



NLADA
National Legal Aid &
Defender Association

snapshot

of corporate engagement

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September 2021 | Corporate Engagement eNews

Welcome to the autumn issue of Snapshot, the National Legal Aid & Defender Association's (NLADA) Corporate Advisory Committee (CAC) newsletter.



NLADA Leadership Transition

As NLADA expands its focus on courageous leadership for justice and equity, we are pleased to announce the incoming presidents of NLADA and the NLADA Insurance Program!

April Frazier Camara, Esq. will become NLADA President & CEO on November 1, 2021. After conducting an extensive national search and multi-year preparation, we are delighted to have one of NLADA's current leaders become its next executive.

April has been a champion for equal justice for more than two decades. A graduate of Howard School of Law, April has been on the NLADA leadership team for the past five years, currently serving as Vice President of Strategy and Innovation and formerly the Chief of Lifelong Learning. Her national leadership on racial equity and social justice, her decades of work in the public and nonprofit sectors and her dedication to and knowledge of NLADA make her the ideal leader in this important era for equal justice. The NLADA Board of Directors is excited to welcome April in her new role later this fall.

After two decades of leadership at NLADA, **Jo-Ann Wallace, Esq. will become President, CEO and Board Chairperson of NLADA's business affiliate, the NLADA Insurance Program (known as Service Corporation).** We are thrilled to keep Jo-Ann's strong advocacy, leadership and energy in the NLADA community as Clint Lyons retires. Jo-Ann is stepping down as NLADA President & CEO on Friday, October 29 and will begin her new role at Service Corporation on Monday, November 1, 2021.

In addition to insurance coverage for members, including for corporate pro bono representation, Service Corporation provides data-informed information, training and technical assistance to help organizations reduce loss, lower risk and provide quality representation and leadership for low-income clients. Established in 1995, Service Corporation supports NLADA's mission and provides substantial financial support to NLADA and its members.

Jo-Ann's expertise, extraordinary knowledge of and commitment to the NLADA community and her entrepreneurial spirit make her uniquely positioned for success in this new role. The Service Corporation Board of Directors looks forward to welcoming Jo-Ann in this new capacity later this fall.



Corporate Advisory Committee

CAC Congressional Campaign: The EQUAL Defense Act

The NLADA Corporate Advisory Committee is launching its current campaign in support of [H.R. 1408, Ensuring Quality Access to Legal \(EQUAL\) Defense Act](#). The bill, introduced in the last Congress by now-Vice President Harris and Representative Ted Deutch, would invest \$250 million each year in state, local, and tribal defender systems to reduce public defender workloads and create pay parity between defenders and prosecutors through a new federal grant program. It was reintroduced by Congressman Deutch earlier this year. NLADA believes that this would be an historic step towards realizing the promise of the Sixth Amendment, and that the corporate community can play a pivotal role in building the widespread and bipartisan support for the bill we need in order for it to pass. We look forward to sharing more about how to join this campaign in the coming days.

Redefining Justice
2021 NLADA Annual Conference
November 9-12 | Hybrid | Nashville, TN

2021 NLADA Annual Conference

Held from November 9-12, it will be a hybrid event, primarily taking place online with limited in-person gatherings safely conducted in order to safeguard the health of our community. As a benefit of CAC membership, your company receives a complimentary conference registration. We hope you will take advantage of that to attend sessions, workshops, discussions, awards presentations,

and social activities. Additional information on registration and the conference program can be found [on our website](#). If you are interested in attending you can contact Aileen Moffatt at a.moffatt@nlada.org.



A Celebration of Leadership

On Thursday, November 4 at 7:00pm ET, NLADA will host a special virtual celebration to launch NLADA's exciting next chapter. Introducing new leadership at NLADA and Service Corp, we also will be presenting the 3 year-campaign in support of NLADA's *Racial Equity Initiative*. Several courageous leaders will be recognized for their leadership and we will share our vision for NLADA's bold, new work advocating for racial equity.

Please watch your Inbox for additional information on the event, including special guests, and registration links to join us at this pivotal moment for our community.



Partner Spotlight: Responsible Business Initiative for Justice's Business Leaders Against the Death Penalty Campaign

Earlier this year NLADA's partner the Responsible Business Initiative for Justice (RBIJ) launched an ambitious campaign [to get hundreds of business leaders across the world to speak out against the death penalty](#). The campaign was kicked-off by Sir Richard Branson in March. Since then, 42 high-profile business leaders from across the world have joined the effort, including Arianna Huffington, Sheryl Sandberg, Paul Polman, Alan Jope, and Marc Benioff ([see the full list of signatories here](#)).

RBIJ is working to recruit more leaders by 10 October 2021 (World Day Against the Death Penalty). If interested, simply click [this link](#) and fill out the form.

ACCESS TO JUSTICE
IS GOOD FOR BUSINESS



CAC in the News

Jo-Ann Wallace, NLADA's President & CEO, was recognized as a SDG16+ Champion of Change by the Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies for her work across sectors. To learn more about how Jo-Ann approaches cross-sectoral collaboration, including work done in partnership with the Corporate Advisory Committee, check out this interview published earlier this month: [The US Justice Defender who Works Across Sectors to Advance Equity and Justice](#)

Maha Jweied, NLADA Senior Fellow, was interviewed for the [Pro Bono Institute's Pro Bono Happy Hour Podcast to discuss the DOJ's Office for Access to Justice](#), which she previously led. Listen to Maha describe the role of the private sector in advancing access to justice, such as the activity of the Corporate Advisory Committee. Also interviewed in the podcast is current CAC member Tony West, Senior Vice President, Chief Legal Officer, and Corporate Secretary at Uber, who oversaw the DOJ Office for Access to Justice when he was the U.S. Associate Attorney General during the Obama administration.

If you were forwarded this message or want to learn more about the CAC and its members, [click here.](#)

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