OCTOBER 5TH - 7TH

20th ANNIVERSARY

NAMWOLF

Annual Meeting

2021 Virtual
Walmart is proud to support

National Association of Minority and Women Owned Law Firms
Welcome to the 2021 Virtual Annual Meeting and our 20th year Anniversary! In the six months I have been CEO at NAMWOLF, I have learned so much and been warmly welcomed by the entire NAMWOLF family. It is bittersweet to be hosting my first meeting as CEO in a virtual setting, but it is the NAMWOLF community of stalwart supporters that gives me the confidence that this is still going to be a wonderful event and great opportunity to showcase the extraordinary NAMWOLF talent. Fortunately, I have already been able to virtually meet over 125 of our Law Firm Members and over 100 corporations. I have been inspired by the firms and companies I have met and encouraged by their courage and commitment to spread the good news about NAMWOLF and tireless support of the mission.

Indeed, NAMWOLF remains the gold standard for procuring excellent legal service with diverse teams. The firms are eager to share with you their deep expertise and continue to partner with our corporate and business partners to help make real change in the legal profession. For those who are frustrated with the legal industry’s race and gender biases and want to focus on being a solution, you have found the right place to marry your understanding of the benefits of diversity with your determination to effectuate meaningful change. NAMWOLF makes it very easy for in-house counsel to take positive steps by giving them the opportunity to see and meet the approximately 205 minority and women owned law firms up close and personal.

Our Annual Meeting is the perfect opportunity to witness first-hand how great these law firms are and to meet other in-house counsel from Fortune 500 corporations and governmental entities who actively use our law firms across the United States in a variety of legal practice areas. The time is NOW for all of us to move intentionally to be the change we want to see. I believe in our firms, I believe in our corporate and business partners, and I believe in each of our individual ability to absolutely increase diversity, equity and inclusion in our profession and ultimately the world.

Thank you so much for joining us for this year’s Virtual Meeting. Please feel free to reach out to the NAMWOLF Team if you need any assistance during this week. Thank you to everyone who helped make this year’s meeting a great success. I look forward to continuing our 20th year celebration into 2022 at our Driving Diversity & Leadership Conference, March 6-8, in San Antonio, TX.

Warmest Regards

Leslie
TO THE NAMWOLF TEAM

Leslie D. Davis, CEO

Jane Kalata, Vice President Strategy, Marketing & Events

Clare Grossman, Director of Development

Sherisse Rodriguez, Communications and Membership Coordinator

Renecca Allen, Business Administration Specialist

Matt Stokes, Graphic Designer, Video Producer & Editor, and Conference Support

Laci Roth, Graphic Designer and Conference Support

TO OUR EVENTS COMMITTEE

Thank you to our many volunteers for your efforts in making the 2021 Virtual Annual Meeting a great success. The Virtual Annual Meeting would not happen without the hard work and dedication of many people, contributors, law firm members, business partners and sponsors.
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At Nationwide, we’re committed to diversity, equity and inclusion, and we want to work with law firms and attorneys who share our values. That’s why we support the National Association of Minority and Women Owned Law Firms. We both take pride in promoting the growth, expertise and excellence of minority and women lawyers.

Learn about Nationwide’s diversity at nationwide.com/diversity.

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Thank you for reminding us all how diversity enriches our world and makes us stronger. State Farm® is proud to support NAMWOLF and its leadership to enhance diversity and inclusion in the legal profession.

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Mastercard

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Andriel Gary  
North Carolina Central University School of Law

Paola Flores  
University of Baltimore School of Law

Tamsin Woolley  
Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law

Camille Pappy  
University of Baltimore School of Law

ABOUT THE SCHOLARSHIP
The NAMWOLF Joel Stern Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Pipeline Scholarship seeks to provide financial support to students who contribute to the diversity of their law school student body as they pursue their legal career. The NAMWOLF Pipeline Diversity Scholarship program is open to second- and third-year African American, Hispanic, Asian, Native American, LGBT and female students. Any other second- and third-year law students who come from backgrounds that would add to the cause of diversity, regardless of race or gender, are eligible to apply.
Congratulations to NAMWOLF for 20 years of advancing diversity, inclusion and equity in the legal profession.
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Jerry W. Blackwell is the founding partner, CEO and chairman of Blackwell Burke P.A. Mr. Blackwell serves as national and trial counsel for several major corporations, having represented them in federal and state courts in 47 states and internationally. He is an experienced trial lawyer with nationwide experience defending class actions, toxic tort, commercial disputes, products liability, and other high stakes complex cases. Mr. Blackwell has numerous winning jury verdicts and favorable settlements to his credit. He is a frequent presenter on winning trial strategies and how to communicate complicated legal, scientific, and business issues to jurors.

Mr. Blackwell is admitted to practice in the state and federal courts of Minnesota, federal district courts of Michigan, Arizona, Colorado, and Illinois, as well as the United States Supreme Court and Fourth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth and Eleventh Circuit Courts of Appeals. Mr. Blackwell has presented to the Federal Bar Association, American Bar Association, Minnesota State Bar Association, National Bar Association, International Association of Defense Counsel, National College of Advocacy, and various Fortune 500 clients and trade organizations.

He is a founder of the Minnesota Association of Black Lawyers. In 2011, Governor Mark Dayton appointed Mr. Blackwell to serve as an at-large member of the Minnesota Commission on Judicial Appointments. He served two terms until 2019.

When he is not zealously defending clients, Mr. Blackwell enjoys beekeeping, meditation, and is an avid hobby farmer.
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David O. Dardis
Senior Vice President General Counsel | EXELON CORPORATION
General Counsel | CONSTELLATION

Dardis is a veteran energy industry lawyer with more than 15 years of experience representing investor-owned electric utilities and serving in the federal government. He manages legal affairs for Constellation, including its retail and wholesale, gas and power businesses, as well as non-utility regulatory legal matters for Exelon Corporation, and has oversight responsibility for the wholesale and retail compliance programs for Constellation. Dardis joined Constellation in 2007 and has held various leadership roles within Exelon Corporation and Constellation leading large legal teams and advising senior management on key issues facing the company. His experience includes negotiating and closing transformative mergers and acquisitions, successfully resolving government investigations, achieving competitive market reforms, and building best-in-class compliance programs. Prior to joining Constellation, he was legal advisor to Chairman Joseph Kelliher of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. In that role, he advised the Chairman on the organized electric markets in the Eastern Interconnection, implementation of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 and development of the agency's enforcement program. Prior to his work at FERC, Dardis was an attorney in the Washington, D.C. offices of the law firms of Hunton & Williams LLP and Balch & Bingham LLP representing clients before FERC, U.S. courts of appeals and state utility commissions. Dardis serves on the board of directors of the Irvine Nature Center in Owings Mills, Md., the leading environmental education organization in the state. He was previously a trustee at Second Presbyterian Church in Baltimore. Dardis earned his bachelor of arts in Politics from Pomona College and his juris doctor from Washington and Lee University School of Law. He completed the Exelon Senior Leadership Experience Program in 2016.

Catharine D. Ellingsen
Executive Vice President, Chief Legal Officer, Chief Ethics & Compliance Officer, and Corporate Secretary | REPUBLIC SERVICES, INC.

Catharine D. Ellingsen is Executive Vice President, Chief Legal Officer, Chief Ethics & Compliance Officer, and Corporate Secretary for Republic Services, Inc. headquartered in Phoenix, Arizona. Republic Services is an industry leader in U.S. recycling and non-hazardous solid waste services and environmental solutions. Through 800 local operations and the efforts of more than 35,000 employees across the country, Republic serves a diverse base of residential and business customers. Catharine has been employed by Republic since 2001 when she was hired as in-house legal counsel. In her current role, Catharine is responsible for overseeing numerous functions including legal services, corporate governance, ethics and compliance, security, real estate, labor relations, crisis preparedness, and enterprise risk management. Catharine also serves as the President of the Republic Services Charitable Foundation and Chair of Republic's MOSAIC Diversity and Inclusion Council. Immediately prior to her current role, Catharine was the Senior Vice President, Human Resources for 5 years overseeing Republic's field and corporate human resources operations as well as managing the Company's labor relations, compliance, and employment practices functions. Prior to joining Republic Services, Catharine practiced law at the firms of Bryan Cave, LLP and Steptoe and Johnson, LLP, representing employers in traditional labor and employment law matters. Catharine graduated from the Washington College of Law, The American University in Washington, D.C. She earned her bachelor's degree from Wheaton College in Massachusetts with a double major in political science and history. Catharine has been a member of the State Bar...
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Catharine D. Ellingsen | Continued

of Arizona since 1992 and is also admitted to practice in the federal district court for Arizona and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Catharine is a member of the American Bar Association and the Association of Corporate Counsel. She is also a Senior Professional of Human Resources (SPHR) and has been a member of the Society for Human Resource Management since 1993. Catharine also serves on the Boards of Directors of Daseke, Inc., Bunker Hill Group and Nebraska Distributing Company.

David Gan

Executive Vice President, Chief Legal Officer | AECOM

David Gan is Chief Legal Officer at AECOM (NYSE:ACM), the world’s premier infrastructure consulting firm delivering professional services across the project lifecycle – from planning, design and engineering to program and construction management. In this role, Mr. Gan oversees all aspects of AECOM’s global legal function and leads its team of lawyers, legal and compliance and support professionals across the enterprise. His areas of responsibility include corporate governance, M&A and other transactional legal matters, litigation, ethics and compliance, enterprise risk management, SEC reporting and all legal support of global operations. He is also a member of AECOM’s Executive Leadership Team and Co-Chair of AECOM’s Global Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Council. Previously, Prior to joining AECOM in 2006, Mr. Gan was a corporate and securities lawyer at Mayer Brown LLP in Los Angeles and Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, P.C. in Palo Alto. Mr. Gan has been named as one of Southern California’s Top 50 Diverse Leaders by the California Diversity Council. He is an Advisory Board member for USC Gould School of Law and Los Angeles County Bar Association’s Institute for Corporate Counsel.

Vanessa Allen Sutherland

EVP & Chief Legal Officer | NORFOLK SOUTHERN CORPORATION

Vanessa L. Allen Sutherland is Executive Vice President, Chief Legal Officer for Norfolk Southern Corporation. In her current role, she oversees the offices of Corporate Secretary, Government Relations, Law, Claims and Insurance for the enterprise. She joined Norfolk Southern Corporation as Vice President Law in June 2018. On April 1, 2019 she was promoted to Senior Vice President Law & Chief Legal Officer and was promoted to Senior Vice President Government Relations & CLO in August 2019. Prior to joining Norfolk Southern, she served as CEO and chairperson of the U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board in Washington, D.C. Previously, she served as chief counsel with the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, counsel to Philip Morris USA and senior counsel to Phillip Morris sister company Altria Client Services. She began her in-house career as a corporate attorney at long-distance phone company MCI. In 1998, she moved to Digex (acquired by WorldCom), where she served first as counsel and later as senior counsel and then vice president and deputy general counsel. Allen Sutherland holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Drew University, a Juris Doctor and an MBA American University. She has expertise in Fortune 100 corporations, start-ups and the Federal government. Allen Sutherland was the recipient of three U.S. Secretary of Transportation Awards (2012 & 2014), a Virginia Lawyers Weekly "Leaders in the Law" Award (2010), a Fellowship in Maryland State Bar (2005) and Leadership Council on Legal Diversity (2011), and the 2017 “Standing on the Shoulders of Giants Award”, sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs at the University of Richmond. Allen Sutherland was voted onto the board of Southern Company Gas, a subsidiary of Southern Company, in October 2020 and in 2021 to the board of Eastman Chemical Company. She and her family enjoy travel, the arts, ice hockey and coffee.
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*General Counsel and Head of Global Law & Policy | MASTERCARD*

Richard Verma is the General Counsel and Head of Global Law & Policy for Mastercard. In this role, he oversees the company’s law and policy functions in the United States and around the world. Rich brings over 25 years of international experience across senior levels of business, law, diplomacy and the military. He is a member of the company’s Management Committee. Rich previously served as the U.S. Ambassador to India, where he led one of the largest U.S. diplomatic missions and championed historic progress in bilateral cooperation on defense, trade, and clean energy. He is a former Assistant Secretary of State and he also worked on Capitol Hill as the National Security Advisor to the Senate Majority Leader. He practiced law for many years at Steptoe & Johnson in Washington, D.C. and is the former Vice Chairman of The Asia Group, a leading international consulting firm. In addition, Rich is a veteran of the U.S. Air Force, and the recipient of a number of military awards and civilian decorations, including the Meritorious Service Medal and the State Department's Distinguished Service Award. Rich is a Senior Fellow at Harvard University's Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs and a trustee of Lehigh University. He serves on a number of boards and commissions, including the T. Rowe Price corporate board and the National Endowment for Democracy board of directors. Rich holds multiple degrees, including his doctorate (Ph.D.) from Georgetown University and his law degree (J.D.) from American University.

Nelson Bellido

*Managing Partner - Miami Office | ROIG LAWYERS*

Nelson C. Bellido is the partner in charge of the Miami office of Roig Lawyers. His main areas of practice are in complex commercial litigation, insurance defense litigation, insurance fraud special investigations, finance law, products liability, employment litigation and shareholder and partnership disputes. Nelson represents clients on a national and international scale in a range of commercial and insurance litigation issues including banking litigation, financial fraud, lender liability, insurance fraud, insurance coverage disputes, bad faith and extra-contractual matters, premises liability, real estate liability, construction litigation, asset recovery, business torts, shipping and trade disputes, and creation of corporate documents. He has experience litigating cases in state and federal court as well as arbitration proceedings. Nelson has successfully defended Fortune 500 companies in trial matters involving premises liability, products liability, warranty claims, fraud and breach of contract. He serves companies in industries involving insurance, retail, finance, chemical, petroleum, technology and other service providers in litigation matters and the preparation of business contracts, including employment and non-compete agreements.
Nemeth Law actively supports NAMWOLF’s vision to achieve equity in legal opportunity through minority and women-owned law firms.

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At Burris Law, the client is the Captain, and we provide comprehensive support as your on-demand flight crew. Our attorneys help navigate your business across the intellectual property terrain to ensure a turbulence-free journey to success. We prioritize a personal approach to client service because we believe it takes the right attitude to reach the right altitude.

At Burris Law, the client is the Captain, and we provide comprehensive support as your on-demand flight crew. Our attorneys help navigate your business across the intellectual property terrain to ensure a turbulence-free journey to success. We prioritize a personal approach to client service because we believe it takes the right attitude to reach the right altitude.

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- Easily Invite NAMWOLF Firms to RFPs
- Execute and track Diversity and Inclusion initiatives
- Award more work to diverse firms and timekeepers
# Agenda

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2021**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>TIME [CENTRAL]</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>ADDITIONAL INFO</th>
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| 10:30 A.M. – 10:45 A.M. CT | Welcome Address | **Speakers**  
Leslie D. Davis, NAMWOLF CEO  
John Murdock, Chair of NAMWOLF Board |
| 11:00 A.M. - 12:15 P.M. CT | GENERAL SESSION: Fireside Chat with Jerry W. Blackwell | **Presenter**  
Jerry W. Blackwell, Blackwell Burke P.A.  
Leslie D. Davis, NAMWOLF CEO |
| 12:25 P.M. - 1:25 P.M. CT | CLE SESSION: Next Level DEIB – Strategies from the Top Down & Bottom Up (Diversity/UB Credit) | Holly English, Nukk-Freeman & Cerra  
Michele C. Meyer-Shipp  
Allison Banks-Moore, Horizon Blue Cross  
Blue Shield New Jersey  
Marsha Bonner, Urban Resource Institute  
Amanda Green Alexander, Alexander Law, P.A. |
| 1:35 P.M. - 2:35 P.M. CT | CLE SESSION: Recovery of Business Losses For Damage Caused By Civil Unrest and Covid | Michael Aceto, Perez Morris  
Yolyvee Rivera, Hamilton Miller & Birthisel LLP  
Barry Parsons, Freddie Mac  
John Barrett, BDP International, Inc. |
| 2:45 P.M. - 3:45 P.M. CT | CLE SESSION: Government Contracting & Opportunities for MWBE Firms (Ethics CLE): Panacea or Pandora’s Box: Legal and Ethical Benefits of Government Contracts | Vivian Rivera Drohan, Drohan Lee LLP  
Francine Friedman Griesing, Griesing Law LLC  
Rodney Akers, Pennsylvania Governor’s Office of General Counsel  
B. Seth Bryant, Bryant Rabbino LLP  
Sam Le, US Small Business Administration  
Pamela Bethel, O’Riordan Bethel |
| 4:00 P.M. – 4:25 P.M. CT | GENERAL SESSION: Pipeline Scholarship Awards | **Sponsored by:**  
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Joel Stern  
State Farm  
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Western Union |
| 5:45 P.M. – 6:45 P.M. CT | VIRTUAL NETWORKING EVENT: TBA | **ADVANCED REGISTRATION REQUIRED**  
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Real Estate, Restaurant & Hospitality Trials
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The Women’s Business Enterprise National Council
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<th>EVENT</th>
<th>ADDITIONAL INFO</th>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M. CT</td>
<td>VIRTUAL NETWORKING EVENT: Are you Ready to Escape?</td>
<td>ADVANCED REGISTRATION REQUIRED</td>
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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2021

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<th>EVENT</th>
<th>PRESENTERS</th>
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Michelle Udehn, Johnson Blumberg & Associates  
Sarah D. Monty-Arnoni, Monty Ramirez  
Rehan Alimohammad, Wong Fleming  
Dani Sanchez, Academy Sports & Outdoors |
| 11:45 A.M. - 1:15 P.M.      | GENERAL SESSION: General Counsel Panel                 | David O. Dardis, Exelon Corporation & Constellation  
Catharine D. Ellingsen, Republic Services, Inc.  
David Gan, AECOM  
Vanessa Allen Sutherland, Norfolk Southern Corporation  
Richard Verma, Mastercard  
Moderator Nelson Bellido, ROIG Lawyers |
| 1:30 P.M. - 2:30 P.M.       | CLE SESSION: Untangling the Privacy Web                 | Megan Flynn Bickel, Trustmark  
Barb Rhoads-Weaver, Focal PLLC  
Mia Scavellea-Little, Microsoft  
Josh Stevens, Mac Murray & Shuster LLP |
| 2:40 P.M. - 3:40 P.M.       | CLE SESSION: Assessing the Scope and Impact of a Cyber Incident | Eric Robinson, KLDiscovery  
Will Delgado, DTO Law  
Den Hawkins, The Hershey Company  
William J. Hale, Goosmann Law Firm |
| 5:20 P.M. - 6:20 P.M.       | VIRTUAL NETWORKING EVENT: In-House Only Cocktail Reception | IN-HOUSE COUNSEL ONLY                                                                       |
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<th>TIME [CENTRAL]</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
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<td>6:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.</td>
<td><strong>VIRTUAL NETWORKING EVENT:</strong> Visit Napa Valley (without leaving your chair)</td>
<td><strong>NAMWOLF</strong></td>
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| 9:00 A.M. - 10:00 P.M. | **CLE SESSION:** Rise, Shine and Wellness with ELI (Wellness) | **Presenters** | John Murdock, Chair of NAMWOLF Board  
Robin Wolpert, Sapientia Law Group |
| 10:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M. | **CLE SESSION:** Lucy Lawyer Walks the Line: Ethical Issues Facing In-House Counsel (Ethics) | **Presenters** | Beatriz Jaramillo, Humana  
Lexer Quamie Mayers, Exelon Business Services Company  
Paul Loh, Willenken LLP  
Rachel Fiset, Zweibak, Fiset & Coleman LLP |
| 11:45 A.M. - 1:05 P.M. | **CLE SESSION:** Getting Past Incumbency Bias --> Getting More Work to MWBE Law Firms (Diversity/UB) | **Presenters** | Richard Amador, Sanchez & Amador LLP  
Rick Hammond, Walmart  
Justi Rae Miller, State Farm  
Christina Alabi, Peloton |
| 1:15 P.M. - 2:15 P.M. | **CLE SESSION:** Old Dog, New Tricks?...As Trust Falls, Verdicts Rise | **Presenters** | Elizabeth Skane, Skane Mills  
Barbara Laskaris-Lorigan, Golden State Claims Adjusters  
Trish Poe, Allied Public Risk, LLC  
Lisa Collinson, Collinson, Daehnke, Inlow & Grego |
| 2:25 P.M. - 3:25 P.M. | **GENERAL SESSION:** NAMWOLF AWARDS & 20th Anniversary Recognition | **Sponsored by:** | T-Mobile |
| 3:35 P.M. – 5:00 P.M. | **LAW FIRM CROSS MARKETING SESSION:** Don't Get FOMOBO (Fear Of Missing Out on Business Opportunities) | **Presenters** | |
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