcia

An established leader in the world of design, Stacy Garcia is a successful serial entrepreneur. She is the founder of LebaTex, Inc., a distinctive textile supplier, Creator of Stacy Garcia, Inc., a licensing and design company that produces fashion and interior products under the Stacy Garcia family of brands and also the Publisher of Life-Styled by Garcia, a digital design publication that covers the intersection between interior design, travel, fashion and entertaining. Her newest foray is in the world of Ecommerce with her curated shop, shopstacygarcia.com.

Respected for her inventive use of color and remarkable pattern design skills, Garcia knows the hospitality, home decor and lifestyle design industries, inside and out. This internationally renowned designer has partnered with some of the world's leading manufacturers and retailers to create products that span from floor to ceiling for resorts and homes all over the world.

As a forecasting and design expert, Garcia has been published in Interior Design, Boutique Design, Interiors & Sources, Bloomberg Business, LUXE, Architectural Digest & Traditional Home to name a few.

Jeffrey Gangl

Chief Commercial Officer
Templum

Jeffrey Gangl has more than 25 years of global experience and a proven track record of driving sales growth, managing change, scaling operations, and developing technology products. An expert in financial services and technology markets, he leads Templum's commercial and development strategies. Templum relies on his strategic business development, sales management, and operations optimization skills to drive revenue. Previously, he served as chief revenue officer at InsiderScore. His executive leadership experience includes Duco, Ullink - now part of Itiviti, Raptor Trading Systems, and Thomson Reuters. In addition, Gangl is a regular speaker at conferences covering technology, finance, alternative assets, and the evolving financial industry.

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Laurence Geller

Chairman
Geller Capital Partners

Laurence S. Geller CBE, chairman of Geller Capital Partners, is an accomplished businessman and entrepreneur, having led multinational, hospitality and tourism corporations. In 1997, he founded Strategic Hotels & Resorts. Previously, he held positions as EVP and COO of Hyatt Development Corporation, SVP of Holiday Inns, and director of Grand Metropolitan Hotels. Geller serves on the Board of Michels & Taylor. He previously served as chairman of the IREFAC for six non-consecutive terms. He is the founder and CEO of Loveday and Company, a UK-based developer and operator of luxury dementia care residential facilities. Philanthropically, he serves on the Boards of Children's Memorial Hospital, British American Business Consul, the American Jewish Committee, the Culinary Institute of America, and For the Love of the Game. Geller is chairman of the Board of Trustees for the International Churchill Society. He is the leading donor to the University of West London where he is chancellor. He serves on the Board of the Royal United Services Institute for Defense & Security Studies (RUSI), is Chairman of the Imperial War Museum USA and the Atlas Foundation USA. On December 31, 2011, Geller was named a Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. He has over 50 years of experience in lodging and has received numerous awards for service to the industry and his civic endeavors.

Sourav Ghosh

Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer
Host Hotels & Resorts

Sourav Ghosh joined Host Hotels & Resorts in 2009, and has served as chief financial officer since 2020. Previously, he served as executive vice president, strategy & analytics and as vice president, global business intelligence & portfolio strategy. Prior to joining Host, Ghosh held several positions at Starwood Hotels & Resorts, including senior director of real estate investments and director of acquisitions & development. He currently serves on the board of directors of the US Travel Association, as well as Uniform System of Accounts for the Lodging Industry.

Ariane Gorin

President
Expedia for Business

As president of Expedia for Business, Ariane Gorin is responsible for Expedia Group's global B2B business covering an ecosystem of travel suppliers, organizations that advertise on the Expedia Group platform, and partners that are powered by Expedia Group technology. From hotels and vacation rentals to airlines, financial institutions, travels agents and more—this fast-growing division helps partners connect with new travelers, deliver valuable services, and drive performance. Gorin also oversaw Egencia, the leading digital travel management platform, before its sale to American Express Global Business Travel in 2021.

Previously Gorin was president of Expedia Business Services, comprised of Expedia Partner Solutions and Egencia. Gorin joined Expedia Group in 2013 as vice president of Market Management for EMEA and rapidly expanded the hotel network in the region. Prior to joining Expedia Group, Gorin spent 20 years at Microsoft in various sales, distribution, and marketing roles. Before joining Microsoft, she was a consultant with the Boston Consulting Group, both in San Francisco and in Paris.

Gorin earned an MBA from the Kellogg Graduate School of Management, Northwestern University and a BA in Economics from the University of California at Berkeley. She currently serves on the board of directors of Adecco Group, and is on the advisory council of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in London.



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Nicolas Graf, PhD

Jonathan M. Tisch Chaired Professor and Associate Dean
NYU School of Professional Studies Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality

Nicolas Graf, PhD, is the Jonathan M. Tisch chaired professor and associate dean of the NYU School of Professional Studies Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality. Prior to this, he served as chief academic officer of Les Roches Global Hospitality Education, managing director at Alain Ducasse, and professor and director of the IMHI Center at ESSEC Business School in Paris. He earned a PhD from Virginia Tech and is a graduate of the Ecole hôtelière de Lausanne.

He has published in numerous academic journals in the fields of finance and strategy, including the *International Journal of Hospitality Management*, *The Real Estate Finance Journal*, and the *Journal of Retail & Leisure Property*.

Over the past 20 years, he has delivered executive education courses for various companies in Asia, the Middle East, Africa, North and South America, and Europe, and he has conducted several consulting projects in the fields of asset management, strategic planning, and business development.



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H

Jenna Hackett

**Global Brand Head, Curio & Tapestry Collections
Hilton**

Jenna Hackett is the global head of Curio and Tapestry Collections by Hilton, responsible for the strategic direction, vision, growth and performance of the upscale full-service collection brands.

Hackett has been with Hilton since 2011, in a series of escalating and cross-departmental roles. She was involved in developing Hilton's Executive Compensation function, and working on compensation elements, leading up to the 2013 IPO. She then transitioned onto the Full Service Brands Team and worked to help launch and establish Curio Collection by Hilton, spending significant time defining the meaning of collection brands within Hilton. In addition to her work on Curio Collection, she was promoted to oversee Brand Management, strategic planning and support for Hilton Hotels & Resorts and DoubleTree by Hilton. Keeping her current role, she then moved into a dual role within Brands and Development, working to strategically grow Hilton's Full Service Brands, specifically Curio Collection. In this dual role, she worked closely with Hilton's Development Team, owners and the Brand Management Team to drive growth. She worked to develop, launch and establish Tapestry Collection by Hilton, defining Hilton's full service collection brands strategy based on market segment. In addition, she supported the brand development, launch, and strategic direction of Signia by Hilton, overseeing the brand's day-to-day activity when it was first established.

Before her time at Hilton, Hackett spent several years with the HR Policy Association, working for The Center of Executive Compensation, where she was responsible for tracking the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), legislative events and lobbying on behalf of the Association. Prior to that, Hackett worked for a Member of Parliament in the House of Commons in London and for a United States Senator in the Senate in Washington, DC. Hackett holds a BA in Political Science, an MBA from the Kogod School of Business at American University, and a Graduate Certificate in Real Estate Investments from Harvard University.

Steve Hafner

**CEO
KAYAK**

Steve Hafner is the CEO of KAYAK. Booking Holdings acquired KAYAK for \$2.1B in 2013. He also oversees OpenTable, the world's leading provider of online restaurant reservations. Hafner also helped launch Orbitz, the online travel agency, through its \$1.3B IPO in 2003. He earned a BA from Dartmouth College and an MBA from the Kellogg School at Northwestern University.

Bill Hall

**Senior Vice President, Development
Radisson Hotel Group Americas**

Bill Hall serves as senior vice president, development for Radisson Hotel Group Americas. Hall is responsible for the development of Radisson Hotel Group Americas' brands in the Western region of the US and Canada. He reports to Phil Hugh, chief development officer.

Hall comes to Radisson Hotel Group Americas with more than 25 years of experience in the hospitality industry in senior positions. Most recently, he served as senior vice president of franchise operations for Red Roof. In this role, he oversaw all franchise operations for the brand, helping the company achieve financial goals and business objectives, while supporting new initiatives and rollouts. Prior to that, Hall was the chief business development officer for InnFocus Hospitality Solutions, where he negotiated investment and third-party management contracts and provided oversight of hotel specific operations, sales, and marketing plans. He also spent 17 years with Wyndham Worldwide Corporation as a senior vice president, providing executive oversight of six brands, setting strategic direction, and managing financial and operating results while driving development.

Hall is a graduate of Fairleigh Dickinson University where he earned an MS from the International School of Hotel, Restaurant & Tourism Management. He received his undergraduate degree from Messiah College with a BA in History & Business Management.



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Elizabeth Harlow

**Chief Marketing & Brand Officer
Sonesta International Hotels Corporation**

Elizabeth Harlow was appointed chief marketing & brand officer for Sonesta International Hotels Corporation in May 2021. Her focus in this new role for Sonesta is building and defining the Sonesta brands, analyzing the loyalty program to clearly articulate the value proposition and engagement strategy, and optimizing the overarching user-experience throughout the entire customer journey. In addition to implementing these strategic objectives, Harlow leads marketing initiatives to steer hotel growth, build brand equity, and activate customer lifetime value.

With more than two decades in brand strategy and marketing, Harlow has mastered the perfect juxtaposition of brand, service and luxury, while seamlessly driving financial results. She has held leadership roles with some of the world's most iconic hospitality brands: from the luxury and lifestyle brands at Starwood (W Hotels, The Luxury Collection, Le Meridien, and St. Regis) to The Leading Hotels of the World, to Bellagio, her approach is laser-focused on the brand and customer to develop affinity, evangelism and customer lifetime value.

With a deep foundational belief that marketing is "Part Art, Part Science", Harlow is a self-described "analytics junkie", and knows that decision making needs to be guided and routed in data. This guiding principle applies across all aspects of brand and marketing verticals: from strategic branding and thinking to tactical decisions and channel management to human resource optimization. This can be achieved while concurrently, and essentially, building brands full of purpose and emotional connectivity to the customer.

Harlow holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Business and Economics with a marketing concentration from Richmond University in London, England.

Greg Hartmanntie

**Senior Vice President, Luxury, Resort, Residential & Corporate Development
Hilton**

Greg Hartmann oversees the development and conversion of luxury hotels and residences for Waldorf Astoria, Conrad, LXR, and major Hilton projects in markets throughout North America including the largest single asset development in the company's 100-year history at Resorts World Las Vegas opening in 2021.

Previously, he was managing director of JLL's Hotel Asset Management & Advisory Services Group from 2011 to 2017. Before that time, Hartmann was the co-founder of STR Analytics with Randy Smith, and an MAI and managing director of HVS International for over 23 years.

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J. Robison Hays

**President & Chief Executive Officer
Ashford Hospitality Trust**

J. Robison Hays, III is the president and chief executive officer of Ashford Hospitality Trust (NYSE: AHT) and the senior managing director of Ashford (NYSE American: AINC). He is also a member of the Board of Directors of Ashford Trust.

Hays has nearly two decades of business experience operating and growing companies, including 15 years of real estate experience. Previously, he served as Chief Strategy Officer for Ashford, Ashford Trust and Braemar Hotels & Resorts (NYSE: BHR). He also served as Co-President for Ashford. Prior to these roles he served as Senior Vice President Corporate Finance & Strategy for Ashford Trust and Braemar Hotels & Resorts.

During his tenure at Ashford, Mr. Hays has been responsible for leading the execution of key strategic and operating initiatives. He has overseen financial analyses related to mergers, acquisitions, divestitures, refinancing, hedging, capital market transactions and major capital outlays. Prior to 2013, in addition to his other responsibilities, Mr. Hays was in charge of Ashford Trust's investor relations efforts. Mr. Hays is a frequent speaker at industry and Wall Street investor conferences.

Prior to joining Ashford, Mr. Hays worked in the Corporate Development office of Dresser, Inc., a Dallas based oil field service and manufacturing company, where he focused on mergers, acquisitions, and strategic direction. Before working at Dresser, Mr. Hays was a member of the Merrill Lynch Global Power & Energy Investment Banking Group based in Texas.

Mr. Hays earned his A.B. in Politics with a certificate in Political Economy from Princeton University and later studied philosophy at the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross in Rome, Italy.

Michael Heaton

**President
Waterford Hotel Group**

Michael Heaton is president of Waterford Hotel Group. His responsibilities at Waterford include all aspects of ongoing operations for the firm, including all facets of operating the managed portfolio. Additionally, he develops and maintains relationships with potential institutional, financial, and individual partners to grow the company's management portfolio. Since joining the company in 1997, Heaton has held numerous management positions at hotels before assuming the role of vice president, operations in 2009, and then president in 2018. He is a member of the Board of Directors for the American Hotel & Lodging Association and a past president of the Connecticut Lodging Association. Heaton holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from the State University of New York - Albany.

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Sean Hennessey

Clinical Assistant Professor**NYU School of Professional Studies, Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality**

Clinical Assistant Professor Sean Hennessey joined the NYU School of Professional Studies Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality as a full-time faculty in 2014, after more than 20 years as an adjunct. He received the NYU SPS Teaching Excellence Award in 2017 and now coordinates the Tisch Center's Finance and Investment Academic Community of Practice. He has taught a range of courses, but focuses on development, finance, and investment analysis.

Hennessey worked in operations with companies such as Marriott and Disney before transitioning to consulting with HVS and PwC prior to forming Lodging Advisors. He holds an AS in Culinary Arts from Johnson & Wales University, a BS in Hotel Administration from Cornell University, an MBA from Quantic School, and has the MAI designation from the Appraisal Institute.

Hennessey is a contributing author to the texts *Hotel Investments: Issues and Perspectives, 5th ed.*, as well as *Hotel Asset Management, 3rd ed.*, both published by the American Hotel & Lodging Association.

He is active with the International Association of Hospitality Financial Management Educators, is co-chair of the Lodging Industry Investment Council, and Chairman Emeritus of the International Society of Hospitality Consultants.

Among his many citations as an expert, Hennessey has appeared on CNN's "Headline News" and the Travel Channel's "Hotel Impossible," has been quoted by *The Wall Street Journal* and *The New York Times*, and has presented to the Council on Foreign Relations and at many hotel industry conferences.

Kate B. Henriksen

Co-Chief Investment Officer**RLJ**

A veteran RLJ executive, Kate B. Henriksen has overseen the underwriting on completed transactions totaling \$8 billion, including the merger with FelCor Lodging Trust. She has also been involved in RLJ's capital recycling program, marketing for sale nearly \$3.7 billion in sold assets. When RLJ was privately held, she also oversaw the portfolio management function and her responsibilities included tracking the performance of the company's investment portfolios, assisting with capital raising efforts and managing relationships with investors in RLJ's investment funds. Prior to joining RLJ in 2002, Henriksen served as a director of development planning and feasibility at Marriott International. Her experience also includes consulting on and appraising more than \$4 billion in existing and proposed lodging facilities for HVS International. Henriksen received a bachelor's degree from Cornell University's School of Hotel Administration. She currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors of Stratus Properties.

Tyler Henritze

Head of Strategic Investments**Blackstone Real Estate Americas**

Tyler Henritze is currently the head of strategic investments for Blackstone Real Estate Americas and previously served as the head of acquisitions Americas. Since joining Blackstone in 2004, Henritze has been involved in over \$100 billion of real estate investments across all property types; notable transactions include the acquisition of QTS Realty Trust, Simply Self Storage, the Bellagio, Gramercy Capital, International Market Center, Strategic Hotels, Motel 6, The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas, Extended Stay America, Equity Office Properties and CarrAmerica. He currently serves as a board member of QTS Realty Trust, The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas, Extended Stay America and IMC, and is a former board member of Hilton Worldwide, Park Hotels, and La Quinta.

Before joining Blackstone, Henritze worked in the Real Estate Investment Banking group at Merrill Lynch. Henritze earned a BS in Commerce from The McIntire School at the University of Virginia where he graduated with distinction.

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Lonny Henry

Global Chairman of Investment Banking
J.P. Morgan

Lonny Henry is a global chairman of investment banking at J.P. Morgan. He specializes in providing strategic and financial advice to public company and financial sponsor clients with activities in the commercial real estate and lodging sectors. Prior to joining J.P. Morgan in 2008,

Henry worked at Bear Stearns and was global head of the Real Estate, Gaming, and Lodging Group. He is a member of IREFAC, NAREIT, and The Real Estate Roundtable. Henry was the recipient of the 2012 IREFAC C. Everett Johnson Award, and was also awarded in 2005 the inaugural Jack A. Shaffer Financial Advisor of The Year Award.

Tim Hentschel

Co-Founder and CEO
HotelPlanner

Tim Hentschel is the co-founder and CEO of HotelPlanner, a leading travel technology company that combines proprietary artificial intelligence capabilities and a 24/7 global gig-based reservations and customer service network. He oversees HotelPlanner's family of brands, which include its flagship site HotelPlanner.com and its business-focused site Meetings.com. Hentschel is a third-generation hotelier and a graduate of the Cornell University School of Hotel Administration with a degree in hotel management and a concentration in micro-computing. In 2018, his alma mater awarded him their prestigious Innovator of the Year Award. He created the annual American Group Travel Awards, which donates its proceeds to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. He currently resides in Singapore, overseeing Asia-Pac operations and has plans to return to the company's London office in 2022.

Michael Hiles

Founder & CEO
10XTS

Michael Hiles is the founder & CEO of 10XTS, a provider of inter-institutional universal tokenization market infrastructure technology for the emerging, global, decentralized capital markets. Its flagship product is XDEX, a governance, risk, and compliance solution that brings DeFi efficiencies to traditional capital markets while ensuring data and records portability and ownership for securities issuers and their investors within well-defined regulatory compliance frameworks. Hiles and his team help institutional clients execute on their digital transformation directives through the adoption of efficient trust technologies like blockchain and distributed ledgers.

Hiles began his career in the early 1990s as a software developer for government information systems platforms. In 2000, his team won a Smithsonian Laureate Award for being the first to ever connect a judicial system to the worldwide web. He regularly speaks and is regarded as an expert in information governance, risk, and compliance systems and automation in both public and private sectors.

Roger G. Hill II

Chairman and CEO
The Gettys Group Companies

Roger G. Hill II is chairman and CEO of The Gettys Group Companies, a leading hospitality development, branding, design, and procurement firm he cofounded in 1988. He regularly contributes to top publications and media outlets, including *Bloomberg*, *Crain's Chicago*, *Hospitality Design*, *Boutique Design*, *Hotel Business*, and *The Wall Street Journal*. He has earned several accolades, including Hospitality Design's prestigious Platinum Circle Award and The Cornell Hospitality Innovator Award. In addition to numerous speaking engagements, Hill has served as an appointed delegate for the White House Conference on Small Business and on the Dean's Advisory Board at Cornell University's Hotel School. He championed the 2020 relaunch of The Hotel of Tomorrow Project, a global think tank envisioning the future of the hospitality industry. In 2021, he supported the launch of the Arboreal Collection, a sustainable, modular carpet tile solution made in collaboration with Milliken Hospitality. Emerging Leaders" lists.



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Amanda Hite

President
STR

Amanda W. Hite, STR's president since 2011, oversees the company's business activities and overall direction.

Under Hite's leadership, STR has experienced substantial growth in its global presence, client base, data coverage and revenue. Her time with the company has also resulted in several significant milestones, including the 2016 unification of STR's global brands, and the implementation of a number of key industry deliverables. Additionally, Hite led STR through the company's acquisition by CoStar Group (NASDAQ: CSGP) in late 2019.

Hite's accomplishments have been recognized with inclusion in "30 Influential Women in Hospitality" and "40 Under 40 Emerging Leaders" lists.

Hite is a member of the Board of Directors of the American Hotel & Lodging Association and the US Travel Association. She also serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the Nashville Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta and on the Industry Advisory Board of the Hotel and Restaurant Management Program at Auburn University.

Prior to joining STR in 2006, Hite was the director of research for the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce.

She is a graduate of Birmingham-Southern College with a BS in Business Administration. She resides in Hendersonville, TN, with her husband and two children.

Richard Holden

VP & GM, Travel
Google

Richard Holden oversees the team behind Google's travel products. In this role, he manages a team of product managers and software engineers to define, build, and launch new features and enhancements related to Google's hotel, flight, and destination search offerings

Prior to joining the travel team, Holden worked on the Google AdWords product management team in a variety of roles from 2002 to 2013.

Holden joined Google from Excite@Home, where he was senior director of product development. Prior to joining @Home Network, he worked at America Online and Knight-Ridder Information Services. Earlier in his career, he was a special assistant to the Secretary of the Treasury during the first Bush Administration and was an investment banking analyst with Credit Suisse First Boston.

Holden earned an MBA and a JD with honors from Stanford Graduate School of Business and Stanford Law School. He earned an AB in history, *magna cum laude*, from Princeton University.

Mark S. Hoplamazian

President and Chief Executive Officer
Hyatt Hotels Corporation

Mark S. Hoplamazian was appointed to Hyatt Hotels Corporation's board of directors in November 2006 and subsequently named president and chief executive officer in December 2006. Prior to his present position, Hoplamazian served as president of The Pritzker Organization (TPO), the principal financial and investment adviser for Pritzker family business interests. During his 17-year tenure with TPO, he served as adviser to numerous Pritzker family-owned companies, including Hyatt Hotels Corporation and its predecessors. He previously worked in international mergers and acquisitions at The First Boston Corporation in New York. Hoplamazian serves on the American Hotel and Lodging Association (AHLA) board of directors, the VF Corporation board of directors, the board of directors for Brand USA as board treasurer, the executive committee of the board of directors of World Business Chicago, and the board of trustees of the Aspen Institute and the Latin School of Chicago. Hoplamazian is a member of the World Travel & Tourism Council and the Commercial Club of Chicago. He is a member of the Discovery Class of the Henry Crown Fellowship.



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Jeffrey A. Horwitz

Partner and Co-Head, Private Equity Real Estate and Hospitality, Gaming & Leisure Groups
Proskauer

Jeffrey A. Horwitz is a partner in Proskauer's Corporate Department, where he co-heads the Private Equity Real Estate practice and runs the firm's internationally recognized Hospitality, Gaming & Leisure Group. He also has served as co-head of mergers and acquisitions and as a member of Proskauer's executive committee. Horwitz is a general corporate and securities lawyer with broad-based experience in mergers and acquisitions, cross-border transactions, and long-term joint ventures. He regularly is engaged to advise boards, management teams, and investors on strategic matters, from litigation to personnel to transactions. He also is the head of the firm's cross-disciplinary, cross-jurisdictional Coronavirus Taskforce, helping to shape the guidance and next steps for clients impacted by the pandemic.

Horwitz counsels clients on the full range of their activities, from seed capital to public offerings, acquisitions, and operational matters, often acting as outside general counsel. He regularly represents major financial institutions, sovereign wealth funds, private equity, and family offices in sophisticated financial and other transactions. He has handled deals aggregating more than \$200 billion in value, including tender offers, "going-private" transactions, IPOs, restructuring and structured finance transactions, and mergers and acquisitions in industries as diverse as biotechnology and aerospace, retail and cable television, and education and scrap metal. He regularly handles transactions outside the United States, including Europe, the Middle East, Asia, Latin America, Australia, South Africa, and India.

Leading Proskauer's Private Equity Real Estate Group, Horwitz works with a team of 75 lawyers from across the firm advising on complex transactions and disputes relating to real estate, and particularly lodging. As co-head of the firm's Hospitality, Gaming & Leisure Group, he has handled virtually every type of matter and has worked with virtually every major player in these industries, including transactions for nearly 3,500 hotels comprising more than 275,000 rooms and involving more than \$12 billion. Horwitz's experience, both in and outside the US, extends to hotel and casino development and construction, portfolio and single-property acquisitions, sales and restructurings, financings, management, marketing, reservations systems, litigation counseling and strategic planning, and ancillary services. This breadth of work is key to executing complex and sophisticated transactions for clients such as Accor, Fortress, Gehr Hospitality, Rubicon, and Yucaipa, among others.

Daniel A. Hostettler

President & Chief Executive Officer
The Boca Raton

MAn esteemed luxury hospitality leader known for his innovative approach, Daniel A. Hostettler's distinguished career includes over 25 years of hotel, restaurant and private club experience. As the President & CEO of The Boca Raton, Hostettler is guiding the iconic property's renaissance and evolution into an unrivaled luxury destination. His recent appointment to The Boca Raton represents an exceptional career milestone of leading nine hotels through significant openings and transformations.

Most recently, Hostettler spent 12 years as president and group managing director of Ocean House Management Collection where he oversaw every aspect of five award-winning New England properties, including Ocean House (Watch Hill, RI)—one of only 13 Triple Five-Star Hotels in the world; Weekapaug Inn (Westerly, RI)—a Forbes Five-Star hotel; Watch Hill Inn (Watch Hill, RI); Inn at Hastings Park (Lexington, MA); and Preserve Sporting Club & Residences (Richmond, RI). All of the hotels are part of the prestigious Relais & Châteaux association of privately owned luxury hotels.

Previously, Hostettler served as president and managing director of Lajitas, a Texas destination resort. There, he oversaw operations and development, including a championship golf course and country club, world-class spa, airport, equestrian facilities and residential community. Previous leadership roles include managing director at La Posada de Santa Fe Resort & Spa in Santa Fe, NM, and Summer Lodge Hotel and Spa in Dorset, England, as well as tenures at Meadowood, Napa Valley and the Peninsula Beverly Hills.

Hostettler is a member of the Cornell Hotel Society and a Trustee of the Culinary Institute of America.

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Todd Hricko**Head of Global Hotel Business Development
Hard Rock Hotels**

Todd Hricko spearheads the business development of Hard Rock Hotels around the globe. As its head of global hotel business development, he plays an essential role in identifying strategic markets, sites to develop and assets to convert to Hard Rock Hotels. Throughout his career, Hricko has executed over \$10 billion in hotel transactions with industry-leading hotel owners and operators such as Host Resorts, CNL Hospitality, MetLife, KSL, Tishman, Interstate, Marriott, Hilton, Wyndham Vacation Ownership, and Hyatt.

Jennifer Hsieh**Vice president of Homes & Villas
Marriott International**

Jennifer Hsieh is vice president of Homes & Villas by Marriott International, leading the development and growth of Marriott's first entry into the home rental business. The launch of Homes & Villas brings thousands of premium and luxury homes in global destinations for Marriott Bonvoy members, expanding choice in accommodation for all their travel needs. Prior to this role, she served as VP, CX Innovation, guiding enterprise innovation for the largest hotel company in the world. In her role, she brought together innovation, business strategy, and a deep understanding of consumers to innovate for Marriott's portfolio of 30 brands. Since joining Marriott, Hsieh has delivered market industry-leading concepts in meetings, reimaged the food & beverage experience in our hotels, designed and launched new business adjacencies, introduced emerging technologies into guest rooms (voice and Internet of Things) and led Marriott's pilot into the home-sharing industry. She is a frequent speaker on Innovation, Emerging Technologies, Customer-Centricity, and Future Trends in the Short Term Rental Industry. She was named one of the Top 25 most influential people in the meetings industry in 2014, received a Leadership Award in Innovation by Great Places to Work in 2019 and was recognized as one of ten leaders in The Short-Term Rental Industry 2020: Ones to Watch.

Prior to Marriott, Hsieh led strategic growth initiatives as part of Target Corporation's Strategy & Innovation division and at Deloitte Consulting, advising on customer and market strategies that drive top-line growth.

Hsieh earned an MBA from Darden Business School and a BA from the University of Virginia. She resides in Bethesda, MD with her husband and three sons.



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Andy Ingraham

President, Founder and Chief Executive Officer

National Association of Black Hotel Owners, Operators & Developers (NABHOOD)

Andrew “Andy” Ingraham is a current resident of Broward County, Florida and was born in Nassau, Bahamas. He has fused culture and commerce throughout his professional life. During college he started working in corporate America but became interested in becoming an entrepreneur like his parents and their parents in The Bahamas. He then established a business in the US focusing on marketing & the tourism industry, developing specific expertise in African American, Multicultural and Caribbean tourism.

Ingraham first started by marketing South Florida’s tourism and services to the Bahamas & Caribbean islands. He launched Horizons Marketing Group Intl., his first company in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The focus of his company was to provide marketing services & travel packages for Bahamian & Caribbean travelers to South Florida. The company’s name was later changed to Horizons International Group, increasing its scope of work. Ingraham was instrumental in expanding its marketing and public relations business with special emphasis on African American and multicultural tourism. He has over 30 years in the travel & tourism industry, developing specific expertise in African American, Multicultural and Caribbean tourism. Horizons created programs for international, domestic and Caribbean destinations seeking to access the growing African American and multicultural market. He has worked with many clients to create conferences including the Vibe Music Conference, FUBU Y2G, Impact and Revolt Music Conference. He was responsible for recruiting the American Tennis Association (ATA) to Fort Lauderdale and the Acapulco Black Film Festival from Mexico to Miami when they are today as American Black Film Festival (ABFF).

Later, Ingraham saw the opportunity in African American & multicultural tourism and began searching for ways hotels could cater to a more diverse population. He founded the National Association of Black Hotel Owners, Operators & Developers (NABHOOD) in 2001. He is president/CEO of NABHOOD. He has created partnerships with many of the hotel brands including Marriott, Hilton, Choice, Starwood, Wyndham, IHG, Best Western and others, with a purpose to grow African American ownership. NABHOOD members run some of the largest hotels in the United States. The largest hotel in many cities including the Marriott Marquis is owned by a board member of NABHOOD. Today NABHOOD members have more than 1,500 hotels both domestically and internationally with an expectation of that number increasing to over 2,000 hotels in the next two years. The National Association of Black Hotel Owners, Operators & Developers, was formed with its mission statement “to increase the number of African-Americans developing, managing, operating and owning hotels; increase vendor opportunities and executive level jobs for minorities thereby creating wealth within the African-American community.”

Ingraham serves on the National Tourism Advisory Committee for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP); was appointed by Congressman Alcee Hastings to the White House Conference on Tourism; founded and hosted the Annual International African American Hotel Ownership/ Multicultural Tourism Summit & Trade Show; created & designed the first multicultural tourism collateral piece in the State of Florida for Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau to attract African American & Multicultural tourism; is a consultant for the Dutch Island of St. Maarten working specifically to increase the islands visibility among African Americans; is a Consultant for Semsamar Group, the largest public private partnership company in the French Caribbean where he was charged with developing a strategy to bring American branded hotels to the French West Indian islands of Saint Martin, Martinique & Guadeloupe; is a former member of US Travel Board

He is a sought-after media expert as well as a panelist at numerous conferences. Ingraham began his education in the Bahamas and then attended school in Jamaica at Northern Caribbean University (WIC), and later in Miami at Miami Dade College & Florida International University (F.I.U.). He currently lives in South Florida with his family.

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J

Kevin J. Jacobs

Chief Financial Officer and President, Global Development
Hilton

Kevin Jacobs is chief financial officer and president, global development for Hilton, and leads the company's finance, real estate, development and architecture and construction functions globally. Jacobs joined the company in 2008 as senior vice president, corporate strategy; was elected treasurer in 2009; was appointed executive vice president & chief of staff in 2012; assumed the role of chief financial officer in 2013; and added the role of president, global development in 2020.

Prior to Hilton, Jacobs was senior vice president, mergers & acquisitions and treasurer of Fairmont Raffles Hotels International. Prior to Fairmont Raffles, he spent seven years with Host Hotels & Resorts, ultimately serving as vice president, corporate strategy & investor relations. Prior to Host, Jacobs had various roles in the Hospitality Consulting Practice of PwC and the Hospitality Valuation Group of Cushman & Wakefield.

Jacobs is a member of the Board of Directors of Omega Healthcare Investors, a triple-net, equity REIT (NYSE: OHI) that supports the goals of skilled nursing facility and assisted living facility operators with financing and capital. He also serves on the Board of Directors of Goodwill of Greater Washington, is a trustee and member of the Executive Committee of the Federal City Council, is a member of the Cornell University Council and of the Dean's Advisory Board of the Cornell University School of Hotel Administration, and is a member of the Executive Committee of the American Hotel & Lodging Association.

Jacobs is a graduate of the Cornell University School of Hotel Administration.

Abhi Jain

Director
PwC, New York

Abhi Jain is a director in PwC's Real Estate & Hospitality practice, with over 15 years of extensive experience in the real estate sector, including property-level operations, valuation, transaction due diligence, and strategic consulting.

At PwC, Jain's real estate and hospitality experience has been focused on providing advice to large institutional and private equity investors on single-asset and portfolio transactions across all asset classes as well as on corporate mergers and acquisitions, with a primary focus on asset valuation, commercial due diligence, financial due diligence, transaction structuring, market assessments, and operational analyses. He has provided transactions and strategic advice to several domestic and cross-border investors, including public REITs, non-traded REITs, closed-end funds, insurance companies, private equity, and sovereign wealth funds.

Jain also leads real estate and hospitality advisory engagements, focused on market entry strategies, business plan assessments, business strategy, and commercial strategy for listed as well as privately-held companies.

Jain holds a BA from the University of Huddersfield, UK and an MBA from Cornell University. He is a member of the CFA Institute and the CFA Society - New York, in addition to being a Counselor of Real Estate (CRE). He contributes extensively to real estate industry thought leadership, including leading the publication of PwC *Hospitality Directions* and contributing to *Emerging Trends in Real Estate*.

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Mahesha Jayawardana

Director, Transactions & Feasibility
BRE Hotels & Real Estate

Mahesha Jayawardana is a director in the Transactions and Feasibility team at BRE Hotels and Resorts, the Blackstone fund owned hospitality platform. In this role, she supports the firm's acquisition, asset management, due diligence, and leadership activities. Since joining the Transactions team in 2021, Mahesha has been involved in closing over \$1.0 billion of transaction volume. Prior to this role, Jayawardana was a senior member in the Portfolio and Asset Management team at BRE, where she led the monthly reporting process, budget planning process and supported portfolio wide asset management initiatives.

Prior to joining BRE in 2019, Jayawardana was a manager in the investments team at HEI Hotel & Resorts, a hotel investment and third-party management company which manages over 85 hotels across the United States.

Jayawardana is a graduate of the NYU School of Professional Studies Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality.

Jeanelle Johnson

Principal & Lead Client Partner
Hospitality & Leisure

Jeanelle Johnson is a principal and lead client partner at PwC, focused on client service, industry perspective and research for the firm's leading Hospitality & Leisure clients. With nearly 25 years of experience at leading investment banking and consulting firms, Johnson's passion is to help clients with strategic planning around their growth and investment agendas and advise on business-wide risks and value drivers in their business transformations. Her sleeves rolled up approach helps clients reduce their risks, deliver value to their stakeholders, and quickly return to business imperatives.

Philanthropically, Johnson is a Board Trustee and serves on the Education Committee of the PwC Charitable Foundation, serves on the Finance Committee and is a Board member of Higher Achievement, a member of the Ambassador's Council at N Street Village.

Johnson holds a BBA from The George Washington University and an MBA. from the Smith School at the University of Maryland, College Park..

Cartarwa Jones

Senior Vice President - Investment & Portfolio Analysis
RLJ Lodging Trust

Cartarwa Jones is a senior vice president in the Investment & Portfolio Analysis group at RLJ Lodging Trust. RLJ Lodging Trust is one of the largest publicly traded hotel REITs in the country with 97 properties located in 22 states and the District of Columbia and one unconsolidated hotel. The Investment and Portfolio Analysis group oversees both acquisitions and dispositions for the company, which focuses on premium-branded, high-margin focused-service and compact full-service hotels.

Jones has over 20 years of experience in the hospitality industry. Prior to joining RLJ, she held various positions at the InterContinental Hotels Group as well as PwC, providing market & feasibility, strategic planning, financial, and project planning analysis on hundreds of projects. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Economics from Florida State University, as well as a Master's degree in Business Economics from the University of South Florida.



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Andrew Jordan

Chief Marketing Officer
Aimbridge Hospitality

As chief marketing officer of Aimbridge Hospitality, Andrew Jordan leads all revenue initiatives including sales, marketing, revenue management, e-commerce, and distribution. He drives peak topline results for the company's global portfolio of independent, branded, full-service and select-service hotels. With more than 30 years of experience, Jordan has grown revenues and market share for hospitality and retail companies requiring speed, competitiveness and creativity, achieving success in leadership roles at Coca-Cola, Club Med, Wyndham International, Carlson Restaurants, and Adeptus Health.

Jordan holds a Master of Business Administration degree from New York University, Stern School of Business and a Bachelor of Science degree in Advertising from the University of Texas.

Christopher J. Jordan

Managing Director
Wells Fargo Corporate & Investment Banking

Christopher Jordan is a managing director within Wells Fargo's Corporate & Investment Banking Group. He oversees Specialty Real Estate Finance — a collection of sector-focused lending units covering lodging & leisure, seniors housing, medical office & life sciences, manufactured home communities, and data centers. Clients include leading private owner/operators, institutional investors, real estate and infrastructure focused private equity funds, public lodging and healthcare REITs, and global hotel brand companies.

Jordan earned a BA, cum laude, from Duke University's Trinity School of Arts and Sciences, and an MBA from the university's Fuqua School of Business. He is a member of the American Hotel & Lodging Association's Industry Real Estate Financing Advisory Council (IREFAC) and its Hotel Investment Roundtable. In January 2019, he received the Jack A. Shaffer Financial Advisor of the Year Award at the annual Americas Lodging and Investment Summit in Los Angeles. In November 2021, he received IREFAC's Arne M. Sorenson Award.

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K

Naveen P. Kakarla

President and CEO
HHM

Naveen Kakarla is the president and chief executive officer and also on the Board of Directors of HHM, formerly known as Hersha Hospitality Management. HHM manages over 150 hotels with concentration in major markets such as Boston, New York City, Philadelphia, Washington D.C., Orlando, Miami, Los Angeles, San Francisco Bay Area, Seattle, and Texas. Kakarla is responsible for HHM's investment and fund management, acquisitions and development, finance and accounting, human resources, and capital projects.

Kakarla launched HHM's luxury and lifestyle division, which features the Independent Collection ("iC") of uniquely curated hotels and resorts in gateway markets from coast to coast. He prior led the New York City region for HHM and also oversaw its development and construction division. Outside the real estate sector, Kakarla was previously a partner specializing in corporate and securities law at the national law firm of Jenkins & Gilchrist, P.C., and was previously associated with Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer Feld, LLP in Washington D.C. Kakarla earned a Bachelor of Arts from Austin College and a law degree from Cornell Law School. Prior to joining HHM in 2005, he worked with private equity and early stage investments.

Kakarla is a board trustee at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital System, which includes the Sidney Kimmel Medical College. He also serves on the corporate board of the Barnes Foundation Museum and is an active member of the Young President's Organization.

David S. Kallery

President
Inspirato

David Kallery leads all operational aspects of Inspirato (NASDAQ: ISPO), with responsibility for the full life-cycle excellence of the subscriber experience. He specializes in helping service-intensive companies scale infrastructure and technology to drive rapid growth, while deepening the longevity and value of customer relationships. Prior to joining Inspirato, he served in a variety of senior executive roles with Exclusive Resorts, including chief operating officer and senior vice president of sales and marketing. Earlier in his career he spent 15 years with UPS, where he developed broad operational and logistical expertise, before serving as vice president for product and operations at Visa and in leadership positions with two venture-backed startups.

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Angie Kamath

Dean

NYU School of Professional Studies

Angie Kamath serves as the dean of the NYU School of Professional Studies. She has had a distinguished career in higher education and in roles that have amplified her deep expertise in workforce development. Kamath is a champion of fostering equal opportunity for all through higher education and through workforce programs that provide immediately applicable skills across growing and emerging fields.

Prior to joining NYU SPS, she served as the University dean at the City University of New York (CUNY), and was responsible for continuing education and workforce development programs at the nation's largest urban public university, which serves more than 270,000 degree students and has over 250,000 enrollments in continuing education courses. She oversaw grant-funded workforce development programs that sought to improve the skills, career prospects, and outcomes in targeted sectors including IT, finance, healthcare, and municipal government.

Prior to her role at CUNY, Kamath served as an executive VP and executive director at Per Scholas, a national IT job training nonprofit headquartered in the South Bronx. At Per Scholas, she was responsible for launching the social enterprise team tasked with generating fee for service revenues. In addition, she oversaw the New York training operation that trained and placed over 500 individuals each year in middle skills jobs in the IT field.

Prior to Per Scholas, Kamath worked as a deputy commissioner at the NYC Department of Small Business Services for seven years, where she oversaw adult workforce programs that served more than 100,000 New Yorkers each year during the Bloomberg administration.

Kamath holds a BS in Business Management from Cornell University and an MPP from the Harvard Kennedy School.

Robbie Karver

Principal

EY

Robbie Karver is a principal in EY's Strategy and Transactions practice. He is the Miami and greater Florida real estate, travel, tourism and hospitality leader, bringing over 17 years real experience (15 at EY) in the valuation and strategic advisory areas of residential, commercial (i.e. retail/shopping malls and office), leisure, cruise industry and mixed-use residential and hospitality experience, focusing on Florida/US and also leading EY's strategy in the Caribbean and Latin America (including Mexico, Central America, and South America). Karver's area of expertise includes highest and best use analysis, development advisory, JV partnership advisory, management company selection services, business-planning and forecasting, valuation, asset management/ownership strategy and financial modeling for real estate, hospitality and tourism uses. He has experience with Resorts (European Plana and All-Inclusive), hotels (business and group-driven), airline demand, travel/membership clubs, cruise & theme parks, booking platforms and travel agent conduits, timeshare and vacation ownership, marina and yachting, golf, motor-sports and racetrack concepts, office, residential (for-sale), residential (multi-family, including affordable housing, campus housing, micro-housing, rent-to-own) and industrial.



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Greg Kennealey

Chief Executive Officer
Mission Hill Hospitality – A KSL Capital Company

Greg Kennealey is a former principal and head of Hospitality at KSL Capital Partners, a global leader in hospitality, travel, and leisure investing. He launched Mission Hill Hospitality in partnership with KSL in 2020. During his 10-year tenure at KSL, he served on the boards of directors for Davidson Hospitality Group and Outrigger Hotels & Resorts and led the performance management of KSL's US hotel and resort portfolio. Prior to KSL, Kennealey was vice president of asset management at Strategic Hotels & Resorts where he oversaw an international portfolio of luxury hotels. Earlier in his career, Kennealey was an associate at LaSalle Investment Management and held leadership positions at IBM Global Services and Forrester Research.

Kennealey holds a BA from the University of Notre Dame and an MBA from The Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University.

Kennealey lives in Cherry Hills Village with his wife Shannon and their three daughters. He is an avid skier and enjoys coaching youth sports.

Danny Kim

Vice President
LW Hospitality Advisors

Danny Kim currently serves as vice president with LW Hospitality Advisors, based in New York City. During his tenure at LWHA, Kim has been responsible for executing over 500 lodging consulting and valuation assignments throughout the United States. Prior to joining LWHA, he was the assistant controller at Danny Meyer's Union Square Hospitality Group within the Shake Shack division. From an early developmental stage, he assisted with the transition of the privately-owned company to a publicly-traded company through an initial public offering in 2015. Prior to Union Square Hospitality Group, Kim also served as a regional assistant controller at Marriott International, focusing on full-service hotels in the Northeast.

Kim earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Hotel and Tourism Management from the NYU School of Professional Studies Preston Robert Tisch Center for Hospitality, Tourism, and Sports Management with a concentration in Lodging Development. While attending NYU, he served as vice president for the student-run program Hospitality Business Society and also received a scholarship from American Hotel and Lodging Educational Foundation (AH&LEF). In 2023, Kim will be pursuing his Master's in Business Administration at the NYU Stern School of Business.

Amy King

Vice President, Luxury and Managed Development
Hilton, McLean, Virginia

Amy King is vice president, luxury and managed development for Hilton in McLean, Virginia. She is responsible for the growth of the Waldorf Astoria, Conrad, LXR, and Signia by Hilton brands, as well as growth of Hilton's management portfolio, in North America.

Prior to her current role, King spent over eight years in Hilton's legal department. She led a team that provided legal support to managed and franchised hotel development in the Americas, and also oversaw the company's global franchise regulatory compliance. Her team drafted, negotiated and interpreted hotel franchise and management agreements and associated transaction documents, and prepared franchise disclosure documents for all of the company's brands around the world. Prior to joining Hilton, she practiced law with DLA Piper LLP in Los Angeles, California.

King is a graduate of UCLA School of Law in Los Angeles, California, and the School of Hotel Administration at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York.

She lives in McLean, VA with her husband and three boys.

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Rick S. Kirkbride

Partner

Paul Hastings LLP

Rick Kirkbride represents real estate development companies, institutional lenders, investment banks, opportunity funds, and other capital providers, owners and operators. His practice encompasses the development, acquisition, sale, finance, leasing, operation, licensing, roll-up, foreclosure, workout, and restructuring of hotels, condo-hotels, resorts, branded condominiums, private residence clubs and timeshare projects, spas, restaurants, casinos, golf courses, tennis stadiums, theme parks, and other hospitality based entertainment properties and businesses in North America, Latin America, the Caribbean, Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. Kirkbride is an adjunct professor at Columbia University, School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation. He has been named one of only two lawyers within “Band 1” of the list of “Leaders in their Field” for the leisure and hospitality category in *Chambers USA* since the initial publication thereof and also has been frequently named by the *Los Angeles Daily Journal* and *San Francisco Daily Journal* as one of the Top 100 Lawyers in the State of California. He is a member of ULI and is immediate past chair of its Hotel Development Council. He also is on the Hospitality Editorial Board of *Law 360* and is a former member of the International Society of Hospitality Consultants. He was the founder and chair of the UCLA Real Estate Finance and Restaurant Conference. He speaks on various hospitality topics at seminars and conferences throughout the world.

Nina Kleiman, CHAM

Executive Vice President

hotelAVE

Nina Kleiman has over 35 years of experience in lodging asset management, operations, acquisitions, and consulting to develop and execute strategies to maximize each owner’s investment objectives. She leads and supports hotelAVE teams to deploy industry-leading asset management practices focused on revenue management and profit opportunities as well as real estate, capital, and contract optimization. Her asset management experience is based on success working with a wide array of hotels from luxury to midscale, both domestically as well as in the Caribbean and Mexico. Asset cornerstones include the proactive identification of value enhancement opportunities via detailed research, industry analysis, and benchmarking including the optimization of hotel positioning, brand, third-party partnerships, and hotel strategic alternatives.

Kleiman’s prior experience encompasses a variety of lodging companies including LaSalle Hotel Properties, Westmont Hospitality Group, and IHG, where she headed Investment Analysis. At Lehman Brothers, she was a lead lodging and gaming analyst and at Coopers & Lybrand (now PwC), performed acquisition analyses, feasibility studies, and appraisals of individual hotels as well as portfolios in the U.S., Caribbean, and Latin America. She began her career at the Westin St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco, where she held a variety of rooms division management positions, ultimately managing the department and over 100 employees.

Kleiman graduated from Cornell University with a Bachelor of Science in Hotel Administration. She also holds a Master’s degree in Business Administration from Haas School of Business, University of California – Berkeley. She is a board member of the Cornell Hotel Society (CHS) New York Chapter, and a member of the Hospitality Asset Managers Association (HAMA) and Cornell Hotel Society (CHS). She is the co-founder of the Cornell Hotel Society 80s Committee, co-chair of the CHS annual Big Apple Update, and has been named one of the 30 Influential Women in Hospitality by *Hotel Management Magazine* (October 2019). Kleiman also is a Certified Hotel Asset Manager (CHAM).



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Dan Kornick

Chief Information Officer
Loews Hotels & Co

Dan Kornick is the chief information officer at Loews Hotels & Co in New York City, where he is responsible for all aspects of Information Technology including strategy, systems development, infrastructure, IT operations, internal customer support and working across the organization on the evolution of IT and digital capabilities. He is a global digital and global technology leader with vast experience in multiple industries including Hospitality & Travel, Telecom and Financial services.

Prior to Loews, he held CIO roles with TracFone Wireless, Wyndham Hotel Group and Cendant's Vacation Rental Group in Europe. He has successfully led multiple business, technology and digital transformations focusing on the customer and team experience, while leveraging the investment in technology to achieve the overall objectives for the organizations.

A graduate of Pennsylvania State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science and Mathematics, Kornick currently serves as the chair of the AHLA HTNG Executive Leadership Group and serves on the AHLA Board of Directors. In addition, he is the co-president of the Board of Trustees for the New Jersey Youth Chorus.



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L

Chelsey Leffet

Senior Vice President

HVS Northeast Leader, Washington, D.C.

Senior Vice President Chelsey Leffet is both the leader of the HVS Washington, D.C. Consulting & Valuation office and the director of the HVS Northeast region. Since joining HVS, Leffet has consulted on hotels of all asset classes and development stages throughout the Mid-Atlantic region, including several hostel lodging assets. Her particular focus is the Washington, D.C. market, and she has also done considerable work in the suburbs of D.C., Baltimore, and Hampton Roads, including Williamsburg, Norfolk, and Virginia Beach.

Leffet holds certified general appraiser licenses in the District, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia. During her time at HVS, she has published articles on the dynamics of hotel markets, including Washington, D.C., Baltimore, Philadelphia, Annapolis, and Wilmington. She sits on the International Luxury Hotel Association (ILHA) East Coast Chapter and organizes a number of networking and educational events for the Washington D.C. based Hospitality Real Estate Society (The HRES).

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Daniel H. Lesser

Co-Founder, President, & CEO
LW Hospitality Advisors LLC

Daniel H. Lesser, co-founder, president, & CEO of LW Hospitality Advisors has more than forty years of specialized experience worldwide in hospitality related: real estate appraisals, economic feasibility evaluations, investment counseling, asset management, receivership, and transactional services of hotels, resorts, conference centers, casinos, mixed use facilities, spa & wellness properties, and timeshare/fractional ownership properties.

Mr. Lesser offers a 360-degree, cross-functional and multi-disciplinary lodging industry perspective. Proffering innovation and strategy Mr. Lesser serves as a third-party advisor and independent expert witness, neutral arbitrator, business model canvasser, asset manager, property/business receiver, and as a principal investor, borrower, guarantor, franchisee. Mr. Lesser provides services to corporate, institutional, municipalities, and individual clients on all facets of hospitality real estate including site evaluation, highest and best use analysis, appraisals for mortgage, acquisition, and portfolio management, workout strategies, operational analysis, property tax assessment appeal evaluations, economic impact studies, market and feasibility analysis, strategic planning, management and/or franchise company selection and contract negotiation, deal structuring, and fairness opinions. Mr. Lesser has served as a Court Appointed Receiver in connection with dozens of hotels throughout the U.S.

An international authority and thought leader with iron clad credibility on the topic of hotel feasibility and property valuation, Mr. Lesser has served as an expert witness under oath through depositions and testimony in court and arbitration hearings in U.S. federal and state courts, and domestic and international arbitrations in connection with a wide variety of matters including: bankruptcy, solvency, valuation analysis, interest rate and plan confirmation feasibility, brand area of protection, condemnation, construction defect and/or delay damages, ground/property rent reset, management dispute, partnership/joint venture conflict, property tax certiorari, and lodging industry standards, customs and practices to evaluate legal liability.

Mr. Lesser always bases his opinion(s) and/or conclusion(s) on thorough research conducted with an objective perspective. Furthermore, rather than limiting his litigation related engagements to one type of stakeholder, he has been retained by counsel to hotel owners, lenders, investors, and management companies, thus enhancing his credibility with finders of fact. Mr. Lesser has balanced his practice with service as a neutral panelist in commercial arbitration disputes.

Prior to his hospitality advisory experience, Mr. Lesser held operational and administrative positions with Hilton Hotels Corporation and Eurotels-Switzerland. He is highly sought after to speak at lodging and real estate events, as well as lectures at prestigious institutions of higher education, including American University Washington College of Law, Columbia University, Cornell University, New York University and Pennsylvania State University. Mr. Lesser is widely published and quoted in major newspaper, internet, business, real estate, and hospitality industry periodicals, and has or currently serves as a columnist for HotelNewsNow.com, HotelBusiness.com, GlobeSt.com, and Hotelmag.com.

Mr. Lesser earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Hotel Administration from Cornell University, and attended the Ecole Hôtelière de Lausanne Switzerland, and Baruch College - City University of New York. Mr. Lesser holds the following professional designations: MAI (Member of the Appraisal Institute), FRICS (Fellow of The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors), CRE (Counselor of Real Estate), and CHA (Certified Hotel Administrator). Mr. Lesser is a Certified Part 36 Judiciary Receiver in the State of New York.

Mr. Lesser is a member of and/or has served on numerous committees for the Counselors of Real Estate, the Appraisal Institute, the American Hotel & Motel Association, and the Board of Directors of the New York City Chapter of the Cornell Hotel Society. He is a former Advisory Board member and member of the Fundraising Subcommittee for the New York University Preston Robert Tisch Center for Hospitality, Tourism and Sports Management. Mr. Lesser is an advisory board member of Mosaic Real Estate Investors, LLC and 1st Service Solutions, Inc. He is a member of The Penn State School of Hospitality Management Industry Advisory Board and served as the schools Fall 2015 Walter J. Conti Visiting Professor. Mr. Lesser is a founding member of the Lodging Industry Investment Council (LIIC), the hotel industry "think tank." He is a member of the American Arbitration Association (AAA) Panel of Neutrals. Mr. Lesser is an advisory board member of the annual Radical Innovation Award. He served as an Honorary Committee Member of the annual UJA-Federation New York Hotel & Hospitality Division Dinner and was a founding member of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) Real Estate Division. Mr. Lesser has served on the fundraising committee for the Shatterproof Challenge at the 2016 through 2022 Americas Lodging Investment Summit (ALIS). Mr. Lesser serves on the Board of Directors and as a Senior Advisor to the Founder and President of The MirYam Institute, a U.S. based, non-profit NGO with official 501(c)(3) status.

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Steven L. Lichtenfeld

**Co-Head, Market-Leading Real Estate Capital Markets and Real Estate Finance Groups
Proskauer**

Steven L. Lichtenfeld is co-head of Proskauer's market-leading Real Estate Capital Markets and Real Estate Finance Groups, and a founding member of its Private Equity Real Estate Group. He regularly advises real estate funds, REITs, sovereign wealth funds, institutional lenders, specialty lenders, hedge funds, and pension advisors regarding public offerings and private placements of real estate-related debt and equity securities, real estate-related mergers and acquisitions, real estate preferred equity investments, and joint ventures, real estate-related senior and mezzanine financings and other corporate, partnership and limited liability company matters.

Lichtenfeld has been widely recognized as a driving force in the real estate capital markets and finance space during his 40-year career. He has garnered several prestigious accolades in this area, including receiving a coveted ranking from Chambers USA, which has described him as "a brilliant real estate attorney with experience in many asset classes." Chambers has also described Steven as "highly analytical and highly strategic" and "encyclopedic in terms of his knowledge" in handling a broad spectrum of public and private debt offerings, M&A, joint venture and other corporate real estate matters. Lichtenfeld is also recommended for Real Estate and REITs by Legal 500 United States and is consistently recognized as a leading real estate lawyer in Best Lawyers in America and Super Lawyers.

Lichtenfeld has a unique skill set that allows him to quarterback a broad spectrum of

transactions including public REIT offerings (both traded and non-traded), real estate mergers and acquisitions, real estate preferred equity investments and joint ventures and real estate recapitalizations and reorganizations.

Lichtenfeld also counsels his public REIT and other clients on a broad range of corporate, securities and business-related matters, including directors' duties and responsibilities and other aspects of corporate governance, disclosure issues and compliance matters as well as defensive measures and takeover tasks.

He is a prolific author and speaker, having penned numerous articles and lectured before dozens of organizations throughout the country on various real estate capital markets, real estate private equity and real estate finance topics. Steven is also a member of the Board of Spark Youth NYC (f/k/a The Catalog for Giving) and is active on his Urban Land Institute council, UDMUC Bronze.

Lichtenfeld holds a JD from the American University Washington College of Law, and a BSBA with honors from Washington University.

Stephanie Linnartz

**President
Marriott International**

Stephanie Linnartz is the president of Marriott International, the world's largest hospitality company with nearly 8,000 properties across 139 countries and territories and 30 brands. It also has the travel industry's largest customer-loyalty program, Marriott Bonvoy™, which has more than 160 million members, and some of the most iconic brands in travel, including The Ritz-Carlton®, St. Regis® Hotels & Resorts, The Luxury Collection®, Marriott Hotels®, Sheraton®, W® Hotels Worldwide, Courtyard®, Residence Inn®, Westin®, Renaissance® Hotels, and Le Méridien®. In her role, she is responsible for developing and executing all aspects of the company's global consumer strategy, including brand, marketing, sales, revenue management, customer engagement, technology, emerging businesses and loyalty strategies. In addition, she oversees Marriott's global real estate development, design and operations services functions. Linnartz plays a critical role in spearheading the company's work on growth and key issues including the intersection of technology and hospitality, the continued growth of the Marriott Bonvoy loyalty platform, the excellence of Marriott's brand portfolio, and environmental sustainability.



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Michael Lipson

**Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board
Access Point Financial**

Michael Lipson serves as chief executive officer and chairman of the Board at Access Point Financial. He has more than 40 years of experience in finance, asset management, and banking services. Prior to serving on the Access Point Financial board, he held numerous leadership roles, including serving as senior vice president, Multifamily Asset Management & Operations for Freddie Mac. During his tenure in this position, he led business operations and oversaw asset management and technology teams responsible for day-to-day functions, as well as risk and loss mitigation of the Freddie Mac Multifamily business. Additional responsibilities included overseeing all loan funding and servicing, surveillance, insurance, special servicing and risk governance activities. Other notable roles that Lipson has previously held include serving as president and CEO of Berkadia Commercial Mortgage, executive vice president at Capmark Finance, and as president/founder at Lexington Mortgage Company.

Lipson holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, as well as a Master's in Real Estate & Urban Development Planning from The American University. He also is recognized as a Certified Mortgage Banker (CMB) by the Mortgage Bankers Association (MBA).



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Elie Maalouf

Chief Executive Officer, Americas
IHG® Hotels & Resorts

Elie Maalouf is Chief Executive Officer of the Americas region at IHG® Hotels & Resorts (IHG) and serves as an Executive Director on IHG's Board. He is based in Atlanta, Georgia.

At IHG, Elie leads the management, growth and profitability of the company's largest operating region, responsible for overseeing more than 4,300 hotels and resorts, spanning the United States, Canada, Mexico, Central and South America and the Caribbean. He also has global responsibility for customer development, providing oversight of the Global Sales organization, as well as owner management and services strategy.

Elie's decades of experiences in major global businesses includes hotel development, branding, finance, real estate and operations management, as well as food and beverage. Over the course of 15 years with HMSHost Corporation, he held multiple leadership roles including President and CEO and was a member of the board of directors. Before HMSHost, Elie spent eight years with Weyerhaeuser Real Estate Company. Immediately prior to joining IHG in 2015, Elie was Senior Advisor with McKinsey & Company.

Elie is active in organizations that support and promote the travel and hospitality industries as a member of the American Hotel & Lodging Association Executive Committee of the Board, and a member and chairman of the U.S. Travel Association CEO Roundtable. In addition, Elie serves on the CEO Council of the Global Business Alliance and is a board member of the Atlanta Committee for Progress.

Elie holds an MBA from the University of Virginia Darden School of Business and a bachelor's degree in engineering from Virginia Tech.

IHG has a broad portfolio of hotel brands including Six Senses Hotels Resorts Spas, Regent Hotels & Resorts, InterContinental® Hotels & Resorts, Vignette Collection™, Kimpton® Hotels & Restaurants, Hotel Indigo®, EVEN® Hotels, HUALUXE® Hotels and Resorts, Crowne Plaza® Hotels & Resorts, voco™, Holiday Inn®, Holiday Inn Express®, Holiday Inn Club Vacations®, Holiday Inn Resort®, avid™ hotels, Staybridge Suites®, Atwell Suites™ and Candlewood Suites®

Justin Magazine

Senior Vice President Development & Acquisitions
Aimbridge Hospitality

Justin Magazine oversees retention for Aimbridge Hospitality. His team focuses on retaining management contracts for Aimbridge's strategic hotels that are placed for sale by their respective owners. During his tenure at Interstate, his team nearly doubled the company's retention success rate. As Aimbridge's ownership base continues to grow and diversify, Magazine adds further acumen to the Development team focusing on communicating Aimbridge's value proposition and leveraging relationships with investors, hotel owners, and brokers to increase retention. Additionally, he specializes in key strategic business development opportunities for strategic ownership groups.

Magazine brings extensive experience advising the industry's largest brands and institutional hotel owners. Before joining Interstate, he was managing director in New York City and Washington, DC for Savills Hospitality, an international advisory firm. He was also a founding partner and SVP of Humboldt Hospitality Advisors in Washington, DC; and worked as the vice president of marketing-North America for Newfound Resorts, an international resort developer, where he led business development and marketing. Before Magazine's tenure in the hotel space, he spent four years in sports marketing as a marketing executive for Octagon.

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Caroline Mahl

Senior Vice President of Sales
Wells Fargo Bank's Commercial Real Estate Group

Caroline Mahl is a managing director at Wells Fargo Bank's Commercial Real Estate Group where she is responsible for loan originations for the Hospitality Finance Group, including project loans, portfolio financings and construction loans for large-scale hotel developments. The Hospitality Finance Group is a specialized lending division that provides debt products and financial services to leading public and private hotel companies, institutional investors and owners throughout the United States, the United Kingdom and Canada. Prior to joining Wells Fargo Bank, Mahl spent 12 years with Starwood Hotels & Resorts where she held several positions within the Real Estate Group. She started her career as a consultant at Horwath Landauer Hospitality Consulting in New York City. Mahl earned Bachelor of Science degrees in Hotel Administration from Cornell University and L'Institut Hôtelier César Ritz in Le Bouveret, Switzerland.

Bharet Malhotra

Marriott Board of Directors
Cvent

As senior vice president of sales at Cvent, Bharet Malhotra leads the company's global Hospitality Cloud strategy. Under his leadership, Cvent has established long-term relationships with hotel executives around the world from leading brands including Accor, Hilton, Hyatt, Intercontinental Hotels Group, Marriott, Meliá Hotels, NH, Mandarin Oriental and hundreds of others, to help them grow their business.

Today, Cvent's robust portfolio of supplier and venue solutions connects more than 290,000 hotels and venues with an active global network of nearly 90,000 event planners who leverage Cvent's sourcing platforms, sourcing more than \$18 billion of group business in 2019.

As part of the founding Executive team, Malhotra has been instrumental in growing the Company. In 2013, Cvent's IPO (NYSE: CVT) boasted a market capitalization of more than \$1 billion and then sold a few years later to Vista Equity Partners for \$1.65 billion. Most recently, in December 2021, Cvent returned to the public markets on the Nasdaq (Nasdaq: CVT), driving an initial enterprise valuation of approximately \$5.3 billion.

Malhotra earned a bachelor's degree from Duke University in biomedical engineering, electrical engineering and economics. Following graduation, he served on the Duke University Alumni Board of Directors and was president of the Engineering Alumni Association; he continues to be involved in all his reunions. Malhotra also is a passionate tennis and squash player, having played on the men's professional tennis circuit post college.

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Majid Mangalji

Founder and President
Westmont Hospitality Group

Majid Mangalji is the founder and president of Westmont Hospitality Group, which started its business over 45 years ago. Mangalji has been involved in all aspects of the development of Westmont's global growth. From a single hotel, Westmont has become one of the largest private hotel owner/operators in the world with a significant presence in North America, Europe, Asia and Africa.

As the head of this global group, Mangalji has developed an extensive knowledge of international hospitality markets, investing and operating in these markets and has created strong relationships with many of the major international hotel brands, leading financial institutions, and investment funds.

Mangalji sits on the board of many of the principal companies in which the Westmont Group has invested. He is the founder and was the first chairman of InnVest REIT, the largest publicly listed hospitality company in Canada that was privatized in 2016.

Notably, Mangalji continues to serve as a member of the Board of the IREFAC Council of the American Hotel Association in North America and the Board of the IHIC in Europe.

As Westmont has grown, Mangalji has been recognized as a global leader in the industry and was the recipient of the 2010 C. Everett Johnson Award at the NYU International Hospitality Industry Investment Conference. In 2013, he was the recipient of the prestigious IHIF Lifetime Achievement Award in Berlin.

Westmont and The Mangalji Family have embarked on several global philanthropic endeavors with a focus on education and entrepreneurship. The Westmont Enterprise Hub was launched at the University of West London to support enterprising students, alumni, and neighboring communities to create, launch, and incubate new businesses.

The Westmont Institute of Tourism and Hospitality (WiTH) at Nova School of Business & Economics (Nova SBE) in Lisbon, Portugal was inaugurated in October 2021. It has been created to support innovation, leadership, and entrepreneurship at the new business school campus of Nova University – NOVA School of Business and Economics. The long-term goal is to help shape future leaders in the hospitality and tourism industry.

Mangalji holds a business degree with a double major in accounting and marketing, and is a recipient of two honorary degrees in the last few years.

Nikki Massey

Senior Vice President, Human Resources – Americas
Hyatt Hotels Corporation

Nikki Massey is the senior vice president of Human Resources – Americas for Hyatt Hotels Corporation and a 27-year member of the Hyatt family.

She began her career in 1991 at the Hyatt Regency Cambridge as a health club attendant, moving on to other operational roles within the hotel before pursuing a Human Resources track. Massey worked in HR at Hyatt Regency Cambridge, Hyatt Regency New Orleans, Hyatt Regency Rochester and Hyatt on Boston Harbor before joining Hyatt's corporate office in Chicago. She briefly left Hyatt for Kimpton Hotels, and returned to the corporate office in Americas HR in 2011.

In the past few years Massey played a role in training leaders on design thinking, rolling out the company's purpose journey, and leading change management and communications efforts for the corporate office move. Prior to her current role, she was responsible for global learning, culture & engagement along with change management. Today she is back in Americas HR, where she lead the restructure of the HR team, the integration of our new colleagues from Two Roads Hospitality, and most recently is focused on our post-pandemic recovery efforts.

Massey holds a bachelor's degree in communications from Stonehill College in Easton, Massachusetts and a professional Human Resources certification. She and her husband reside in Chicago with her two step-children and a rescue dog.

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Tom McCaleb

Managing Director and Partner
Boston Consulting Group

Tom McCaleb has been a managing director and partner at BCG since 2017. His work at BCG has focused on lodging, travel technology, meetings and events, and other travel and tourism sectors, and he serves as the global lead for BCG's digital practice for travel and tourism clients. Prior to joining BCG, McCaleb was an officer in the U.S. Air Force, including tours of duty as an aircraft maintenance officer in Germany and an analyst in Iraq. He holds a graduate diploma in statistics from Oxford and a bachelor's degree in mathematics from the U.S. Air Force Academy.

Jordan McCarthy

Partner
Perkins Coie

Jordan McCarthy is a partner at Perkins Coie focuses her practice on real estate transactions and development, with an emphasis on the hotel industry. She works on local and multistate real estate transactions and within the hospitality industry, has experience with respect to acquisitions, dispositions, hotel finance, REIT structuring, joint ventures, franchise and hotel management agreements, and development, asset management and operational matters. Having started her legal career in bankruptcy and creditors' rights, McCarthy brings that experience and perspective to her practice to advise clients in structuring or evaluating transactions to protect their interests. She is experienced with various aspects of CMBS specially-serviced commercial real estate loans, has prosecuted foreclosure actions for a wide variety of commercial properties, including hotels, office buildings and shopping centers, and successfully petitioned for the appointment of receivers. She also has experience prosecuting claims for breach of guarantees and negotiating non-judicial workouts and resolutions, including deeds in lieu of foreclosure, discounted payoffs and loan modifications. Additionally, McCarthy is experienced in title and survey review and similar diligence matters. In every matter, large or small, Jordan takes a hands-on approach to anticipate issues, identify a solution, and efficiently meet the needs of clients.

McCarthy maintains an active pro bono practice regularly representing individuals seeking orders of protection in connection with the Domestic Violence Legal Clinic, and has prepared U-Visa and Violence Against Women (VAWA) petitions for legal status on behalf of survivors of violent crimes and domestic abuse. She holds a JD from The John Marshall Law School and a BS in Biology from Marquette University.

Heather McCrory

CEO
Accor, North & Central America

A skilled professional with an extensive hospitality background spanning more than 30 years, Heather McCrory began her career at Fairmont Banff Springs in the Canadian Rockies. After advancing through progressive positions at the property level, she joined the corporate leadership team, ultimately honing her expertise in a series of senior executive roles crossing sales, revenue management and operations.

In 2019, McCrory was appointed chief executive officer, North & Central America. Responsible for the strategic direction of the group for this region, her focus is on building long-term growth and profitability in one of the largest and most influential consumer markets in the world.

McCrory is a champion for talent development and mentorship, and a strong advocate for diversity, equity, and inclusion. She is proud to serve as executive sponsor for RiISE North & Central America, Accor's international network promoting diversity and gender equality. She was honored to receive the inaugural Castell Award (2019), as well as the Katie Taylor Economic Empowerment Award (2021), for her extensive work to increase gender diversity and support women in leadership, both within the organization and across the industry.

McCrory is a board member for Groups360 and sits on the AHLA Executive Committee and US Travel Association CEO Roundtable. She is past chair of Tourism Toronto and a past member of the Ontario Advisory Board for the Canadian Cancer Society.

McCrory holds an MBA from Queen's University and resides in Toronto, Canada.

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Robert McDowell

Chief Commercial Officer
Choice Hotels International

Robert McDowell is chief commercial officer for Choice Hotels International, (NYSE: CHH), one of the world's leading hotel companies. In this role, he is responsible for developing and leading Choice's marketing, sales, digital commerce, loyalty, revenue management and customer care.

McDowell joined Choice Hotels in May 2011 as senior vice president of marketing and distribution, and was appointed to his current leadership position in 2016. During his tenure, he successfully developed and executed the company's customer acquisition strategy through an integrated digital advertising campaign, built an industry-leading revenue management platform, relaunched Choice Privileges, a now top-rated and the fastest-growing loyalty program in the industry, and continued to evolve Choice's digital platform.

Prior to joining Choice Hotels, McDowell spent nearly 15 years with United Airlines, where he served as managing director of distribution and eCommerce. While at United, he led efforts in international route planning, revenue management, e-commerce and global distribution. Previously, he also served as chief operating officer for C&H International, a \$600 million international travel agency.

McDowell has a proven track record of building high performing teams focused on customer engagement rooted in technology innovation, market research, and data to continually drive bottom line performance for the enterprise. He earned his bachelor's degree from the New York Institute of Technology, and a master's degree in business administration from the University of Notre Dame.

Jennifer Mehra

Director of Prototype Design & Development
Wyndham Hotels & Resorts

Jennifer R. Mehra is director of prototype design & development at Wyndham Hotels & Resorts. She is responsible for overseeing designs for the 22 brands that make up Wyndham Hotels & Resorts. Most recently Jennifer has lead the design for Wyndham's latest economy extended stay hotel brand. As of January 2022, Mehra is also spearheading the FF&E (Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment) Strategic Sourcing department. This department recently launched a new initiative for Days Inn to bring manufacturer direct savings for FF&E to over 1,000 Days Inn hotels. The new streamlined approach is designed to help owners effortlessly and efficiently renovate to the Days Inn Dawn design scheme.

Mehra joined Wyndham in January 2017 as a design manager. Prior to that she worked at various New York City boutique architecture firms including Glen & Co, Gwathmey Seigel Kaufmann Architects, crème design and Bonetti Kozerski Studio, working on an array of hotel and restaurant designs. She earned her Master of Science from Pratt Institute and a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Arizona.

Outside of work Mehra is involved in various initiatives including NEWH (Network of Women in Hospitality) New York Chapter, a non-profit organization that supports scholarships, education, and business development opportunities for individuals in the hospitality industry.

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John Melicharek

Partner
Baker & Hostetler

With over 30 years' experience advising clients on business and transactional matters, John Melicharek focuses his practice primarily on transactions within the hospitality industry. He counsels clients on real estate, finance, management, branding and similar transactional needs and provides invaluable guidance on hotel acquisitions, dispositions and joint ventures. When clients are involved in complex negotiations, structuring complex mixed-use projects, or facing difficult legal decisions, Melicharek is often brought in to analyze their situation and develop creative strategies to meet their business objectives.

Melicharek leads BakerHostetlers' Hospitality Industry practice. He has been ranked in *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* since 2008 in the area of leisure and hospitality and is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* in real estate law. He is a frequent lecturer at hospitality industry conferences, offering commentary and opinions on industry issues, trends, challenges, and concerns.

Steve Michels

Managing Director
Cushman & Wakefield

Steve Michels is a managing director with Cushman & Wakefield. He has over 15 years of real estate banking, capital markets, development, private equity, and investment experience. Steve joined Cushman & Wakefield in 2011 in Los Angeles and subsequently moved to New York in 2014 as a partner helping oversee the hospitality platform. Since joining Cushman & Wakefield Steve has been involved in over \$16.0 billion of lodging related transactions. Other prior experience includes acquisition and investment roles at CitizenM, The Marcus & Millichap Company, and Wynn Las Vegas.

Michels is a frequent speaker at industry events, including the Americas Lodging Investment Summit (ALIS) and the NYU International Hospitality Industry Investment Conference.

Michels is a graduate from Cornell University's School of Hotel Administration and holds an MBA from the UCLA Anderson School of Management with a concentration in Real Estate Finance. He lives in Greenwich, CT with his wife and two sons.

Lynn Minnaert, PhD

Academic Director and Clinical Associate Professor
NYU School of Professional Studies Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality

Lynn Minnaert, PhD, is the academic director and a clinical associate professor at the NYU School of Professional Studies Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality. Minnaert's research has focused on international tourism policy, social tourism, family tourism, the social legacy of events (MICE events, Olympic Games) and corporate philanthropy in tourism and events. Her research has been funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (UK), the European Union, the International Olympic Committee, regional and national tourist boards (e.g. Tourism Flanders; Visit Almaty, Kazakhstan; Discover Dominica) and Meeting Professionals International. She is on the editorial board of *Hotel and Tourism Management*, and on the international advisory board for the *International Journal of Contemporary Tourism Research*. She is co-president of the International Sociological Association's RC50 special interest group on Tourism. She also is the conference chair of the Northeast chapter of the Travel and Tourism Research Association (TTRA).

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Alexander Mirza

Founder & CEO
Cachet Hospitality

Alexander Mizra has over 25 years of experience as a management consultant and C-suite hospitality executive at leading brands including Starwood, Hilton, and Caesars. He created Mogul Hospitality with a mission to address talent in the hospitality industry through data science and artificial intelligence.

As a management consultant, Mizra led scientists in Shell's Gamechanger Program and generated \$3 billion of new businesses addressing climate change. He advised CEOs, Heads of State, and the Davos World Economic Forum.

Afterward, Mizra joined Starwood as head of strategic planning, reporting to the CEO and the CFO. He led high profile projects including corporate strategy for the board of directors. He was subsequently the SVP of corporate development at Hilton and the SVP of Hospitality at Caesars Entertainment where he reported to the CEO and Chairman.

In 2012, Mizra founded Cachet Hospitality in Shanghai. Under his leadership as CEO, Cachet opened properties in China, Southeast Asia, and North America, received design awards, raised four rounds of capital, and Cachet was recognized as "Asia's Up and Coming Management Team."

Mizra earned an MBA from Harvard Business School and holds a Bachelor of Arts and Sciences and a master's degree from Queen's University at Kingston, where he was an Aga Khan Foundation Scholar. He was recognized as Canada's "Top 40 under 40" and awarded Toronto's Mayor Volunteer Creed.

Lynette Montoya

President & CEO
Latino Hotel Association

Lynette Montoya, CEO of the Latino Hotel Association since 2015, is focused on providing Latino entrepreneurs hotel industry resources, education and training, and networking opportunities to build wealth through hotel ownership and investment. She has been actively involved in the hotel industry for 20 years, working as a broker for properties throughout the United States. Montoya is the founder of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce in Santa Fe, New Mexico and served as its founding executive director. She is also a board member of Architecture 2030, a non-profit think tank tackling climate change through the design of the built environment. As director of economic development for the City of Santa Fe, she was instrumental in many integral projects including the development and construction of a new convention center.

Montoya serves on the Advisory Council of the California State University Hospitality and Tourism Management Education Alliance and volunteers extensively in her community, where she has been a key member of charities serving homeless use, battered women, and other vulnerable populations. She is currently a member of the Big Brothers Big Sisters gala committee.

Tom Morey

Executive Vice President & Chief Investment Officer
Park Hotels & Resorts

Thomas C. Morey serves as executive vice president & chief investment officer of Park Hotels & Resorts. Prior to his appointment as chief investment officer in January 2020, Morey served as executive vice president & general counsel of Park Hotels & Resorts. Prior to joining Park Hotels & Resorts in August 2016, he served as senior vice president & general counsel of Washington REIT (NYSE: WRE), a diversified real estate investment trust (REIT), from October 2008 until July 2016. Previously, Morey served as a corporate/M&A partner with Hogan & Hartson LLP, a multinational law firm (now known as Hogan Lovells US LLP), where he represented lodging, multifamily, retail, office, and other REITs in major corporate, acquisition and financing transactions. Morey earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Princeton University and a Juris Doctor degree from Duke Law School.

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Jean-Jacques Morin

Deputy CEO & CFO
Accor

Jean-Jacques Morin is a graduate of the Ecole Nationale Supérieure de l'Aéronautique et de l'Espace, holds an MBA from Thunderbird School of Global Management (Arizona State University), and a CPA.

He began his career with Deloitte where he spent five years in audit and consulting, first in Paris and then in Montreal. He continued to work in the semiconductor sector for 13 years, at Motorola, ON Semi in Arizona, and lastly at Communicant AG, a Berlin-based start-up. He joined Alstom in 2005 as CFO for the power sector in Zurich and then the transport sector, before being appointed CFO for the group.

Morin joined Accor's Executive Committee as CFO in 2015. Today he is deputy CEO, responsible for finance, strategy, IT, legal affairs, procurement, and communications.

R. Tyler Morse

Chairman and CEO
MCR

Tyler Morse is chairman and CEO of MCR, which comprises three discretionary funds and is the 4th largest hotel owner-operator in the United States. With \$4 billion of assets under management, MCR owns and operates 140 hotels (20,000 guestrooms) across 37 states and has developed landmark properties such as the TWA Hotel at JFK Airport.

Prior to founding MCR in 2006, Morse was the president of Bliss, the upscale spa and beauty products company. He previously served as assistant to the chairman and CEO of Starwood Hotels & Resorts, Barry Sternlicht, and contributed to Starwood's overall corporate investment and development initiatives. Morse earned his CPA at Ernst & Young LLP and worked as an investment banker at Morgan Stanley in its Financial Sponsors and Mergers and Acquisitions Group.

Morse got his start as a baggage handler for Delta Airlines at LAX. He was a ski instructor at Squaw Valley USA in Lake Tahoe and at Termás de Chillán in Chile. At California's Mammoth Mountain, he was a member of the ski patrol. He also worked as a busboy at the Hard Rock Café in Honolulu, Hawaii, and as a car valet at The Cheesecake Factory in Redondo Beach, California.

Morse serves on the Board of Directors of NYC & Company, the convention and visitor arm of New York City. He is a member of the Marriott International (NASDAQ: MAR) Courtyard by Marriott Advisory Board and the Hilton Worldwide (NYSE: HLT) Distribution Advisory Committee. He serves on the advisory board of NYU School of Professional Studies Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality and on the Policy Advisory Board for the Fisher Center for Real Estate and Urban Economics at the University of California, Berkeley, Haas School of Business. Morse is an active member of IREFAC, PREA, NAREIT and The Real Estate Roundtable. He serves as a trustee on the board of Prep for Prep.

Morse graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, and Harvard Business School. He lives in New York City with his wife and two daughters.

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Michael Murphy

**Head of Lodging and Leisure Capital Markets
First Fidelity Mortgage Corporation**

Michael Murphy serves as head of Lodging and Leisure Capital Markets of the First Fidelity Mortgage Corporation. He is chairman of the board of directors of American Hotel Income Properties REIT LP, listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange under the symbol HOT.UN. He is a member of the board of directors of Ashford Inc listed on the NYSE under the symbol AINC. He was previously lead director of Ashford Hospitality Trust, listed on the NYSE under the symbol AHT and a director of Ashford Hospitality Prime, listed on the NYSE under the symbol AHP.

From 1998 to 2002 Murphy served as the senior vice president and chief development officer of ResortQuest International, a public, NYSE-listed company. Prior to joining ResortQuest, from 1995 to 1997, he was president of Footprints International, a company involved in the planning and development of environmentally friendly hotel properties. From 1994 to 1996, Murphy was a senior managing director of Geller & Co., a Chicago-based hotel advisory and asset management firm. Prior to that he was a partner in the real estate investment banking firm of Moeckel Murphy & Co and a partner in Metric Partners where he was responsible for all hospitality related real estate matters including acquisitions, sales and the company's investment banking platform. He served in various development roles at Holiday Inns, from 1973 to 1980.

Murphy has been co-chairman of the Industry Real Estate Finance Advisory Council (IREFAC) five times and currently serves as president of the Atlanta Hospitality Alliance and on the Advisory Board of Radical Innovation. He is the 2014 recipient of the IREFAC C. Everett Johnson Award.

John Murray

**Executive Vice President, The RMR Group &
President and Chief Executive Officer, Sonesta International Hotels Corporation**

Mr. Murray is a director, president and chief executive officer of Sonesta International Hotels Corporation. He is also an executive vice president of The RMR Group and is a member of the RMR Executive Operating Committee. In addition, he serves as a managing trustee of Service Properties Trust (Nasdaq: SVC) and Industrial Logistics Properties Trust (Nasdaq: ILPT). Murray previously served as SVC's president from 1996 to 2022 and its chief executive officer from 2018 to 2022. He was also ILPT's president and chief executive officer from 2018 to 2022. Murray currently serves on the Urban Land Institute (ULI) Hotel Development Council and the American Hotel & Lodging Association (AHLA) Hospitality Investment Roundtable. From 2014 to 2017, he was a member of the AHLA Board of Directors representing the owners' segment of the association. Prior to joining RMR in 1993, Murray worked at Fidelity Investments and Ernst & Young LLP. He earned a Bachelor's degree in Accounting from Syracuse University.



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Anthony Nacci

Senior Director, Global Brand Management
Autograph Collection and Tribute Portfolio

Bold moves. Transformation. High velocity change. All these can unnerve and upend an organization. As a brand management leader with more than 35 years of hospitality experience, Anthony Nacci uses his skills to cut through seemingly unsolvable business challenges and positions even the most difficult complexities on a path forward. Nacci is the senior director, global brand management for two of Marriott International's exciting and fastest growing lifestyle brands, Autograph Collection and Tribute Portfolio. He was instrumental in the launch of the Autograph Collection which has been recognized as one of the fastest growing brands in the industry. He partners with owners, franchisees, interior designers and branding agencies to deliver against the brand's promise of each hotel being uniquely different. In addition to brand management his career includes sales and marketing, food and beverage and multiple property leadership positions.

Nacci earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Hotel, Restaurant and Institutional Management from The Pennsylvania State University. He bleeds blue as a passionate Nittany Lion Fan and is a self-proclaimed Gear Head!

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Francis J. Nardozza**Chairman and CEO
REH Capital Partners**

Francis (“Frank”) J. Nardozza is chairman and CEO of REH Capital Partners, a national real estate and hospitality investment and advisory services firm headquartered in Fort Lauderdale, FL. Nardozza has over 44 years of diversified experience in real estate and hospitality investment, finance, and consulting. He is recognized nationally and internationally for his work in the areas of mergers and acquisitions, investment, development planning, and strategic advisory services in the fields of real estate and hospitality, and has advised on over \$15 billion in real estate and hospitality transactions throughout his professional career.

Prior to launching REH in 2001, Nardozza was a partner and served as the National and Global Real Estate and Hospitality Consulting Practice Leader for KPMG, LLP and KPMG Consulting, two entities comprising one of the world’s largest professional services firms, where his tenure with KPMG spanned a period of over 25 years.

Nardozza is the founding chairperson of the U.S. Lodging Industry Investment Council (“LIIC”), and currently serves on the Executive Advisory Committee of NYU Hospitality Industry Investment Conference and the Executive Planning Board of the Americas Lodging Investment Summit (“ALIS”). He also is active with many other industry programs and forums including the Urban Land Institute, the American Hotel & Lodging Association, and the American Resort Development Association.

Nardozza presently serves as chairperson of the Executive Advisory Board of the Real Estate Center at Florida State University, where he established and endowed the “Nardozza Real Estate Scholars Program” at Florida State University. He also serves as a trustee of the Florida State University Real Estate Foundation and member of the Advisory Board of the Dedman College of Hospitality at FSU. In April 2013 he was inducted into the Florida State University College of Business Hall of Fame. In his community, Nardozza is a member of the Board of Directors of Hope Outreach Center, in Broward County, FL. Nardozza is a graduate of Florida State University, BS Accounting. Additionally, he completed the executive partner certificate program on international business at The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania in May 1993.

Christopher J. Nassetta**President and CEO
Hilton**

Christopher J. Nassetta is president and CEO for Hilton. He joined the company in 2007. Previously, Nassetta was president and CEO of Host Hotels & Resorts beginning in 2000. He joined Host in 1995 as executive vice president and was elected chief operating officer in 1997.

Before joining Host, Nassetta co-founded Bailey Capital Corporation in 1991, where he was responsible for the operations of the real estate investment and advisory firm. Prior to founding Bailey Capital Corporation, he spent seven years at The Oliver Carr Company, ultimately serving as chief development officer. In this role, he was responsible for all development and related activities for one of the largest commercial real estate companies in the mid-Atlantic region.

Nassetta graduated from the University of Virginia McIntire School of Commerce with a degree in finance. He currently serves on McIntire’s Advisory Board.

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Melissa K. Nelson**Partner, Washington DC
Dentons**

Melissa Nelson is a partner in Dentons' Hotels and Leisure practice, with experience in all facets and at all stages of hospitality and commercial real estate projects, including acquisitions, dispositions, due diligence, structuring, financing, leasing, development and operations. She has represented developers, lenders, landlords, tenants, equity investors, real estate investment trusts (REITs) and pension fund advisors, and worked on acquisitions and dispositions throughout the US involving complex structures. Nelson has counseled high net worth families and businesses in connection with hotel acquisitions and dispositions, as well as operational matters related to hotel investments and ownership.

Nelson's background includes eight years in Florida advising developers, owners, operators and builders on the planning, development, restructuring and operation of hotels, resorts, master-planned communities (residential, commercial and large-scale mixed-use), and condominium developments, including office, condo-hotels and condominium conversions. Over the course of this time, she honed her skills in drafting and negotiating a wide variety of complex agreements, including hotel management agreements, technical services agreements, licensing agreements, reciprocal easement agreements, covenants (CC&Rs), declarations and development agreements. Nelson's client base in Florida included developers of high-end resorts throughout Florida and the Caribbean, whose resorts contained extensive amenities, including golf courses, beach clubs, marinas, shopping, restaurants and conference centers. While in Florida, she experienced the 2008 downturn in the real estate market and became an expert at advising clients on how to handle distressed properties, both on the acquisition and the disposition side.

Nelson also has extensive experience representing both regional and national landlords and tenants in their leasing efforts in connection with shopping centers, retail strip centers, restaurants, industrial warehouse parks, office buildings, ATMs, convenience stores and grocery stores throughout the country. This diverse experience proved invaluable when working with clients to navigate the effects of COVID-19 in 2020 and in negotiating new leases with an eye towards being proactive rather than reactive.

Nelson actively works to understand her clients' business in order to efficiently but effectively streamline the negotiation process and allow her clients to fulfill their goals and move on to the next project. To that end, her focus is on achieving the client's best outcomes and finding practical solutions to any issues that arise during the course of a transaction. She enjoys being part of a firm that values collaboration across practice groups and locations and that shares her commitment to achieving a client's legal and business goals by finding practical solutions to even the most complex challenges.



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**Kathleen (“Leeny”) K. Oberg**

Chief Financial Officer and Executive Vice President
Marriott International

Kathleen (“Leeny”) K. Oberg was appointed as Marriott’s chief financial officer and executive vice president, Business Operations, effective October 2021. In this role, she is responsible for the company’s financial strategy and execution, including financial reporting and accounting, financial planning and analysis, global treasury operations, project finance, investor relations, tax, internal audit, global operations finance, and mergers and acquisitions.

Oberg was most recently the chief financial officer and executive vice president for Marriott from 2016 to 2021. Prior to this role, she was the chief financial officer for The Ritz-Carlton since 2013, where she contributed significantly to the brand’s performance, growth, and organizational effectiveness. Previously, Oberg served in a range of financial leadership positions with Marriott. From 2008 to 2013, she was the company’s senior vice president, corporate and development finance, where she led a team that valued new hotel development projects and merger and acquisition opportunities, prepared the Company’s long-range plans and annual budgets, and made recommendations for the Company’s financial and capital allocation strategy. From 2006 to 2008, Oberg served in London as senior vice president, international project finance and asset management for Europe and the Middle East and Africa, and as the region’s senior finance executive. She first joined Marriott as part of its Investor Relations group in 1999. Before joining Marriott, Oberg held a variety of financial leadership positions with such organizations as Sodexo (previously Sodexo Marriott Services), Sallie Mae, Goldman Sachs, and Chase Manhattan Bank. She currently serves on the Adobe Board of Directors.

She earned her Bachelor of Science in Commerce, with concentrations in finance and management information systems from the University of Virginia, McIntire School of Commerce, and received her Master of Business Administration from Stanford University Graduate School of Business.

Chip Ohlsson

Executive Vice President and Chief Development Officer, North America
Wyndham Hotels & Resorts, Inc.

Chip Ohlsson is executive vice president and chief development officer, North America, for Wyndham Hotels & Resorts. In this role, he is responsible for the development strategy for Wyndham’s 22 brands across North America, identifying and building strategic partnerships to position Wyndham Hotels & Resorts in new markets and to optimize its presence in existing markets.

Ohlsson is also responsible for strengthening and expanding relationships with owners and key ownership groups including real estate investment trusts, developers and financial institutions with hospitality portfolios. Wyndham Hotels & Resorts partners with owners to convert high brand awareness into consistent revenue by maintaining a clear brand focus and enhancing brand equity to attract the next generation of travelers, creating opportunities for entrepreneurs to grow their business.

A 28-year veteran of the hospitality industry, Ohlsson brings with him hotel financing and portfolio management experience, as well as many established industry relationships. Most recently, Ohlsson served as vice president of North American development at Starwood Hotels & Resorts where he was responsible for the development and pipeline expansion for the company’s renowned hotel brands.

Prior to this, Ohlsson held several leadership positions across the industry including senior vice president, vice president and franchise sales director with Cendant/Wyndham. During this time he oversaw sales, business development and financial management initiatives and was consistently a top sales producer, earning accolades including Vice President of the Year, among several other notable awards.

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Keith Oltchick

**Executive Vice President of Business Development
Remington Hotels**

As executive vice president of business development, at Remington Hotels, Keith Oltchick brings over 20 years of experience and connections in the hospitality industry to his new role, where he will be responsible for the growth and expansion of Remington Hotel's third-party platform and supporting clients in acquisitions, management transitions and new build development efforts.

Mr. Oltchick has held a variety of senior leadership roles with well-respected industry brands such as Hersha Hospitality Trust and Marriott International. Prior to joining Remington, Keith served as Senior Vice President of Business Development at Pyramid Hotel Group, a privately owned full-service hotel and resort company with ownership and management interests in more than 120 properties across the globe. In his role, he oversaw over \$15 billion of individual and portfolio investments for hospitality assets, development projects and debt restructurings. Oltchick was also responsible for preparing and evaluating comprehensive analysis of investment opportunities, contract negotiations, team development and more.

Keith earned his undergraduate degree in business administration from the University of Arizona, where he later returned to pursue a master's degree in business administration from the Eller College of Management.

Greg O'Stean

**Chief Development Officer
Aimbridge Hospitality**

Greg O'Stean is the chief development officer of Aimbridge Hospitality, responsible for driving the company's overall business growth around the world. As the global leader in hotel and resort management, Aimbridge offers owners the benefits of scale combined with focused operating teams for every hospitality category.

O'Stean was chief development officer of Interstate Hotels & Resorts prior to the October 2019 merger with Aimbridge. Prior to Interstate, he held senior leadership roles with Loews Hotels, Carlson Rezidor, GE Capital Real Estate, and Starwood Hotels & Resorts. With more than three decades of experience in the hospitality industry, O'Stean has led business development teams across the Americas, Asia and Europe.

O'Stean earned an MBA and a BS in Management from Georgia Tech. He currently is vice chairperson of the Hotel Development Council at ULI, and is a former board member of AHLA. He also serves on the board of the Orphaned Starfish Foundation, a global children's charity.



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Mark Owens

Executive Vice President and Co-Head of Hospitality Capital Markets
CBRE

Mark Owens co-heads the Hospitality Capital Markets practice for CBRE Hotels, a team with over

\$50 billion in international hotel and resort finance experience. Since joining CBRE he and his team members have built a practice handling over \$3 billion in annual debt, mezzanine, and equity transaction volume. CBRE Hotels Debt & Structured Finance is one of the country's leading hospitality structured finance practices with depth of experience ranging from complex ground-up construction financing, including the recent Loews Arlington Hotel & Convention Center, equity and joint venture raises, and traditional asset and portfolio level financings.

Prior to joining CBRE, Owens ran the hospitality practice at The Ackman-Ziff Real Estate Group, building the team's production to in excess of \$1 billion in annual transaction volume. In addition to Ackman-Ziff, he was a vice president at Sonnenblick Goldman and an Associate at HVS in its New York office.

Owens is a graduate of the Cornell University School of Hotel Administration and is on the advisory board for the Center for Real Estate Finance at the SC Johnson College of Business. He is a member of CBRE's Capital Markets Advisory Board. He is a frequent guest lecturer at the NYU School of Professional Studies Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality. Owens was a founding board member of AH&LA's Under 30 Council and was voted one of Real Estate Weekly's Rising Stars. He is a member of ULI, has spoken at the NYU International Hospitality Industry Investment Conference, the Americas Lodging Investment Summit, and the Hunter Hotel Investment Conference; he is also a member of the Cornell Real Estate Council and the Association for Real Property + Infrastructure, an international organization focused on addressing global issues impacting real estate and infrastructure.

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Patrick Pacious

President and Chief Executive Officer
Choice Hotels International

Patrick Pacious is president and chief executive officer of Choice Hotels International, (NYSE: CHH), one of the largest and most successful lodging franchisors in the world, with more than 7,100 hotels, representing nearly 600,000 rooms, in 45 countries and territories as of December 31, 2020.

Throughout his 15-plus years of leadership in increasingly senior roles at Choice, Pacious has revitalized legacy brands, launched new brands, and acquired a brand that is the fastest growing in its segment, as well as led enterprise-wide technology transformation initiatives. He has improved business delivery to hotel owners and advanced a corporate culture focused on diversity, equity and belonging as well as performance for Choice associates. In 2020, he successfully navigated the company through the unprecedented circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic and delivered results that outperformed the industry. Throughout the pandemic, he also led advocacy efforts with Congress and the administration to drive assistance for small business owners and the company's franchisees, helping to ensure that their needs would be addressed in the economic relief bills enacted during the crisis. Before becoming CEO in 2017, Pacious was the company's president and chief operating officer.

Pacious served as a US Navy officer after earning his bachelor's degree from Duke University and went on to earn a master's in business administration from Northwestern's Kellogg Graduate School of Management. In 2020, Pacious was named one of the "Top 50 Best CEOs of Large Companies" by Comparably for a third year in a row, as determined by employee ratings, ranking No. 7 overall. In 2019, he received the inaugural Veterans in Business Award from the Washington Business Journal for his work to help veterans in the workplace and beyond. Pacious is currently a member of the board of directors of the Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts.

Sharan Pasricha

Founder
Ennismore

Sharan Pasricha founded Ennismore in 2011 and under his leadership it saw exponential growth, including the global expansion of The Hoxton; the reinvention of Gleneagles; and the creation of shared community workspace, Working From_In 2021, Pasricha and Accor entered a joint-venture, making Ennismore the largest and fastest-growing lifestyle hospitality company, bringing together an unrivaled global portfolio of 14 brands.

Pasricha has been included in Condé Nast *Traveler's* '50 People Changing The Way We Travel'; *The Caterer's* Top 100 Most Powerful People in Hospitality, and was awarded the Alumni Graduate of the Last Decade by London Business School in 2018. Among its accolades, Ennismore was included in Fast Company's World's Most Innovative Companies in 2020 and 2021.

Keith M. Pattiz

Partner
McDermott Will & Emery

Keith M. Pattiz has extensive experience in the areas of commercial leasing, financing, sales and acquisitions, hotel transactions, joint ventures and real estate workout matters. He has provided legal representation to a wide variety of clients, including major residential, office, hotel and shopping center developers, hotel operators, lending institutions, and US and non-US investors. He is head of the firm's Real Estate Group.

Pattiz has broad experience and is a recognized practitioner in the hospitality sector. He represents numerous owners, operators, and developers in their acquisition development activity, financing management agreements, retail leasing and dispute resolution matters. For more than 10 years, he has moderated and has been a panelist at the NYU International Hospitality Industry Investment Conference. His accolades include: *New York Law Journal*, New York Trailblazers, 2020; *The Best Lawyers in America 2007 to 2022*, Real Estate Law in New York Area; Chambers USA 2010 to 2021; Super Lawyers.

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John Paulsen

Senior Vice President**Hotel Asset Value Enhancement (hotelAVE)**

John Paul has more than 30 years of hospitality experience in hotel operations and asset management. He is actively involved in the management of multiple complex assets, both independent and branded, and utilizes his expertise to develop and execute asset management plans that unlock real estate value.

Prior to joining hotelAVE, Paulsen was senior vice president of asset management for GB Lodging where he was responsible for the asset management execution of a portfolio of lifestyle and boutique hotels. Before joining GB Lodging, he was first vice president with Tishman Hotel Corporation, overseeing their New York City hotel Assets. He spent 17 years in hotel operations managing a diversity of full-service hotels ranging in size from 150 rooms to 2,400 rooms.

Paulsen graduated from the University of Houston with a Bachelor of Science in Hotel and Restaurant Administration. He also holds a Master of Science in Hospitality Industry Studies from the NYU School of Professional Studies. He has been an adjunct professor for NYU SPS from 2009 through 2018 and has taught graduate classes in Hotel Operations Analysis, Strategy Formulation and Decision Making, and Hotel Management Fundamentals. Paulsen is a member of both the Hotel Asset Managers Association (HAMA) and the Conrad Hilton College of Hotel & Restaurant Management Alumni Society, and is the past president of the NYU Tisch Center Alumni Society. He is a Certified Hotel Asset Manager (CHAM), and a Certified Hospitality Housekeeping Executive (CHHE).

Roman Pedan

Founder and Chief Executive Officer**Kasa Living**

Roman Pedan has over a decade of experience in real estate investing and technology entrepreneurship. He was an early team member at KKR's Real Estate Private Equity group where he worked on hotel transactions totaling \$1.2 billion across the U.S. and was involved in every hotel transaction that KKR closed during his tenure. Pedan was also an early team member at Juniper Square, a market-leading investment management platform, and was the founder of a startup called book.ly, a profitable, vertical e-commerce website that sold more than \$15mm of textbooks.

Pedan earned a BS in Computer Science from the University of Pennsylvania, a BS in Economics with a Real Estate and Finance concentration from The Wharton School, and an MBA from Stanford Graduate School of Business. In addition to leading Kasa, he is an avid skier, traveler, and reader with particular interests in hospitality organization, history, and leadership.

Daniel C. Peek

Chief Operating Officer**HWE**

Dan Peek joined HWE in June of 2019 and serves as the chief operating officer of the firm. He is charged with leading a team that executes institutional-grade commercial real estate transactions globally. During his career, he has completed nearly \$40 billion in investment sale, debt, and structured finance transactions.

Previously, Peek served as senior managing director and head of the hospitality practice group for HFF, joining the firm in 2007 to build a dedicated hotel platform. Prior to HFF, he was a co-founder of Regent Street, an affiliate of The Plasencia Group (TPG), a boutique firm specializing in sale, financing, and advisory services for distinctive hotels and resorts throughout the Americas.

Peek, a graduate of the School of Hotel Administration at Cornell University, is a member of the Urban Land Institute and its Hotel Development Council, the AHLA Investment Roundtable, advisory board of the Cornell Real Estate and Finance Center, and the Cornell Hotel Society. He is a recipient of the industry's prestigious "Jack A. Shaffer Financial Advisor of the Year" award.

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Gilda Perez-Alvarado**Global Chief Executive Officer
JLL Hotels & Hospitality**

Gilda Perez-Alvarado is the global chief executive officer of JLL Hotels & Hospitality, where she is responsible for investment sales, debt and equity placement, strategic advisory and asset management across three global regions: Americas, EMEA and Asia Pacific. Additionally, she leads the group's Global Hotel Desk, a specialized team of cross-border investment sales professionals based in the Middle East, Asia Pacific, the Americas and Europe. Previously, she served as CEO, Hotels & Hospitality Americas.

Perez-Alvarado also serves on the Global Advisory Board of Qiddiya, a PIF-funded giga project in Saudi Arabia. She is also a two-time recipient of the Jack A. Shaffer Financial Advisor of the year at the Americas Lodging Investment Summit. She remains the only woman to date to receive this award. Perez-Alvarado is an active member of IREFAC (Industry Real Estate Financing Advisory Council) and a member of Cornell School of Hotel Administration Dean's Advisory Board.

Walter Peseki**Senior Director of Feasibility
Aimbridge**

Walter Peseki joined Aimbridge in March 2022 as a senior director of feasibility with a focus on relinking assets at the end of a current hold period with new ownership. Prior to Aimbridge, he spent 10 years with Quorum Hotels, most recently as the vice president of development where he was responsible for sourcing, underwriting, and helping close transactions for a roster of clients. In his career, Walter has underwritten over \$4B of hotel assets.

Peseki has also worked in front office leadership for Disney, Hilton, and Sunstone where he helped lead teams of 100+ associates.

He earned an MS in Hospitality Industry Studies with a concentration in Hotel Finance from the NYU SPS Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality and a BBA from Wilkes University where he majored in Entrepreneurship.

Peseki is a member of the Urban Land Institute where he is a member of the Travel Experiences and Trends council.

Originally from NJ, he resides in Dallas, TX with his family, where he serves as a mentor with Mercy Street and volunteer with 2nd Saturday.

Steen Petri**Senior Vice President, Investments
HEI Hotels & Resorts**

Steen Petri is a seasoned hospitality industry professional with over \$3B of hotel real estate capital transaction experience.

He has been with HEI since 2008 where he is responsible for the company's business development team. In his role, he oversees all aspects of transactional underwriting, financing, contract negotiations, due diligence and deal execution. He is instrumental in the firm's deal sourcing for acquisitions and 3rd party management agreements through an extensive network of institutional capital partners, brokers and other stakeholders.

Petri joined HEI in 2008 from the Waterford Hotel Group where his responsibilities included land acquisition sourcing, securing entitlements and underwriting for ground-up hotel development projects and acquisitions. Formerly, he spent over 10 years in hospitality operations, leading various management teams at assets including the W Hotel Union Square NYC, Lotos Club in NYC and the Hotel Jerome in Aspen, CO.

Petri earned a Master's Degree in Hotel Development & Asset Management from the NYU SPS Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality, and served as president of the NYU SPS Tisch Center Alumni Society. He earned a Bachelor's in Hotel & Restaurant Management from University of New Haven, CT.

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Chris Pfohl

Executive Vice President, Business Development & Acquisitions
Pyramid Global Hospitality

Over the past 30 years, Chris Pfohl has been a successful developer, owner, and operator of hotels throughout the United States leading the acquisition, development, and management contract process for over 150 hotels. Pfohl has formulated and executed strategic acquisition and development plans that have resulted in over \$1 billion in hotel transactions. As EVP of business development & acquisitions, he is responsible for sourcing and handling acquisitions and new business. Previously, Pfohl was an executive vice president of acquisition for Bentley Forbes Hospitality Group. He was responsible for the start-up of a new hospitality division with the goal of acquiring, developing, operating and asset managing four- and five-star hotel projects. In addition, he has held senior-level positions for Hilton, InterContinental, and DoubleTree Hotels, including oversight of managed development for Hilton Worldwide. Previously, Pfohl purchased, owned, and operated a DoubleTree hotel in Wilmington, DE. He has also held several hotel operational and management positions including regional vice president and general manager of 15 hotels with Winegardner Hammons and the Beacon Hotel Corporation. Pfohl joined Pyramid in 2000 and is based in Pyramid's Boston headquarters.

Ron Pohl

President of International Operations and WorldHotels
BWH Hotel Group

Ron Pohl is president of International Operations for Best Western Hotels and Resorts and WorldHotels. He joined the brand in 2007 and serves on the company's executive committee. Pohl has made significant contributions to include thoughtfully increasing the company's scale across the globe. He was instrumental in repositioning existing offerings and launching new brands to diversify the company's portfolio, appealing to today's travelers and developers. In addition, he has led new and innovative operations efforts resulting in record guest satisfaction scores for the company.

Prior to joining Best Western, Pohl spent 25 years with Boykin Management Company and Marriott Corporation. With Boykin, he served in a number of senior-level positions and ultimately senior vice president of operations.

He currently serves on the American Hotel & Lodging Association's board of directors, the advisory board for Grand Canyon University and previously served on the board of directors for the Convention & Visitors Bureau of Greater Cleveland.

Throughout his career, Pohl has earned several awards. In 2017, he was named a silver winner in the Executive of the Year - Large Companies category by the Best in Biz Awards. Pohl received the award as result of his commitment to excellence, innovative vision, and investment in employees' professional development. Pohl was also named the 2017 gold winner in the Executive of the Year category by One Planet Awards, the world's premier awards program honoring the best in business and professional excellence in every industry from around the globe. Finally, Pohl received the prestigious American Hotel & Lodging Educational Institute Arthur Landstreet Award in 2016.

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Cindy Potter

**Executive Vice President, Asset Management
Hotel Asset Value Enhancement (hotelAVE)**

Cindy Potter has over 30 years working in hotel real estate covering the full real estate life cycle, working on all sides of the business: family office, owner/operators, a public REIT, a major brand company, lender and an advisory firm. She is currently with hotelAVE, developing and implement operational, contractual and capital/ROI strategic initiatives to improve overall asset value as well as work on corporate initiatives for the benefit of hotelAVE's clients.

Prior to joining hotelAVE, Potter was SVP of asset management for Junson Capital, an international family office, responsible for a \$1B portfolio of 16 hotels and interim COO at Condor Hospitality Trust where she reported to a board of directors on a 17-hotel portfolio. At both, she developed strategic positioning statements, managed brand, operator and lender relationships, handled all regulatory compliance and oversaw capital planning and renovations.

As a leader on Starwood Hotels & Resorts' real estate team, Potter was responsible for the development and implementation of strategic plans for the owned real estate portfolio, ranging from select serve, major convention to life-style and luxury hotels. She oversaw the sale of \$2B of hotel assets.

Prior to joining Starwood, Potter worked for HEI Hotels and Resorts as VP of Asset Management, New Castle Hotels & Resorts as Sr. director of development & acquisitions, AETNA Real Estate Investments and HVS.

Potter graduated from Cornell University with a Bachelor of Science in Hotel Administration. She is a member of the Hospitality Asset Managers Association (HAMA).

Tracy L. Prigmore

**Managing Partner, TLTSolutions and Founder,
She Has a Deal.**

Tracy L. Prigmore is an award winning executive and the founder of TLTSolutions, a real estate investment and development firm that provides unparalleled access and insight to alternative investments. Her mission is to empower people to build generational wealth, and through TLTSolutions she creates opportunities for individuals, families and entities to obtain passive income by investing in residential, multifamily and hotel projects.

As the sponsor for real estate investments, Prigmore works with property management to maximize the value of each asset. She has a sterling record of bringing real estate ventures to life and maximizing their financial performance through sound asset management, as well as disciplined investment and renovation strategies. Currently, TLTSolutions has a multi-million dollar portfolio of real estate assets under management in four states. With the firm's launch of its first Fund focused on hotel properties; TLTSolutions is actively pursuing acquisitions that will more than double its portfolio.

Chosen as Person of the Year by LODGING in 2021, recognized by International Hospitality Institute (IHI) as one of the most influential leaders in US hospitality, as well as an Influential woman in hospitality by Hotel Management; Prigmore is the creator of She Has a Deal, a platform that creates new pathways to commercial real estate ownership and development for women by providing education, networking and investing opportunities. She Has a Deal's renowned Hotel Investment Pitch Competition, SHaDPitch is creating a pipeline of women owners and developers by preparing them to become sponsors and lead hotel investment projects. TLTSolutions recently established SHaD Prosperity Fund I and is raising capital to fund the women led projects originating from the pitch competition.

Prior to entering real estate development, Prigmore spent 25 years as a healthcare executive and held senior leadership roles in strategic planning, business development, and operations for three of the nation's largest healthcare systems.

Prigmore serves on the non-profit boards of Castell Project and the Association of Black Estate Planning Professionals (ABEPP). She resides in northern Virginia with her husband Derrick and their 9-year old son Noah.



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Mark Purcell

SVP, Development, North & Central America
Accor

Mark Purcell brings more than 30 years of experience in the hospitality industry, focused in the areas of acquisitions, development, finance, and operations. He currently serves as senior vice president, development, North & Central America at Accor.

In 2017, Purcell joined Accor as vice president, development, North & Central America. Prior to joining Accor, he was at Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide for 12 years as vice president, development. He began his career with Interstate Hotels and Resorts working at three different Marriott hotels before joining their corporate office where he held several positions of progressing responsibility in finance and development.

Purcell holds a Bachelor of Business Administration, Management Sciences and Marketing from St. Bonaventure University in New York.



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Brian Quinn

**Chief Development Officer
Sonesta International Hotels Corporation**

Brian Quinn has over 20 years of experience in executive roles in public companies and private equity firms. He joined Sonesta as the chief development officer in April 2021, with the acquisition of Red Lion Hotels Corporation. Since joining Sonesta, he has created an illustrious franchise and development team, launched four of the Sonesta brands ready to franchise domestically and ensured continuity for existing legacy Red Lion Franchisees.

Quinn brings deep industry expertise in hospitality, real estate, finance, acquisitions and hotel operations. Leveraging his extensive experience to develop and execute operating strategies for Sonesta's rapidly growing franchise and development organization. Sonesta is one of the fastest-growing hospitality companies in the US, currently ranked 8th overall in size based on hotel properties, with 1200+ hotels, 100,000 rooms and 15 brands across eight countries.

Prior to joining Sonesta, he worked at Choice Hotels, Driftwood Hospitality, Intercontinental and Hilton Hotels Corporation. He served the American Hotel & Lodging Association and Intercontinental Hotels Group Owners' Association and Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association as a board member. Quinn currently serves on the United States Travel and Tourism Board. He led the development of the upscale segment strategy for IHG in the Caribbean and has experience in international strategic planning.

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Allison Reid

**Chief Development Officer
Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants**

As the chief development officer for Kimpton Hotels and Restaurants, Allison Reid is responsible for driving the overall development strategy for Kimpton, including determining and implementing strategic growth initiatives, signing new management and franchise contracts, and being a key member of the brands executive leadership team.

Prior to Kimpton, Reid worked for Starwood Hotels & Resorts where she held various leadership positions, including SVP of development & acquisitions for North America, the Caribbean, and French Polynesia. During her tenure, she was instrumental in the launch of three new brands at Starwood and the signing of 600+ new hotel deals.

Other career highlights include: leading the real estate investment team responsible for the repositioning and/or sale of a \$3.5 billion-dollar global joint venture and leasehold portfolio, W Hotels chief financial officer where she was responsible for driving strategic operating and brand growth initiatives, as well as leadership roles in investor relations, owner services, workouts, finance, and operations.

Kathleen Reidenbach

**Chief Commercial Officer
Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants**

Kathleen Reidenbach is chief commercial officer for Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants. She's responsible for overseeing the sales & catering, brand, revenue & distribution, communications, and marketing departments, which together make up Kimpton's commercial division.

Reidenbach's primary focus is to ensure business success by driving brand clarity and awareness, guest loyalty and top-line performance across the company's portfolio. In addition to existing hotels and restaurants, She and her team focus on brand development and performance of new properties through positioning, distribution and marketing strategies executed by the Kimpton home office and local teams. Reporting to Reidenbach are brand, communications, customer marketing, digital strategy and revenue management & distribution departments.

Reidenbach began her career with Kimpton at the home office as a business analyst in 2002. She was promoted several times to oversee other areas including regional hotel and brand revenue management, and distribution and online marketing. She was also named one of San Francisco Business Times' "40 under 40" leaders.

Prior to joining Kimpton, Reidenbach was a financial analyst at Robertson Stephens, an investment bank that provided a broad range of financial advisory services to growth companies in the technology, consumer and services sectors. She has a bachelor's degree in economics and Spanish from Amherst College in Massachusetts.

Reidenbach resides in the San Francisco Bay Area with her husband and two children.



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Brent Reynolds

CEO and Managing Partner
Nolan Reynolds International

As CEO and managing partner of Nolan Reynolds International, Brent Reynolds is primarily responsible for the firm's strategic growth and development activities within the United States and throughout Latin America. He identifies and creates opportunities that are aligned with the company's strategic plan of acquiring, financing, planning, permitting, and developing high-value projects. His exposure to a wide variety of project types as well as various kinds of regulatory obstacles makes him adept at integrating the company's operations into new markets quickly and efficiently. Reynolds brought the talent and expertise of an established US corporation to capitalize on an emerging market opportunity through the acquisition, capital funding, and entitlement of a \$75 million mixed-use project in Costa Rica, which further developed into the creation of a resort luxury Hotel Brand.

Throughout his career, Reynolds has worked as project manager and developer of complex mixed-use commercial, residential, hospitality, and historic rehabilitation projects located on the East Coast of the United States and in select regions of Latin America. Over the past 16 years, he has been involved in over \$1 billion dollars in real estate development and acquisitions.

Reynolds started his career working in acquisitions, project management, and operations planning for Whiting-Turner Contracting Company in Baltimore, Maryland. While there, he was responsible for acquisition analyses, project budgeting, and feasibility studies and oversaw complex, mixed-use endeavors for the firm's clients. His experience includes projects such as the one million square foot Kendallwood Shopping Center in Kendall, Florida; the extensive renovation and expansion of John Hopkins University's Basic Science Initiative building; and the programming for the renovation and technical upgrading of Meyerhoff Hall for the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. Capitalizing on his experience with Whiting-Turner, he later joined a private development firm where he was responsible for initiating the acquisitions and development movement of Baltimore's East side.

Reynolds's commitment to the communities in which he works extends further than real estate development. He has worked diligently to support both the private and public sectors inclusive of creating aspirations of continued education and long-term career goals. Most notably, his passion for education can be seen through his contributions to the Coldstream Project which was founded in 1993 and is currently known as Bridges. Considered to be one of the young founding associates of the Coldstream Project, he received the Walter B. Smith award, the highest award for personal achievement, from Baltimore's St. Paul's School in 1997.

Reynolds is currently a member of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce, The Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce, and the Miami Chapter of YPO (Young President's Organization). He serves on the Underline Board of Directors working to transform the underutilized land below Miami's MetroRail, from the Miami River to Dadeland South Station, into an iconic linear park, world-class urban trail, and living art destination. Additionally, Brent serves on the Advisory Board for the University of Miami's Masters in Real Estate and Development Program and is on the Board of Advisors for The Transit Oriented Development Institute out of Washington DC, a national planning initiative to promote and accelerate the roll-out of walkable, mixed-use communities around rail stations. He also sits on the Board of Directors for Alfalit, a non-profit organization providing literacy, education, and community development for underprivileged children and families worldwide.

Reynolds earned his Bachelor of Science in Engineering & Finance from the University of Delaware.

Umar Riaz

Managing Director
EY

Bringing transformative strategies and solutions to businesses for more than 20 years. Multilingual and globally oriented. Deep thinker. Passionate about using technology to turn analysis into action. Umar Riaz is EY America's Hospitality segment leader.

EY's Hospitality practice provides a diverse set of services to brands, owners and operators in the hospitality industry. These services include transaction support, audit, tax and consulting support. Riaz focuses on consulting services including growth strategy, digital & innovation transformation, and technology consulting.

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Stephanie Ricca

Editorial Director
Hotel News Now

Stephanie Ricca is editorial director of *Hotel News Now*, where she sets the editorial and content direction for *Hotel News Now* and its suite of newsletters, website content and multimedia content. She has 12 years of hotel trade journalism experience, most recently serving as editor-in-chief of *Hotel News Now*. Before that she was editor-in-chief of *Hotel Management*, and has earlier experience in newspaper and magazine journalism. She holds a Master's in Journalism from the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University.

Kevin Rifkin

Senior Director
Inspirato Real Estate

Kevin Rifkin has worked in real estate since 2011. While earning his degree he worked for a private bank on the real estate lending team. Upon graduation he started his career in capital markets at JLL. Since college, Rifkin has led real estate and development departments at multiple companies, notably Quarters Co-Living, Outsite and Inspirato. He currently works for Inspirato as the head of development. Rifkin sits on the board of the CU Real Estate Center and Colorado Special Olympics. He earned a Bachelors of Finance and Real Estate at University of Colorado, Boulder.

Peggy Fang Roe

Global Officer, Customer Experience, Loyalty & New Ventures
Marriott Bonvoy

Peggy Fang Roe, global officer, customer experience, loyalty & new ventures, oversees the company's award-winning loyalty program, Marriott Bonvoy, as well as the development of new business initiatives, and the Marriott's customer experience.

In this role, she is responsible for the company's insights and data strategy, orchestrating the end-to-end guest experience and the development of new ventures to accelerate customer engagement, including growth of Marriott Bonvoy globally and new businesses including Marriott Homes and Villas and Marriott Boutiques, an online retail store. Fang Roe also provides leadership to the chief sales and marketing officers in all International markets.

Previously, Fang Roe provided strategic leadership to over 21 countries, 23 brands, and more than 700 open hotels as the Chief Sales and Marketing Officer for the Asia Pacific region. In that role, Peggy was focused on building the customer base, adapting Marriott International brands and loyalty program to the local market, managing \$100 million in sales, digital and marketing spend, guiding a salesforce of 5000+ associates, and driving the company's distribution and pricing strategy. Peggy also led the sales and marketing integration of Marriott and Starwood in the Asia Pacific region and most created and managed Marriott International's joint venture with Alibaba. Peggy is currently the Board Chair for the Marriott - Alibaba joint venture, now three years old and contributing one-third of the active member base and one-fourth of the market's bookings.

Peggy is also passionate about education and supporting the development of women. She co-founded the Marriott Women in Leadership initiative in Asia Pacific in 2014 and is a board member of the Hong Kong chapter of the Asian University for Women. Peggy also served on the Board Committee for Advancement at Hong Kong International School.

Prior to her role as CSMO, Peggy held multiple roles at corporate headquarters, including Global Operations, Brand Marketing, and Brand Management. She has led a number of innovation initiatives, including the successful redesign of the TownePlace Suites brand, spa concept development for JW, evolution of meeting space design and an inspiration and mobile platform for meeting planners.

Peggy has more than 16 years of experience in the hotel industry. Prior to joining Marriott, she worked for GE Capital, Amazon.com, and Homestead.com in Silicon Valley. Peggy received her master's degree from Harvard Business School and bachelor's degree in Organizational Behavior from the University of Michigan. She recently relocated from Hong Kong and lives in Bethesda with her husband and two children.

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Agnès Roquefort

Global Chief Development Officer
Accor

Agnès Roquefort holds a MBA from ESSEC Business School in Paris, with a specialty in corporate finance. She is a seasoned professional with more than 15 years' of experience in hospitality, travel, and tourism with different positions in business strategy, M&A, marketing, revenue management, and data. On top of this expertise, Roquefort is an enthusiastic team manager with a strong dedication to talent development.

She started her career in the Private Equity Fund Turenne Capital. In 2002, she joined Bain & Company, the major strategic consulting firm where she mainly worked on due diligence projects for multiple industries. From 2004 to 2010, she pursued strategic consulting at Advancy as principal, working on strategic projects mainly in the tourism, travel, F&B, and hospitality sectors.

Roquefort joined Accor in 2010 and was successively chief of staff for the global COO, global head of revenue management & pricing, and global head of MGallery brand. In her last position as senior VP strategy, integrations & data, she successfully integrated several major brands within the Accor offering portfolio.

Roquefort is the mother of two daughters, and is a strong advocate of gender equality at work. She contributes to RiISE, the Accor diversity network, and pays a particular attention to mentoring talents.

Chip Rogers

President & CEO
American Hotel & Lodging Association

Chip Rogers has been president and CEO of the American Hotel & Lodging Association (AHLA) since the start of 2019, leading America's only national association dedicated to serving the interests of the entire hotel and lodging industry.

In his role as president & CEO, Rogers has led the AHLA team and the lodging industry to achieve tangible results for AHLA members. Subsequently, he has received numerous awards and has been recognized as one of the 25 most influential by Business Travel News, one of the most influential people in Washington DC by Washingtonian magazine, Top 50 Most Influential Leaders in Hospitality, USA, and Global by Hospitality Index, a Freedom Award recipient from ECPAT-USA and twice as a top lobbyist by the Hill newspaper.

Prior to joining the hospitality industry, Rogers served in the Georgia General Assembly. He was elected to office six times and was unanimously elected twice to serve as Senate majority leader.

Rogers earned his undergraduate degree from Georgia Tech and his MBA from Georgia State.

Scott P. Rosenberg, AIA, ASID, LEED AP BD+C

President
Nehmer

Scott P. Rosenberg is president of Nehmer, an international architecture and project management firm specializing in hospitality. He is also a principal with HVS Design, specializing in hospitality interior design and branding. Rosenberg takes a unique, holistic approach of architecture, design, master planning, and real estate strategy to create practical solutions to add value to hospitality assets. He has more than 30 years of experience in architecture and real estate development-related fields, and is a licensed architect in 25 states and the District of Columbia, and is a NCIDQ-certified interior designer. His hospitality experience spans renovations and new buildings for select-service, extended-stay, boutique, full-service, conference-center, and luxury hotels. He holds a Bachelor of Design from the University of Florida, a Master of Architecture from the University of Maryland, and a Master of Science in Real Estate Development from the Johns Hopkins University.



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Rick Ross

Partner, Global Chair, Hotels & Leisure & Global Co-Chair, Family Office & High Net Worth
Dentons

Rick Ross is the chair of Dentons' global Hotels and Leisure practice and global co-chair of the firm's Family Office and High Net Worth sector. Widely regarded as an industry expert, he advises clients globally on complex hospitality and leisure matters, including acquisitions and dispositions (single assets, portfolios), corporate M&A matters, joint ventures, development, and operations. Ross counsels clients around the world as to creating and implementing strategies regarding all aspects of hotel and resort investments, management, and operations. Additionally, he negotiates and documents hotel management and license agreements, and counsels clients with regard to structuring and documenting global, complex mixed-use projects featuring hotels and resorts with residential and other commercial components.

Ross has been ranked "Band 1" nationally in the leisure and hospitality sector every year by *Chambers USA* since 2007 (the first year of ranking this sector). Under his leadership, for each of these years, Dentons has also been one of only two law firms to be "Band 1" nationally ranked in the hotels and leisure sector in the United States and is regarded as one of the top few in the world. In 2014, he was named an "MVP in Hospitality" by *Law360* and Dentons' hotel group was named a "Practice Group of the Year" in 2013, 2017, and 2019.

Vail Ross

Senior VP of Sales & Marketing
STR

Vail Ross, STR's senior VP of sales & marketing, is responsible for the overall coordination, functional management and leadership of the company's business development and marketing strategies.

Ross is often a featured speaker at international, national, and regional conferences, and she serves in several industry board positions for the Destinations International Foundation, HSMIA Americas, the Tennessee Hospitality Association, and the Greater Nashville Hospitality Association.

With STR since 2004, Ross was recognized by Hotel Management in 2019 as one of the Influential Women In Hospitality and was the recipient of the 2013 American Hotel & Lodging Association John Whitaker Award.

STR provides clients from multiple market sectors with premium, global data benchmarking, analytics and marketplace insights. STR was acquired in October 2019 by CoStar Group, Inc. (NASDAQ: CSGP), the leading provider of commercial real estate information, analytics and online marketplaces.

Rachael Rothman, CFA

Head of Hotels Research & Data Analytics
CBRE | Hotels

Rachael Rothman, CFA is CBRE's head of hotels research & data analysis. Rothman is responsible for data analysis, thought leadership, and helping hotel owners, brands, and management companies make profitable decisions while minimizing risks. She joined CBRE in March 2021 after a 20-year career as a public hotel company executive and equity analyst following the hospitality industry. Previously she was chief financial officer at Apple Hospitality REIT and head of corporate strategy and investor relations at Playa Hotels & Resorts. Prior to that, Rothman worked for 18 years as a leading equity analyst following the hospitality industry for Merrill Lynch, Morgan Stanley, and Susquehanna International Group. Rothman began her career as a line-level hotel employee eventually becoming a GM. She holds master's degrees in hotel administration and economics, is a CFA charterholder, and speaks Spanish at the C2 level.

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Kanishk Roy

Vice President, Transactions & Residential
Hyatt Hotels

Kanishk Roy is part of Hyatt's transactions team and leads Hyatt's residential business and offerings on a global basis, including branded residences, timeshare and serviced apartments. Roy joined Hyatt's South West Asia office in 2011 and most recently, was heading up the underwriting function for the Americas region. Prior to joining Hyatt, Roy was an associate with HVS International, a global hospitality consulting firm, and began his career in operations with Taj Hotels & Resorts.

Roy is a graduate of the Institute of Hotel Management in Aurangabad, India and earned an MBA in Finance and Strategy from the Indian School of Business, Hyderabad.

Karen E. Rubin

Principal
Karen Rubin Hotels

Karen E. Rubin is founder and principal of Karen Rubin Hotels, a hotel industry consultancy with focused activities in development and feasibility consulting, litigation support, case review, and expert witness services, as well as educationally-oriented activities within the hospitality industry.

Previously, Rubin was senior vice president of global development, feasibility and development policy in the Real Estate Group at Starwood Hotels and Resorts Worldwide, having joined Starwood in 2000. In this position she managed the creation and implementation of deal policy globally, and was responsible for managing the Global Development Committee. She also was responsible for underwriting new deals including acquisitions, joint ventures, management contracts, mezzanine loans, franchises, and new development for Starwood's St. Regis, Sheraton, Westin, Luxury Collection, Four Points by Sheraton, and W brands, as well as underwriting related to Starwood's extensive portfolio of owned and joint ventured assets. In addition she worked closely with Starwood's divisional development, finance, legal, franchise operations and global brand teams to bring to fruition development deals on a global basis.

Prior to joining Starwood, Rubin spent over 18 years at HVS International, having been first retained as a consulting and valuation analyst and subsequently promoted to senior vice president. During her tenure at HVS International, her clients incorporated virtually every aspect of the lodging and real estate industries, including: foreign and domestic commercial banks such as Chase Manhattan and the Industrial Bank of Japan; investment banks such as DLJ and BT Securities Corp.; hotel companies such as Host Marriott and Omni Hotels; accounting firms such as Arthur Andersen; institutional investors and acquisition funds such as Apollo Real Estate Advisors, L.P. and Samoth USA; construction firms such as Hospitality Worldwide Investors and Taisei America; real estate companies such as the Irvine Company and the J.W. Colachis Companies; municipalities and governmental entities such as the New York City Department of Economic Development and the County of Fairfax, Virginia; law firms such as Luce Forward and Dorsey & Whitney; and a very broad range of individual, family and smaller corporate owners, managers, developers and investors.

Rubin was granted the American Hotel and Motel Association's Certified Hotel Administrator designation in 1991, and the American Society of Real Estate Counselors' Counselor of Real Estate (CRE) designation in 1992. She also holds the MAI designation from the Appraisal Institute, and the FRICS designation from the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors. She is a certified general real estate appraiser in the states of Connecticut and New York.

Rubin's published writings have appeared in a wide variety of periodicals and also she has been frequently quoted in newspapers, periodicals, and trade publications throughout the nation. She is an avid educator within her industry, and has presented seminars and lectured on hospitality-related topics at numerous educational institutions. She has been qualified as an expert witness and has provided expert testimony relating to hospitality property valuations and other financially-related issues in courtrooms and administrative arenas throughout the nation, including Federal Bankruptcy Court.

Rubin graduated with distinction from Cornell University's School of Hotel Administration. She also conducted undergraduate study at the New School for Social Research in New York City and at Brandeis University. She had seven years of full and part-time "hands-on" experience in the hospitality industry prior to and during her tenure at Cornell.

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Stephen Rushmore, Jr., MAI, FRICS

President and CEO
HVS

As president and CEO of HVS, the leading hospitality consulting and services organization with over 50 offices around the globe, Stephen Rushmore is responsible for overseeing the long-term strategy and expansion. Founded in 1980, HVS has provided consulting services and solutions for thousands of clients in all 50 states and more than 70 foreign countries for hotels, restaurants, mixed-use, shared ownership, and leisure assets.

Rushmore is a state-certified appraiser and directly valued and/or consulted on hundreds of hotels around the world. Additionally, he is a commercial real estate broker in New York and frequently lectures at major hotel schools and professional associations. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree from the Cornell School for Hospitality Administration.

He is a member of the Young Presidents Organization (YPO) and is on the Board for the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC), the nation's oldest outdoor recreation and conservation organization. In his free time, Rushmore enjoys bicycling, golf, and as an instrument-rated pilot, enjoys flying small airplanes with his wife and family.

Michelle Russo, Cham, Cha, Mai

Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Hotel Asset Value Enhancement
hotelAVE

Michelle Russo has more than 35 years of practical, hands-on experience with hotels, restaurants, resorts, convention centers, real estate, and finance. hotelAVE has provided services for owners and lenders of 1,000+ hotels with more than 200,000 rooms, representing over \$150 billion of hotel real estate value. The company's current asset management portfolio comprises over 75 hotels and \$7.5 billion in assets under management. The firm advises on an additional \$10 billion of hotel real estate annually. While Russo oversees the practice, she is very involved in defining the forward outlook that establishes how the company manages its portfolio to maximize results, strategic asset positioning, management contract negotiations, and interacting with senior-level brand and management executives on behalf of the portfolio.

Russo is a known industry leader, having been named the Jack A. Shaffer Financial Advisor of the Year 2021, as well as one of 30 Influential Women in Hospitality by Hotel Management Magazine, one of 20 Women in Lodging by *Lodging Magazine* and one of 15 Women of Hospitality Finance by HFTP.

Prior to founding hotelAVE, Russo was VP, senior leisure analyst for Deutsche Banc Alex Brown, covering lodging and leisure stocks. Michelle also managed a \$500 Million portfolio for John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Company, where she improved the portfolio and achieved 20% cash-on-cash returns.

She is a regular guest speaker at industry events and has appeared on CNBC and CNN. Russo serves on the Dean's Advisory Board for Cornell University's School of Hotel Administration and the Cornell SC Johnson College of Business Leadership Council. She is a member of ULI's Hotel Council, Marriott's Distribution Strategy Advisory Committee, the AHLA's Hospitality Investment Roundtable, and AHLA's Global Finance Committee. She also is a two-time past president of the Hospitality Asset Manager Association, a Certified Hotel Asset Manager, Certified Hotel Administrator and a Member of the Appraisal Institute.

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Kevin Schramm

Senior Vice President of Mainstream Brand Development
IHG Hotels & Resorts

Kevin Schramm is the senior vice president of Mainstream Brand Development for IHG Hotels & Resorts. He has responsibility for all development activity for IHG's Mainstream Brand Portfolio including: Holiday Inn, Holiday Inn Express, Staybridge Suites, Candlewood Suites, avid hotels, and Atwell Suites throughout the United States and Canada.

Prior to joining IHG, Schramm was the vice president, Real Estate and Development, for the Hyatt Corporation. In this role, he oversaw real estate development and franchising for Hyatt's select service and extended stay hotel brands in 17 states and throughout Canada. Previously, Schramm served as senior director of Franchising for Wyndham Worldwide (formerly Cendant) where he was responsible for franchise development in the Western United States. Preceding his stint with Wyndham, he was involved in the food service industry as a single unit operator, multi-unit operator, and managing partner of a restaurant/bar concept in Houston, TX.

Schramm attended The University of Louisiana-Lafayette, where he played baseball and majored in Finance.

Greg Schulze

Senior Vice President, Strategic Travel Partners
Expedia Group, Inc.

Greg Schulze is the Senior Vice President for Strategic Travel Partners at Expedia Group, representing some of the best brands in travel, including Expedia, Hotels.com, Travelocity, Orbitz, Hotwire, Wotif, and Expedia Cruises. His team manages global relationships with Expedia Group's travel partners, covering hotel, air, ground transportation, activities, and cruise.

Greg joined Expedia Group in 2005 to lead its air reporting and analysis practices. He subsequently assumed responsibility for package pricing and revenue management, building on his days at American Airlines, where he led the airline's internet pricing strategy. At Expedia Group, he has held a wide variety of leadership positions for strategy, commercial, operations, and analytics.

He spent five years in Singapore before recently relocating back to the United States. Greg served as a director for AirAsiaExpedia and is currently on the board of directors of Traveloka and the US ASEAN Business Council.

Greg holds a bachelor's degree in Engineering from Northwestern University and a Master of Business Administration from the University of North Carolina.

Nick Scribani

Senior Managing Director
Newmark

Nick Scribani is a senior managing director with Newmark's Debt and Structured Finance Group in New York, where he is responsible for the facilitation and execution of the team's financing and capital placement transactions. He has more than a dozen years of real estate investment banking experience and has to date executed more than \$30 billion of capital markets transactions across all asset types.

Prior to joining Newmark, Scribani was a vice president at Citigroup, where he spent five years originating and underwriting securitized and balance sheet loans. During his tenure at Citigroup, he successfully closed more than 150 transactions totaling almost \$5 billion in loan proceeds.

Scribani began his career at GE Capital Real Estate, working in asset management. Part of his role at GE included managing the valuation teams in New York and Connecticut. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree in finance from the University of Pittsburgh, where he graduated summa cum laude as a member of the Honors College.



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Lisa Sexton

Regional Vice President
Marriott International

Lisa Sexton is regional vice president for Marriott International. She is based in Fort Lauderdale, Florida and is responsible for leading the development of Marriott's Premium Full Service brands as well as JW Marriott and The Luxury Collection brands in the Eastern Region of United States.

Sexton joined Marriott in 2015 and brings more than 20 years' experience in the lodging industry with expertise in hotel development, transactions and finance. She previously served as vice president on Marriott's Eastern Region team where she was responsible for hotel development for Marriott, JW Marriott, The Luxury Collection, Westin, Le Meridien, Renaissance, Sheraton, Delta Hotels, Autograph Collection, Tribute Portfolio, Design Hotels and Gaylord Hotels.

Prior to joining Marriott, Sexton worked in the financial services industry serving as an investment banker at Piper Sandler and a loan originator at ORIX Americas with a focus on structuring senior loans and public private partnerships with municipal participation for new construction hotel projects. She holds an BA from Stanford University.

Jay H. Shah

Chief Executive Officer
Hersha Hospitality Trust

Jay H. Shah is Hersha Hospitality Trust's chief executive officer and a member of Hersha Hospitality Trust's board of trustees. Shah is involved in all areas of the business with a particular emphasis on strategic relationships, capital transactions, asset management, and acquisitions. Prior to joining Hersha, he formed Shah & Byler, a Philadelphia-based law firm specializing in real estate and construction. Earlier in his career, Shah also was a consultant at the former Coopers & Lybrand LLP, now PricewaterhouseCoopers. He served as a legislative assistant to the late Senator John Heinz on Capitol Hill and has also worked with the Philadelphia District Attorney's office. Shah serves on Cornell University's Dean's Advisory Board for the School of Hotel Administration and also is a member of American Hotel & Lodging Association's board of directors, American Hotel & Lodging Association's Investment Roundtable, Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts board of trustees, the Philadelphia CEO Council for Growth, Young Presidents' Organization, the Chief Executives Organization, and the President's Leadership Council for Thomas Jefferson University and Jefferson Health. Shah earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the Cornell University School of Hotel Administration, an MBA from the Temple University Fox School of Business, and a Law degree from Temple University Beasley School of Law.

Mit Shah

Chief Executive Officer
Noble Investment Group

As founder and chief executive officer, Mit. Shah provides overall strategic guidance for the Noble organization and heads its investment committee. He has been profiled in *Newsweek* magazine as one of the most influential South Asians in the United States, named as one of Atlanta's most prominent leaders by *Atlanta Magazine* and the *Atlanta Business Chronicle*, and as one of the 21st century's most influential hospitality industry leaders by both *Lodging Hospitality* magazine and *Lodging* magazine. He is the 2019 recipient of the prestigious IREFAC Arne Sorenson Award for outstanding leadership in the hospitality industry.

Shah presently serves as an executive committee member of the board of directors for the American Hotel and Lodging Association and is co-chairman of its Industry Real Estate and Finance Advisory Council (IREFAC). He is a member of the owner advisory boards for Marriott International and Hyatt Hotels Corporation and was non-executive chairman of the board for LaQuinta (NYSE:LQ) and CorePoint Lodging REIT (NYSE:CPLG) prior to their successful realizations for shareholders.

Shah is an active supporter of educational objectives and is currently serving his fourth term as a member of the Board of Trustees for his alma mater, Wake Forest University, where he is chairman of its investment committee.

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Neil H. Shah

**President and Chief Operating Officer
Hersha Hotels and Resorts**

Neil H. Shah is president and chief operating officer of Hersha Hotels and Resorts. For the last 20 years, he has been instrumental in the acquisition, development, and management of over \$3 billion of hotel real estate. Shah is a director of HHM. HHM has grown from the Shah family's first 11-room motel in central Pennsylvania 40 years ago, into one of the leading management companies in the nation with over 100 hotels and resorts across the US.

Shah is past chairman of the Institutional Real Estate Finance Advisory Council (IREFAC) of the American Hotel & Lodging Association and serves on the executive committee of the board of trustees for the National Constitution Center and the Florida Council of 100.

Shah earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and a Bachelor of Science in Management with honors from the University of Pennsylvania and The Wharton School of Business. He earned his MBA from Harvard Business School.

Julienne Smith

**Senior Vice President, Development
IHG Hotels & Resorts**

Julienne Smith is currently senior vice president development – Luxury & Upscale, and Transactions & Asset Management for IHG Hotels & Resorts where she oversees the company's growth in North America. She was senior vice president Development & owner relations for Hyatt Hotels Corporation based in Chicago from 2014 until 2019 where she was responsible for the franchised and managed development of Hyatt Place and Hyatt House hotels in the United States and Canada. Previously, Smith served as vice president of real estate and development where she oversaw the growth of Hyatt's select service brands throughout the Northeastern and Mid Atlantic regions of the United States. She held several positions within Marriott International's Lodging Development group in Bethesda, MD and Newport Beach, CA, prior to joining Hyatt in 2005.

Smith is a graduate of Boston University's College of Arts & Sciences. She is an active member in several hospitality industry organizations including AH&LA, AAHOA and The Castell Project. Within IHG, she serves on the Global and Americas Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Councils. As of 2020, Smith serves on the AH&LA Foundation Board of Trustees. She also serves on the Advisory and Planning Committees for the Hunter Hotel Conference, The Americas Lodging Investment Summit, and AHLA's ForWard. She has been on the board of Kaleidoscope, a non-profit child welfare agency that serves Chicago area children and families impacted by abuse and neglect, since 2018. Smith is an avid reader, yoga enthusiast, traveler, and outdoor adventurer. A native of New Jersey, she currently resides in the city of Atlanta with her husband, two children, and two dogs.

Scott L. Smith

**Managing Director, Real Estate Group, Investment Banking Division
Goldman Sachs**

Scott Smith is a managing director in the Real Estate Group in the

Investment Banking Division of Goldman Sachs and leads the firm's coverage of the gaming industry. He joined Goldman Sachs in 2007 and was named managing director in 2015.

Prior to joining the firm, Smith worked in the global media and telecommunications investment banking group at Citigroup Global Markets. Before that, he worked at the US Securities and Exchange Commission. He began his career on the investment banking team at Houlihan Lokey.

Smith earned a BA in Economics from the University of Redlands and an MBA from the University of Virginia Darden School of Business.



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Todd Soloway

Co-Chair Litigation/Head of Hotel + Hospitality Group and Real Estate Litigation
Pryor Cashman

Todd Soloway specializes in providing sophisticated, thoughtful and business-minded legal advice. A trusted advisor to leaders in the hospitality, real estate and real estate finance industries — including sbe Entertainment Group, Highgate Hotels, HIG Realty Partners, Lloyd Goldman/BLDG Management and Vornado Realty Trust — he is sought after for his expansive industry knowledge and relationships, solidified over more than 25 years of complex trial and deal experience.

Soloway has successfully litigated some of the most high-profile cases in the hospitality and real estate industries involving hotel management and franchise agreements, complex real estate finance and development, intricate foreclosures and workouts, including winning a \$44 million judgment against Starwood Hotels in favor of the owners of the former St. Regis Hotel in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, and a precedent-setting case for the owner of the Eden Roc hotel in Miami Beach, where Todd convinced the appellate court that the management contract in place was terminable as a personal services contract.

As counsel to hospitality brands and owners, developers and investors, Todd handles large, multinational mergers and acquisitions, financings and related transactions, most recently advising sbe Entertainment Group on its \$319 million sale of a fifty percent interest in the company to Paris-based AccorHotels. The transactional component of his practice is borne of his deep relationships across industries.

In addition to M&A work, Soloway and his team of sophisticated transactional partners have recently handled: sbe Entertainment Group's redevelopment of the former Diplomat Golf & Tennis Club in South Florida into the forthcoming SLS Resort Residence & Marina Hallandale Beach; a joint venture comprised of affiliates of The Chetrit Group and Somerset Partners in the \$165 million sale of two prime development sites in the Mott Haven section of the Bronx; and Gazit-Globe's \$43 million acquisition of a joint venture interest in a 300,000-square-foot shopping center in Brooklyn

Soloway holds a JD from Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Yeshiva University and a BA from Brandeis University. He has been named a top attorney in Leisure & Hospitality law by *Chambers USA* (2020-21); named on the Notables in Real Estate 2021 list by *Crain's New York Business*; named to the *Super Lawyers - New York Metro* list in real estate (2009-20); named by *Best Lawyers in America* as a leading attorney in Real Estate law (2014-21) and Litigation: Real Estate (2019-21); is a member of Law360's 2021 Hospitality Editorial Advisory Board, and is the recipient of the Burton Award for Legal Achievement (2015) and the Legal Aid Society's "Pro Bono Award for Outstanding Service" (2005-08).

Soloway is a member and past president, New York City Chapter of the Brandeis University Alumni Association; and a UJA-Federation, Real Estate & Allied Trades Division; Hospitality Division, honorary committee member.



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Jay Stein

Chief Financial Officer
Dream Hotel Group

Jay Stein is chief executive officer at Dream Hotel Group, responsible for the successful evolution, growth and expansion efforts of the Company and its portfolio of brands: Dream Hotels, The Chatwal, Unscripted Hotels and new By Dream Hotel Group collection. With over four decades of experience and nearly 30 years with Dream Hotel Group, Stein has worked in a variety of property and corporate roles at some of the world's leading hospitality groups and boutique lifestyle brands, including Hilton Worldwide, Starwood Hotels & Resorts and Doral Hotels.

Stein began his career in 1983 with Hilton Worldwide at the Vista International Hotel in the World Trade Center in New York City. A veteran of food and beverage management, Stein turned his sights to hotel operations in 1987 and quickly rose through the ranks to become managing director for three Doral Hotels in New York City. In 1995, after taking two of those properties through the transition to Starwood, Stein stayed on as area general manager for almost three years with Starwood. He joined Dream Hotel Group as executive vice president of Operations in 1997 and was promoted to chief operating officer soon thereafter overseeing all new and existing hotel operations and playing a vital role in the company's global expansion efforts. Stein was named chief executive officer in 2015.

An engaged professional dedicated to making a difference, Stein is a true ambassador for the industry, often appearing in top national news publications and television and radio networks including CNN, CNBC, FOX Business, Bloomberg, MSNBC, *The Wall Street Journal* and *The New York Times*. He also has spoken on numerous panels at conferences worldwide and served as adjunct professor for the Hospitality programs at NYC College of Technology and New York University.

Louis L. Stervinou

Managing Director, San Francisco
Eastdil Secured

Louis Stervinou is a managing director with Eastdil Secured in San Francisco and is a member of the firm's Management Committee. Stervinou joined the firm in 2003 and is managing and leading the firm's Global Hotel Team. He has over 30 years of real estate experience and is responsible for sourcing and placement of hotel related investment sales, financings and loan sales. He has focused on hospitality transactions totaling over \$40 billion comprising over 300 properties and approximately 70,000 rooms.

Recent transactions over the last three years include the \$1.65 billion GIC Portfolio including the Grand Wailea Maui, \$1 billion Hyatt Portfolio including the Grand Hyatt San Francisco, Grande Lakes Orlando, JW Marriott Phoenix Desert Ridge, W Hotel Union Square New York, Embassy Suites NYC 37th Street, JW Marriott San Antonio Hill Country, and numerous other equity and debt transactions.

Prior to joining Eastdil Secured, Stervinou was employed as a managing director with Colliers International. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Hotel Administration from Florida International University and is a member of the Dean's Advisory Board.



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Jeffrey Stewart

Founder and President
Walnut Hill Advisors

Jeffrey Stewart is the founder and president of Walnut Hill Advisors. His career spans more than 25 years working at the intersection of business, politics, media, and civic engagement, where he has served as a trusted advisor to CEOs, entrepreneurs, and founders of businesses and nonprofits.

Stewart has played an active role in the travel and tourism industry since he joined Loews Hotels & Co in 1999, where he held a variety of executive positions including, chief of staff to the chairman & CEO, senior vice president, Communications and Public Affairs, and director of Development. He was an officer of the Travel Business Roundtable and was instrumental in the creation of its successor organization, the US Travel Association. Stewart has testified before Congress, been quoted in leading publications, and appeared on television discussing the importance of the industry. *Travel Agent* magazine recognized him as a “Rising Star.”

Stewart also has served in leadership roles in civic activities. Following September 11, 2001, he was the staff director of New York Rising, established to help revitalize and diversify the City’s economy by reviving tourism. He served on the Board of Directors of the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center, and on the Board of Trustees of the 2014 NY/NJ Super Bowl Host Company. He is currently on the Board of Directors of NYC & Company, the Board of Advisors of the NYU School of Professional Studies Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality and is a vice chair of the Association for a Better New York.

Stewart began his career as an attorney and in politics, serving as an assistant attorney general for the State of New York and as the finance director to Congressman Chuck Schumer in his historic election to the United States Senate. He is currently the chairman of the board of the Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life at his alma mater, Tufts University.

Peter Strebel

Chairman
Omni Hotels & Resorts

Recently named a 2019 Top CEO by Glassdoor, Peter Strebel is chairman of Omni Hotels & Resorts, a position he assumed in May 2022. In this role, Strebel will provide strategic counsel to the company, and continue to elevate the vision of Omni regarding long-term goals and objectives for the brand. A 30-year-plus veteran of the hospitality industry, he works with teams to continue to enhance the existing high-level of guest service as well as oversee the growth and expansion plans the brand has in the pipeline.

The company’s former president, chief marketing officer and senior vice president of sales, Strebel was responsible for guiding the company through the pandemic crisis, leaving the brand in a prime position to drive to capitalize on the rebounding trends and changes in the industry. He also was instrumental in creating and driving innovative branding, communications, marketing and business development strategies to increase awareness, capture market share and build revenue for the luxury hotel brand.

Strebel also formerly served as senior vice president of operations for the company where he oversaw the development of brand-wide property standards, guest rooms and other operational areas for the luxury hotel brand’s growing convention collection and resort portfolio. A long-term Omni veteran, Strebel rejoined Omni in 2009 as area managing director and general manager of the company’s flagship property in midtown Manhattan, the award-winning Omni Berkshire Place. During his previous tenure at Omni, he had a successful 10-year career in sales and marketing positions of increasing responsibility, ultimately leading to his appointment as vice president of sales and marketing.

In between his time with Omni, Strebel served as executive vice president and chief marketing officer for the Wyndham Hotel Group and was promoted to president of the company before returning to Omni.

Strebel graduated from Hofstra University with a Bachelor of Business Administration. He sits on the board of directors for AHLA, as well as the board of trustees for the Incarnation House in Dallas, Texas.



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Jeff Stulmaker

Partner & Chief Investment Officer
KHP Capital Partners

Jeff Stulmaker is a partner and chief investment officer for KHP Capital Partners. In this role, he is directly responsible for sourcing, underwriting and negotiating acquisitions and joint-venture agreements for KHP Funds. Stulmaker has directly been involved with all investment activities for KHP Funds II through V. Prior to joining KHP at its inception in 2015, He served as director of acquisitions & development at Kimpton where he was responsible for acquisitions, joint-venture agreements as well as third-party management agreements in the Western US. Stulmaker holds a BS from Cornell University's School of Hotel Administration with a concentration in hospitality finance and a minor in real estate.

Michael J. Sullivan

Co-Chair, Hospitality Group
Greenberg Traurig

Michael J. Sullivan is co-chair of Greenberg Traurig, P.A.'s Hospitality Group. He has wide-ranging experience in the acquisition, development, finance and disposition of hotels, resorts, branded residences and condo-hotels; the negotiation of management, franchise and operating agreements for hotels; construction and permanent hotel and resort financings; and the purchase of distressed mortgage debt instruments secured by hospitality-related real estate.

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Yuval Tal

Partner
Proskauer

Yuval Tal is a partner in Proskauer's Corporate Department where he co-heads the firm's internationally recognized Hospitality, Gaming & Leisure Group. He is a general corporate and securities lawyer with diverse experience in cross-border mergers & acquisitions (public and private, debt and equity), long-term joint ventures, private equity real estate and corporate and real estate finance. He advises clients on the full range of their activities including any form of financing, operational matters and commercial transactions. He advises sponsors and funds on the structuring, execution, entering into, restructuring and exiting of investments. Tal's clients include owners, investors, developers, operators and equity and debt financing sources, which gives him the ability to anticipate and solve for the issues and needs of all participants in the hospitality sector.

As co-head of Proskauer's Hospitality, Gaming & Leisure Group, Tal has worked on virtually every kind of transaction, including mixed-use development and construction, acquisition and sale, restructuring and public offerings of real estate, hotel and casino companies. These include single and multiple asset deals as well as sale, franchise or other transactions involving brands and hotel chains. Over the past few years, he has worked on numerous high-profile hospitality deals across the globe. Most recently he assisted Accor in forming the world's largest lifestyle platform in its groundbreaking transaction with Ennismore, launching a global strategic partnership with Faena Group, forming its first-in-kind sale and franchise arrangements with Huazhu, a China-based, NASDAQ-listed company, and with Banyan Tree, a Singapore listed entity, and taking full ownership of the sbe hotel brands. He assisted Formosa in selling the Regent brand to IHG and continues to represent Galaxy Entertainment Group on its hospitality agreements with numerous international hotel operators in connection with Phases 3 and 4 of its integrated resort gaming development in Macau.

Tal has decades of experience representing clients on complex, first in kind transactions. His strength is providing original, workable, and practical solutions that get the deal done. He spent years based in Asia and remains head of Proskauer's Hong Kong and Beijing offices. Qualified in New York, Hong Kong and Israel, Tal has negotiated transactions on six continents and has particular experience representing clients across various regions in their inbound and outbound transactions.

Davin Thigpen

Managing Director
J.P. Morgan Real Estate and Lodging Investment Banking Group

Davin Thigpen is a managing director in J.P. Morgan's real estate and lodging investment banking group. He is active in strategic advisory transactions and debt and equity capital raising activities for companies in the real estate, lodging, and vacation ownership industries. He has worked at J.P. Morgan (and its predecessor Bear, Stearns & Co.) since 2003. Prior to that, Thigpen worked in the management consulting division of PricewaterhouseCoopers. He earned a BBA from Southern Methodist University and an MBA from Columbia Business School.



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Crystal Vinisse Thomas

**Brand Management and Marketing Leader
Hyatt Hotels Corp.**

Crystal Vinisse Thomas is a brand management and marketing leader with over 10 years' international experience driving brand innovation and operational excellence, crafting memorable guest experiences, creating global brand marketing campaigns, and executing branded events and partnerships.

She currently heads up the lifestyle and luxury brands at Hyatt Hotels Corp— including Park Hyatt, Thompson, Alila, Andaz, Hyatt Centric, and Caption by Hyatt— guiding the strategy and vision of an ever-growing portfolio. A veteran hotelier and alumni of Cornell University's Hotel School, Vinisse Thomas held several brand leadership roles with W Hotels Worldwide and most previously served as senior brand marketer for Beats by Dre @ Apple, overseeing the NBA partnership and all things sports.

Based in Los Angeles, when not honing her tasting skills as a wine and whiskey connoisseur™, she's a passion-led seeker of all things awesome, craver and creator of unforgettable travel moments, and, more personally, a lifestyle + culture enthusiast obsessed with TV, singing, and Oprah.

Dan Thorman

**Vice President, Development
MCR**

Dan Thorman is vice president, development, for MCR. In this role, he is responsible for growing MCR's third party management platform across the United States.

Prior to joining MCR, Thorman was vice president, development, at Kimpton Hotels + Restaurants, where he oversaw Kimpton growth in the eastern half of North America. Previously, Thorman was vice president of Full Service & Luxury Lodging Development at Marriott International, focused on the Eastern U.S. Before joining Marriott as part of the Starwood Hotels & Resorts merger, he held numerous positions within Starwood's Global Development Group, most recently as director of development for franchise growth in the Northeast U.S. and managed growth in the Northeast U.S., Midwest U.S. and Caribbean. Thorman held other roles with Starwood Hotels & Resorts in global development strategy, process implementation and analytics.

Thorman graduated from Lehigh University with a BS in Business Information Systems.



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Jonathan M. Tisch

Chairman and CEO of Loews Hotels & Co and Co-Chairman of the Board of Loews Corporation

Jonathan M. Tisch is chairman and CEO of Loews Hotels & Co and co-chairman of the board of Loews Corporation

Jonathan Tisch has led Loews' expansion and emergence as a leading hotel company with a widely praised culture that embraces the power of partnerships—with team members, guests, communities, and owners. He was voted "Hotelier of the World" by *HOTELS* magazine.

Recognized nationally as a leader of the multibillion-dollar travel and tourism industry, Tisch is chairman emeritus of the U.S. Travel Association and previously served as chairman of the Travel Business Roundtable and the American Hotel & Lodging Association. Committed to a vibrant tourism industry locally, Tisch served for nearly six years as chairman of NYC & Company, New York City's official tourism agency, and was chairman of New York Rising, which was established to bring back visitors and revive the economy after 9/11. *Crain's New York Business* named him one of the "Top 10 Most Influential Business Leaders" and inducted him into its Hall of Fame, which recognizes individuals who have transformed the City in both their professional work and in their civic and philanthropic activities.

Tisch is the author of three bestselling books: *The Power of We: Succeeding Through Partnerships*, *Chocolates on the Pillow Aren't Enough: Reinventing the Customer Experience*, and *Citizen You: Doing Your Part to Change the World*. He hosted the Emmy-nominated television series *Beyond the Boardroom*.

Tisch is a champion of corporate responsibility and active citizenship. More than 25 years ago, he initiated the Loews Hotels Good Neighbor Policy, a recipient of the US President's Service Award. He served as vice chairman of the board of trustees of his alma mater, Tufts University, and is the naming benefactor of the Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life at Tufts. In 2017, he was honored by the NYU School of Professional Studies with the naming of the Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality, of which he has been a driving force for years. He is a founding board member and chairman of The Shed, New York City's cultural center for arts and ideas, and a member of the Board of Trustees of the Hospital for Special Surgery.

A co-owner of the New York Giants, Tisch was instrumental in bringing the 2014 Super Bowl to the NYC metropolitan area and served as co-chair of the NY/NJ Super Bowl Host Committee.

Christina Trauthwein

VP, Content & Creative

Hotel Business & InspireDesign

Christina Trauthwein is the VP, content & creative of the *Hotel Business* and *InspireDesign* media brands, overseeing all print, digital, and face-to-face products. Previously, she was editor-in-chief of professional publications in the architecture and interior design communities, both commercial and residential. Christina's 30+ years of brand leadership—in both print and digital media—has been focused on strategizing, developing and creating content about need-to-know industry topics, trends, industry leaders and cutting-edge projects and products.

Rob Turner

Managing Director

Eastdil Secured

Rob Turner is a managing director at Eastdil Secured. He joined in 2012, and in his current role focuses on structuring, marketing and the placement of commercial financings, including mortgage debt, mezzanine debt and preferred equity, as well as the execution of secondary structured finance debt sales.

Prior to joining Eastdil Secured, Turner was a director in the Real Estate Capital Markets group of Wells Fargo with a focus on originating and structuring large real estate finance transactions on behalf of institutional clients. Before Wells Fargo, he was a member of Wachovia's Real Estate Capital Markets division in New York.

Turner graduated from North Carolina State University in 2001, *cum laude*, with a concentration in Finance.

Turner currently lives in Brooklyn, NY with his wife Caroline and children Lula (8), George (6) and Hugo (2) and their golden retriever, Rigsby. Some of his favorite activities include golfing, skiing and spending quality time with his family.



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Homi Vazifdar

Founder & Exec. Director
Canyon Equity

Homi Vazifdar is the founder & exec. director of the Canyon Group based in Larkspur, California just north of San Francisco. The Canyon Group owns and/or develops ultra-luxury resorts in exotic destinations around the world. The company currently owns some of the most luxurious and high-performing assets in North America, Latin America and the South Pacific. The Canyon Group's resorts are managed by marquis brands such as Amanresorts, Four Seasons Hotels & Resorts, Six Senses Hotels and Resorts and Hyatt Hotels and Resorts.

Vazifdar is extremely passionate about the wonderful world of lodging and over the years has "touched" almost every aspect of the industry and worked with some of the stalwarts in the business. He is a frequent speaker at lodging and tourism conferences around the world and has close to 40 years of multifaceted lodging and hospitality experience ranging from development, design and investment banking. Before founding Canyon Equity in 2005, he was the global head of lodging at Banc of America Securities in San Francisco where he was involved in numerous high-profile transactions.

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Jeff Wagoner

**President and Chief Executive Officer
Outrigger Hospitality Group**

As Outrigger Hospitality Group's president and CEO, Jeff Wagoner oversees all aspects of the company's multi-branded, global portfolio of hotels, resorts, vacation condominiums, timeshares and retail operations while steering the direction, growth and strategic priorities for the iconic beach resort brand.

Before joining Outrigger in 2018, he served as EVP hotel operations for Trump Hotel Group. Prior to this, he held several roles with Wyndham Hotel Group, including president of Wyndham's management company and EVP of brand and customer services for its hotel brands. Wagoner was also president of Wyndham Hotels and Resorts and SVP of operations at the former Wyndham International, where he oversaw more than 100 Wyndham properties.

Earlier in his career, Wagoner held management roles with Starwood Hotels and Resorts, Doubletree and Marriott International. He also served as COO for WhiteFence, an e-commerce company and SVP of sales for ZipRealty, a real estate brokerage firm. Wagoner served on the board of directors for the Hotel & Lodging Association of Greater Houston and MPI Foundation Global Board of Trustees. He currently serves on the Sabre Executive Advisory Board and board of directors for the Hawai'i Business Roundtable, American Hotel and Lodging Association and Hawai'i Hotel Alliance.

Brian Waldman

**Chief Investment Officer
Peachtree Hotel Group**

As chief investment officer, Brian Waldman leads Peachtree's asset management, investment, and portfolio management functions. He focuses on the company's investment and capital deployment and oversees a real estate portfolio with a market capitalization of approximately \$5 billion. Working with a cross-functional team, Brian also provides analysis, research, underwriting and financial oversight to procure equity and debt investments.

Throughout his 20-plus-year career, Waldman has had experience with a broad range of asset and portfolio types spanning from luxury hotels and resorts to limited-, select-service and extended-stay hotel properties.

His experience includes executing transactional and advisory assignments with an aggregate asset value exceeding \$11 billion, underwriting more than \$10 billion of individual property assets and hotel companies, consulting on development projects valued in excess of \$4 billion, restructuring and/or working on portfolios and individual hotels valued in excess of \$5 billion and marketing more than 100 hotels for sale.

Before joining Peachtree in 2015, Waldman was the managing director and head of Capital Markets for Beacon Hospitality Partners, where he was responsible for executing capital markets assignments and other advisory assignments with an aggregate asset value exceeding \$8 billion. Prior to Beacon, Waldman served as senior vice president of DTZ Hospitality Group and vice president of The Mumford Company. Before that, he worked at InterContinental Hotels Group, Arthur Andersen and PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Waldman is a graduate of the Cornell School of Hotel Administration, where he completed a dual concentration in Real Estate and Finance. In addition, he serves as a board member for the Atlanta Ronald McDonald House Charities.

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Robert J. Webster

Vice Chairman

President, Hotels Institutional Group

Bob Webster is the vice chairman & president of CBRE Hotels Institutional Group. He is based in Atlanta and specializes in full-service investment sales throughout the United States. Webster has led the sale of hundreds of hotels throughout his career representing well over \$20 billion. He has been recognized by *Real Estate Forum* magazine as a “Superstar Investment Sales Broker” ranking him the third most productive real estate investment sales broker in the country. Webster is a two-time recipient of the Jack A. Shaffer Financial Advisor of the Year Award, given to the top hotel investment sales professional in the lodging industry.

Webster’s career during the last 40 years has spanned a broad range of disciplines within the hotel industry. Before joining CBRE’s Hotels Group, he was senior managing director at JLL for nine years. Prior to that he was managing director at Hodges Ward Elliott for 23 years. Webster was also director of Real Estate for the Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company, a senior hotel real estate consultant with Laventhol & Horwath in Boston, and started his career as an operations analyst at the Plaza Hotel in New York City. Webster has 35 years of experience specific to hotel real estate.

Jeff Weinstein

Editor in Chief

HOTELS

Jeff Weinstein has been editor in chief of *HOTELS* magazine since November 1994. In 1996, he created *HOTELS’ Investment Outlook*, a quarterly publication for the hotel investment community. He also is responsible for developing the *HOTELS* website, hotelsmag.com. Starting in 1986, Weinstein was senior editor for *Restaurants & Institutions*, which covered all aspects of the foodservice industry in the United States. Weinstein, a five-time winner of the Jesse H. Neal Award, presented by the American Business Press, is a journalism graduate of Drake University.

Evan Weiss

Co-Founder, Chief Operating Officer, Principal

LW Hospitality Advisors®

Evan Weiss serves as co-founder, chief operating officer, principal of LW Hospitality Advisors®. As a co-founder of the firm, his role encompasses such areas as client and vendor relationship management, business development, design and implement business strategies, plans and procedures, establish policies that promote company culture and vision, oversee daily operations of the company and the work of, and to lead employees to encourage maximum performance. Weiss is also a co-founder and managing partner of Lodging Analytics Research & Consulting (LARC), focusing on highly correlated predictive analytics for the lodging industry. He previously worked at CBRE Hotels – Hospitality & Gaming Valuation Advisory Services Group where he received the Valuation Services Professional of the Year Award for the Tri-State region. Prior to joining CBRE, Weiss held the position of director of operations for CARINO Hotels & Resorts in New York, a sales and marketing firm.

Weiss’s operational experience includes serving as general manager at City Food Bar Inc. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Hotel and Tourism Management from the NYU School of Professional Studies Preston Robert Tisch Center for Hospitality, Tourism, and Sports Management. Following successful terms as Board Member, vice president, and president of the NYU Tisch Center Alumni Society, Evan also serves as a member of the Tisch Center’s Advisory Board. While attending the Tisch Center, Weiss was twice honored with the President’s Service Award for Leadership and Community Service. He also served on the search committee for the associate dean of the Tisch Center, and is privileged to hold the position of adjunct faculty member at the Tisch Center. He also has served as an assistant adjunct professor at Columbia University’s Masters of Science in Real Estate Development Program. Weiss currently serves as an event chair for the UJA Hospitality Division, as well as a member of the REX Steering committee of the UJA – Federation of New York. He also serves on the Advisory Committees for the NYU and ALIS Hospitality Breakfast and as a member of the AIPAC Washington Club and Real Estate Committee, and Chairman of the Hospitality Council for AIPAC, as well as Treasurer of RESA. Evan also serves as an advisory board member of IHIS – Israel Hotel Investment Summit. Evan is intimately involved with Our Soldiers Speak, a 501(c)(3) based in Midtown Manhattan, NY.



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Andrew Wharton

Managing Director
REH Capital Partners

Andrew Wharton is a managing director of REH Capital Partners, based in Fort Lauderdale, FL. He has over 35 years of diversified operational, accounting, and finance experience in the real estate and hospitality industries providing clients owner's representation, operations performance improvement, litigation support, expert testimony, and transactional services.

Prior to joining REH, Wharton was managing director at KPMG, providing advisory services to a wide variety of hospitality and real estate clients. Prior to KPMG, he was CFO of ResidenSea, where he provided overall leadership in the areas of finance and operations of this developer and operator of a first of its kind, luxury "resort at sea," *The World*, that featured privately owned residential units, rental suites and various amenities. Prior to ResidenSea, Wharton was a senior manager in KPMG's National Real Estate and Hospitality Practice where he held various positions over his tenure with the firm.

Wharton is a Certified Public Accountant with Bachelors of Science degrees in Accounting and Finance from Florida State University.

Mark Williams

Managing Director Franchise Development
Extended Stay America

Mark Williams is managing director franchise development for Extended Stay America, a leader in the extended stay segment for over 25 years. Joining ESA in 2020 Williams is responsible for building the brand thru franchising, which the company started in 2018. A hospitality professional for over 30 years, he spent 20 of those with Best Western International. Williams is a graduate of The Ohio State University Fisher College of Business with a BSBA in Marketing.

Larry Wolfe

Vice Chairman, Co-Head of Lodging
Newmark

Larry Wolfe is a vice chairman and co-head of the Lodging Capital Markets Group at Newmark Knight Frank. Prior to joining NKF in 2018, he was the founder and co-head of Eastdil Secured's lodging investment banking and brokerage group. During his career, Wolfe became one of the industry's most prolific advisors, completing over \$200 billion of property sales, debt placements and M&A advisory on behalf of REITs, C-Corps, private equity firms, high-net-worth investors and sovereign wealth funds. He also was a partner in Eastdil Realty, the predecessor of Eastdil Secured, and served on both firms' management committees.

Wolfe's notable recent transactions include the sale of the Waldorf Astoria New York on behalf of Hilton Hotels, The W New York on behalf of Host Hotels, and the Parker Méridien New York.

In 2007, Wolfe was honored as the recipient of the Jack A. Shaffer Financial Advisor of the Year award at the American Lodging Investment Summit (ALIS) in Los Angeles.

He is an active member of AHLA and the Urban Land Institute's Hotel Development Council and as well as various advisory boards at Johns Hopkins and the University of Chicago. He is also a frequent speaker and author on hotel capital markets activity.

Wolfe earned a Master of Business Administration from the University of Chicago's Booth School of Business and Bachelor's in Economics and a Master's in Engineering from the Johns Hopkins University.

A native of Boston, Wolfe currently resides in New York's Westchester County with his wife Carol and three children.



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Debra Stock Wolman

**Americas Group Vice President
Duetto**

As Americas group vice president at Duetto, Debra Stock Wolman brings more than a decade of hotel management and technology experience to help connect leading brands and innovators with Duetto's industry-leading profit optimization technology.

In her role, Stock Wolman manages sales, business development, and solution engineering teams within the US, Canada, Latin America, and Australia/New Zealand. She also oversees their gaming and enterprise practices, and is an in-demand event speaker and thought leader.

Stock Wolman joined Duetto in 2014, helping the company rapidly ascend from a hospitality tech upstart to the industry's #1 RMS platform (2022 Hotel Tech Report). Prior to joining Duetto, she led Expedia's Hotel Supply group in their largest market worldwide.

Stock Wolman is active in a number of hospitality industry and civic organizations including the NYU SPS Tisch Center of Hospitality Advisory Board. She has co-authored award-winning publications through the Cornell Center for Hospitality Research focused on social media, mobile customer preference, and decision optimization in the hospitality industry.

Stock Wolman is a graduate of the Cornell University School of Hotel Administration. She lives in Westport, CT with her husband and two children.

Len Wolman

**Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
Waterford Group and Waterford Hotel Group**

Len Wolman is the chairman and chief executive officer of Waterford Group and Waterford Hotel Group. Under his leadership, Waterford has established itself as a leading company in the hospitality industry by developing and operating hotel, gaming, and venue properties totaling more than \$3 billion throughout the United States. Waterford has gained unparalleled experience in the hospitality industry through the development, ownership, and/or management of more than 100 hotels, 10,000 guest rooms, 700,000 square feet of convention and meeting space, and numerous dining establishments.

Wolman currently serves as chairman of The Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality Advisory Board and is a member of New York University's School of Professional Studies Dean's Advisory Council. Wolman is vice chair of the board of directors for the Connecticut Science Center and serves on the executive board. He also serves as a member of the University of Johannesburg Board of Governors and as a founding board member of the University of Johannesburg College of Business and Economics School of Tourism and Hospitality. He holds a National Diploma in Hotel Management from the Hotel School of Technikon Witwatersrand in South Africa.