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JUNE 4-6, 2023

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A

Timothy Abram

Managing Director, Hotel Acquisitions
Starwood Capital Group

Timothy Abram is a managing director in Hotel Acquisitions at Starwood Capital Group, based in New York. In this role, Abram focuses on sourcing, structuring, underwriting and executing hotel transactions across the United States and Europe. He has been responsible for direct real estate investments and corporate acquisitions in the hotel space, as well as the residential and office sectors.

Prior to joining Starwood Capital in 2015, Abram was an associate director in Real Estate, Lodging & Leisure Investment Banking at UBS in London, working across M&A, equity and debt capital markets product groups. Prior to UBS, Abram worked in the Distressed Debt Group at Citi in London. Abram received a 1st Class BSc (Hons) Economics degree from University College London and an MSc Finance with Distinction from the London School of Economics.

Omer Acar

Chief Executive Officer, Raffles & Orient Express
Accor

Omer Acar holds degrees from Hotel Institute Montreux and Hawaii Pacific University, and a certificate from Cornell University. Omer is an eminent specialist in luxury hospitality. He started his career at Four Seasons in various operational positions at several hotels in the United States and Egypt. He moved to Harrods in England as Group Director of Food & Beverage in 2005, was appointed General Manager of the Ritz in Paris in 2006, then moved to the Royal Monceau - Raffles Paris in the same capacity in 2011.

In March 2023, Omer Acar joined Accor as CEO Raffles & Orient Express and member of the Luxury & Lifestyle Executive Committee. To enhance the Group's reach and recognition in the United States, Omer will also assume responsibility for representing Accor on the North American market.

Reggie Aggarwal

CEO and Founder
Cvent

Reggie Aggarwal is the CEO and Founder of Cvent, a market-leading meetings and event software company. Aggarwal founded Cvent in 1999 and has grown it to more than 4,800 employees. Cvent's platform powers millions of virtual, in-person, and hybrid events for thousands of organizations, including 50% of the Fortune 500. In 2022, planners sourced \$14 billion of meetings business through Cvent's platform.

In March 2023, Cvent entered into an agreement with Blackstone to be acquired for \$4.6B. Aggarwal has been featured in *The Wall Street Journal*, *Forbes*, and *Business Week*, and has been on CNN, BBC, and other news networks for his meeting industry insights and expertise.

Joe Ahmed-Youssef

Executive Vice President, Commercial North America
Amadeus

Joe Ahmed-Youssef currently serves as executive vice president, Commercial North America 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 EVP of BI and Data Solutions as well 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, Ahmed-Youssef was previously Madrid-based global director for Operations and Business Development for the Hospitality division. He has also served as regional director of 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.



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Moneesh Arora

CEO

Unifocus

Moneesh Arora, CEO of Unifocus, brings over 25 years of experience in the software industry, focusing on human capital management (HCM) and workforce management (WFM) solutions. With a track record of creating value for clients, team members, and investors, Arora has held senior leadership positions at well-known companies such as ADP, Paycor, Thomson Reuters, Dun & Bradstreet, and PwC.

Moneesh holds a BS in Industrial Engineering from the New Jersey Institute of Technology, College of Engineering, and an MBA in Finance from the NYU Stern School of Business. Arora currently serves on the board of Greenshades Software, a provider of payroll and HR solutions for mid-market companies.

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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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.

Brian Barker

**Endowed Professor of Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI)
Chaplin School of Hospitality Management and Tourism
Florida International University**

Brian Barker was appointed the endowed professor of diversity equity and inclusion (DEI) in June of 2021 at the Chaplin School of Hospitality Management and Tourism at Florida International University. Before this appointment, Barker was a senior clinical instructor at DePaul University's School of Hospitality Leadership.

Barker is currently a PhD candidate at Iowa State University, and his dissertation uses value cocreation as a measurement tool to support hospitality social enterprises. He brings over 13 years of industry experience to his current role. Most of his industry experience has been spent with Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts (FSHR), and he was recognized as the first front office manager at the Four Seasons Miami property to lead the front office team toward attaining the coveted AAA-Five Diamond Award.

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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.

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).

He joined Accor's Board of Directors in 2005 and, via Colony Capital, became a Paris Saint-Germain Football Club shareholder in 2006 and the club's chairman in 2009. In August 2013, he resigned from his duties at Colony Capital and was appointed chairman and CEO of Accor. Bazin is vice-chairman of the Gustave Roussy Foundation's Supervisory Board, and has been a member of the GE Board of Directors since 2016.

James Bermingham

CEO
Virgin Hotels

James Bermingham is responsible for delivering Virgin Hotels Collection 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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Adi Bhoopathy

**Principal & Head of Capital Markets
Investment Management**

Adi Bhoopathy is principal and head of capital markets responsible for debt relationships, asset dispositions, and transaction management. He leads contract documentation and closings related to new acquisitions, development, and financing for all investments. Bhoopathy has more than 23 years of hospitality industry experience and has participated in more than \$3.5 billion worth of real estate transactions for the Noble organization since joining the firm in 1999.

He became a partner in 2006 and is a regular panelist at lodging, investment, and financing conferences. Bhoopathy earned a BS from the Cornell University School of Hospitality and has served as president of the Cornell Georgia Chapter and the Atlanta Hospitality Alliance. He is also a member of the Atlanta Capital Markets Council for the Urban Land Institute.

Laura Lee Blake

**President & CEO
AAHOA**

Laura Lee Blake, 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, PhD

**President and Chief Operating Officer
Xenia Hotels & Resorts**

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.



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Anna Blue

President
AHLA Foundation

Anna Blue serves as President of the AHLA Foundation, the nonprofit arm of the American Hotel & Lodging Association, driving meaningful impact in support of a stronger and more equitable hotel workforce. Under her leadership, the Foundation supports youth through training and college scholarships, helps employees prevent human trafficking in hotels, and works to advance underrepresented groups in the industry.

Blue is a seasoned nonprofit leader with more than two decades of experience building movements for good. Her work advancing deep-rooted systemic change in urban education, gender equity, and digital safety reflects Anna's belief in the power of leveraging collaboration and community to effect change. In her previous roles as co-executive director of Girl Up at the United Nations Foundation and chief next gen officer at The Female Quotient, Blue built transformational cause-marketing partnerships with global brands, generated significant revenue growth, and mobilized communities to advance girls and women globally.

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.

Andrew Bodziak

Senior Vice President, Global Operations
Marriott International

In his role as senior vice president of global operations, Andrew Bodziak provides leadership for operations services globally, with oversight of discipline leaders including sustainability, mobile guest services, and engineering. Previously, Bodziak had responsibility for directing hotel operations for owned and managed hotels in the Marriott International portfolio across the St. Regis, The Ritz-Carlton, W Hotel and EDITION brands in the Northeastern US.

Bodziak joined Marriott as part of the Starwood acquisition, where he was the area managing director for the New York and New Jersey markets. Prior to joining Starwood, he was a management consultant for Booz & Company. He started his career with Motorola in Chicago and Beijing.

Danielle Bozarth

Senior Partner
McKinsey & Compa

Danielle Bozarth is a global co-leader for McKinsey's Travel, Logistics & Infrastructure Practice. She has deep knowledge of the travel, logistics, consumer, and retail industries including strategy, M&A, business building, digital and commercial topics, and operational transformations. She brings an extensive understanding of the opportunities to provide better consumer experiences and branding across each of these sectors.

Bozarth previously led McKinsey's Consumer Private Equity Practice and Consumer and Retail Practice for the Northeastern US, advising consumer goods, retail, and consumer-focused private equity clients on transformations, growth strategies, strategic transactions and integrations, and a range of marketing topics.



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Michael D. Brown

President and Chief Executive Officer
Travel + Leisure Co.

Michael D. Brown serves as president and CEO of Travel + Leisure, and is a member of its Board of Directors. Brown is responsible for the performance, growth, and strategic direction of the world's leading membership and leisure travel company with a portfolio of nearly 20 resort, travel club, and lifestyle travel brands. The company includes the Wyndham Destinations, Panorama, and Travel + Leisure Group business lines.

Brown joined the company in 2017, and in June 2018 led its subsequent evolution to Wyndham Destinations as an independent public company, globally headquartered in Orlando, FL, after spinning off Wyndham Hotels & Resorts. In 2021, Wyndham Destinations acquired the iconic Travel + Leisure brand and became Travel + Leisure Co., aligned with its strategy to be the world's leading membership and leisure travel company.

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 Songy 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.

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 Studios at Choice Hotels International, Inc., 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.

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Anthony Capuano

President and Chief Executive Officer
Marriott International

Anthony Capuano is president and CEO of Marriott International. In his role, Capuano presides over the world's largest hospitality company and some of the most iconic brands in travel. He 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 nearly 8,300 properties across 138 countries and territories and 30 brands. It also has the travel industry's largest customer-loyalty program, Marriott Bonvoy, which has more than 177 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 was also responsible for oversight of the EDITION Hotels, a unique concept in the luxury lifestyle hotel space conceived by hotelier Ian Schrager and Marriott International.

Janis Cannon

Senior Vice President
Upscale Brands

Janis Cannon is senior vice president of Upscale Brands and a member of the senior executive team for Choice Hotels International, Inc, 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 200 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 US. 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.

James Carroll

President & CEO
Crestline Hotels & Resorts

As CEO of Crestline Hotels & Resorts, James Carroll 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 4,500 associates, Crestline is one of the top ten independent hotel management companies in the country, and has earned the elite status of being qualified to manage any of the Marriott, Hilton, Hyatt, and IHG products.

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 a Master in Business Administration from the Harvard Business School, and is a graduate of the US Naval Academy. 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, Inc.

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Raj Chandnani

Executive Vice President and Chief Development Officer
WATG

Raj Chandnani is responsible for guiding WATG's global outreach activities, implementing strategic initiatives, and positioning the firm as a leader in innovation. He has a wide range of industry expertise focusing on consumer trends, travel and tourism, branding strategies and hospitality real estate. Chandnani also collaborates with the firm's clients, and provides strategic consulting for proposed developments, including visioning and conceptualization, competitive positioning, branding and operator selection.

Chandnani has specialized in commercial real estate since 1994. Prior to joining WATG in 2001, He was as associate director with CBRE Hotels, where he spent six years in a variety of capacities including asset management, investment sales, financings and portfolio due diligence. Chandnani is co-chair of the American Hotel & Lodging Association's Hospitality Investment Roundtable, a member of the Dean's Advisory Board at Cornell Nolan School of Hotel Administration, Trustee of the American Hotel & Lodging Association Foundation, and a member of the Collins College of Hospitality Management Board of Advisors at California Polytechnic University, Pomona.

Bruno Chauvat

Chief Executive Officer & Cofounder
Travelsify

Bruno Chauvat is the chief executive officer and cofounder of Travelsify, the world's first Hotel Brand DNA® data platform powering unique and native AI intelligence to support and accelerate decision-making for hospitality groups, hotel development, and hotel investors.

Bruno has a more than 30-year track record in the media, technology, and finance industries, holding various C-level positions in international listed companies and in startups. His deep understanding of brands, technology, and data, together with his passion for hospitality and lifestyle account for the success of Travelsify.

Olivier Chavy

President
Panorama and Travel + Leisure Clubs

Olivier Chavy serves as president of Panorama and Travel + Leisure Clubs, overseeing the company's exchange, membership, and subscription travel brands as part of Travel + Leisure Co. He is also a member of the Travel + Leisure Co. Executive Committee. With 30 years of experience in international hospitality and executive leadership, Chavy also oversees the global brand CRM, and digital marketing initiatives for Travel + Leisure Co.

Aligned with the company's commitment to inclusion and diversity, Chavy serves as executive sponsor of the Travel + Leisure Co. diversity resource group for veterans. Prior to joining the company in 2019, he served as CEO of Mövenpick Hotels & Resorts where he led the company's expansion through new resort openings, pipeline development, and portfolio growth of more than 40 percent.

Lauren M. Chewning

Senior Vice President
Insight, Strategy & Analytics
Marriott International

Lauren Chewning is currently a senior vice president leading Insight, Strategy, and Analytics within Marriott's Consumer Operations division. In this role, she leads a global team that develops enterprise-level insight and strategy across businesses and functions, identifies and tracks performance to key KPIs, collects and synthesizes voice of customer information, and conducts analytics and reporting activities to drive success across Consumer Operations and the Continents.

Prior to her role leading this team, Chewning led the Insight, Growth and Tours & Activities teams within Customer Experience, and held multiple leadership roles within Marriott's brand organization. Prior to Marriott, she worked in consulting at both Accenture and McKinsey & Co., and held various brand and marketing roles at Dell Inc.



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John Cohan

Chief Executive Officer
Margaritaville

John Cohan 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, Cohan worked for TRIARC, a publicly traded holding company comprised of consumer businesses, including Arby's, Snapple, and RC Cola.

Cohan 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, Cohan lives in Palm Beach, Florida during the winter and in Skaneateles, New York during the summer.

Raj Contractor

Head of Investments
Host Hotels and Resorts

Raj Contractor is Head of Investments for Host Hotels and Resorts and is responsible for leading acquisitions, dispositions, value enhancement projects and developments. Contractor joined Host in 2008 and has been responsible for over \$5 billion in global real estate investments including acquisitions, dispositions, joint ventures, developments, and redevelopments in the US, Asia and Latin America. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Tulane University and an MBA from the Stanford Graduate School of Business.

Tiffany Cooper

Head of Development for North America and the Caribbean
The Kimpton Hotel & Restaurant Group

Tiffany Cooper is a hospitality professional with over 27 years of experience, having begun her career working in sales & marketing 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, Cooper joined the Marriott International development team, focused on full service and luxury hotel development until moving back to Kimpton in April 2018.

Alex Cosmas

Partner
McKinsey & Company

Alex Cosmas is a Partner in McKinsey & Company's New York Office, leading data science in the firm's travel practice. He specializes in probabilistic and causal inference and the use of digital twins in high-dimensional modeling. Cosmas has consulted airlines, hotels, and travel players globally in the areas of cognitive modeling, consumer choice, network modeling, revenue management and pricing. He advises clients on realizing return from their analytics investments, and regularly serves in a transient Chief Analytics Officer capacity while developing his clients own in-house capabilities.

Cosmas is a member of the Institute for Operations Research and Management Science (INFORMS) and the Airline Group of the International Federation of Operations Research Societies (AGIFORS). He earned a BS in Applied Physics from Columbia, an MS in Technology & Policy and an MS in Aerospace Engineering, both from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

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Catie Cramer

Vice President, Luxury, Lifestyle & Premium Brands
IHG Hotels & Resorts

Catie Cramer is vice president of Luxury, Lifestyle & Premium brands for IHG Hotels & Resorts, responsible for the Western region of the US and Canada. Prior to joining IHG, Cramer spent several years as the vice president of development for Commune Hotels & Resorts/Two Roads Hospitality, expanding the Thompson, Alila, Joie de Vivre, Tommie and Destination brands across the US and Mexico. Upon Hyatt's acquisition of Two Roads Hospitality, she was retained as the vice President of Lifestyle Development & Owner Relations where she was responsible for the successful integration of the Two Roads portfolio and pipeline, workouts and retentions, sourcing new opportunities across the lifestyle brands, driving development strategy in the lifestyle space, mergers and acquisitions and JV/equity investments. Cramer graduated from Cornell University with a degree in Hotel Administration.

Mat Crosswy

Principal and President
Stonehill

Mat Crosswy is responsible for the overall management of Stonehill, while also engaging in the pursuit of new investment opportunities and the strategic growth of the company. Under Crosswy's leadership, Stonehill has deployed or purchased over \$5.3 billion in hotel debt and preferred equity investments.

Prior to serving as President of Stonehill, Crosswy was responsible for sourcing, negotiating and financing hotel investment opportunities for Peachtree Hotel Group. He served as a liaison for debt relationships across all financial and equity market participants. In this role, he sourced, arranged and placed over \$600 million in deals. Crosswy began his career with Greystone Financial's CMBS Group consulting with B-Piece Investors to securitize their multi-billion dollar portfolios. He later went on to join Specialty Finance Group where he enhanced his knowledge of the hospitality industry by underwriting complex hospitality construction and takeout loans ranging from \$5 to \$75 million.

Eileen Crowley

Partner and Vice Chair
US Transportation, Hospitality and Services 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. Crowley 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.

Larry Cuculic

President and Chief Executive Officer
Best Western® Hotels & Resorts

Larry Cuculic is president and 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 comprises 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 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 US Travel Association, the Asian American Hotel Owners Association, and the Global Business Travel Association, among others.

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D

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 Manager'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.

Ted Darnall

Partner & CEO, Lodging and Technical Services
HEI Hotels & Resorts

Ted Darnall is partner and CEO of Lodging and Technical Services at HEI Hotels & Resorts. He is responsible for the guidance and growth of HEI's property operations, asset management and design and construction divisions. A 30-year veteran of the hospitality industry and widely recognized as one of the top hotel operators in the industry, Darnall has held executive positions with Starwood, Interstate, and Marriott. Darnall's industry recognition is garnered from his innovative initiatives, performance-driven, results-oriented focus, and motivational leadership.

Prior to joining HEI in 2006, Darnall was with Starwood for 10 years where he held various executive positions which included chief operating officer of Starwood Lodging Corporation, president of North America Operations, and most recently, president of Starwood Real Estate Group. Prior to Starwood, Darnall was with Interstate Hotels for over 14 years, reaching the position of senior vice president of operations. Darnall began his hospitality career with Marriott Corporation, where he held a number of management positions.

Jeffrey Davis

Senior Managing Director
Head US Hotels Investment Sales
JLL Hotels & Hospitality

Jeffrey Davis is a senior managing director of JLL's Hotels & Hospitality Group and 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.

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Kevin DavisAmericas CEO
JLL

Kevin Davis is the Americas chief executive officer in JLL's Hotels & Hospitality Group in New York, where he is responsible for raising debt and equity capital for hotel owners and is one of the leaders of the Hotel Investment Banking group. In this role, Davis works closely with the lending community, including banks, life insurance companies, debt funds, mezzanine providers, and CMBS lenders, as well as institutional owners of commercial real estate.

Since joining JLL in 2013, Davis has been involved in almost \$20 billion of financing, which includes ground-up construction projects, value-add/transitional assets, and stabilized properties. Notable transactions include the financing of the JW Marriott Essex House, the Standard High Line, the One Hotel Central Park, Loews Regency San Francisco, and the Ritz Carlton St. Thomas. Representative clients include ADIA, Ashford Hospitality, Barings, Blackstone Group, Highgate Hotels, Rockpoint Group, Starwood Capital, and Walton Street Capital, among others. In 2020, Davis was named the Jack A. Shaffer Financial Advisor of the Year.

Sloan F. Dean IIICEO
Remington Hotels

Sloan Dean is an award-winning hospitality professional, and CEO and 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 122 hotels in 30 states with annual revenues over \$1.5 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 Marriott MINA Board, among others.

Joe Delli SantiChief Investment Officer
MCR

Joe Delli Santi is chief investment officer of MCR. He is responsible for leading 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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Michael J. Deitemeyer

President & CEO
Aimbridge Hospitality

Michael J. Deitemeyer is president and chief executive officer of Aimbridge Hospitality, a leading global hospitality company. Deitemeyer presides over the company's growth, operations, and corporate disciplines worldwide with a current portfolio of over 1,500 hotels in more than 20 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 CEO of Interstate Hotels & Resorts for three years and was instrumental in its steady growth. 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. He serves as Secretary/Treasurer of the American Hotel & Lodging Association and serves on the CEO Roundtable of the U.S. Travel Association. He is an active member of the Culinary Institute of America Society of Fellows.

Greg Doman

Chief Development Officer
Virgin Hotels

As chief development officer, Doman is responsible for setting and implementing Virgin Hotels' global growth strategy, identifying opportunities in key markets, and structuring transactions that work for Virgin Hotels and its Owner/Developer partners. Doman spearheads Virgin Hotels entrance into the branded residential business. He works in tandem with the chief executive officer, executive committee, and the development team.

Before joining Virgin Hotels, Doman served as senior vice president, Development at Accor, where he led development for North and Central America as well as the development of luxury and upscale brands in South America. Doman's tenure at Accor also included leading the global residential business. Prior to Accor, he led development for the Americas and the Global Residential business at Fairmont Raffles Hotels International (FRHI).

Fiona Downing

Chief Membership Officer
Panorama and Travel + Leisure Clubs

Fiona Downing serves as chief membership officer of Panorama and Travel + Leisure Clubs. In this role, she leads the growth strategy to align the company's business-to-business (B2B) travel clubs and the direct-to-consumer (D2C) subscription club businesses. She also oversees product development and strategic growth initiatives for the Panorama travel and membership business line, and digital marketing and customer relationship management for the company.

Passionate about the development and advancement of women in the workplace, she serves as the chair of the American Resort Development Association (ARDA) WIN Committee, and is an ARDA International Foundation board member and ARDA Chairman's League VIP member. Downing also serves on the board of the Visiting Nurse Association Health Group New Jersey.

Eric Duchon

Managing Director and Global Head of ESG
Blackstone Real Estate

As part of the Real Estate Asset Management team, Eric Duchon partners with the firm's central ESG team and Portfolio Operations to initiate, manage, implement and report ESG initiatives across the global Real Estate portfolio. Duchon is responsible for the Real Estate Group's industry leading ESG program, which drives results across the firm's real estate funds and portfolio companies.

Prior to joining Blackstone in November 2020, Duchon was at LaSalle Investment Management where he was a managing director and global head of sustainability. Prior to LaSalle, he spent over nine years at Cushman & Wakefield as the director of sustainability strategies.

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E

Sonia Egyhazy

VP, Development
Cambria Hotel

Sonia Egyhazy leads development for Cambria Hotels, an emerging, upscale hotel chain within the Choice Hotels International family of brands. She oversees the team in North America. Throughout Sonia's tenure with Cambria, she has helped triple the size of the portfolio, adding landmark properties in high RevPAR cities with top sponsors.

Egyhazy has over 18 years of hospitality industry experience, focused on acquisitions, development, and asset management, and has transacted over \$4b in hotel real estate. She previously held finance and business development roles with Crestline Hotels & Resorts, Hilton Worldwide and Interstate Hotels & Resorts. Egyhazy received her undergraduate degree from the University of Virginia and her masters in real estate finance from Georgetown University.

David Eisen

VP and Editor-in-Chief
HOTELS Magazine

David Eisen is VP and Editor-in-Chief of *HOTELS* Magazine, where he oversees creative content for both the print and digital products. Prior to *HOTELS*, Eisen was content director of media within the hospitality vertical for Questex, overseeing the content direction and focus for Hotel Management, Hospitality Insights and the complementing event series. Eisen's other work includes the position of director of hotel intelligence, Americas, for benchmarking firm HotStats. Eisen has worked within the hospitality media landscape for more than 15 years, having started his career as hotel editor at *Business Travel News*. He has a master's degree in hospitality industry studies from New York University's Jonathan M. Tisch Center for Hospitality and Tourism.

Sara Eisen

Anchor of CNBC's "Closing Bell"
Cvent

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.



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Elias Eliopoulos

Partner

McDermott Will & Emery

Elias Eliopoulos advises clients on commercial real estate matters, including sales and acquisitions of office, hotel and multi-family assets, mortgage and mezzanine financings and preferred equity transactions, and the structuring of joint ventures for the purchase, development and operation of real estate assets. Eliopoulos has broad experience in commercial leasing, including the representation of landlords and tenants in the leasing of office and retail space.

He also has extensive experience representing owners and managers in the acquisition, financing and operation of hotel assets, including the negotiation of hotel management agreements and leases for food and beverage facilities. Many of Eliopoulos' representations have spanned the life cycle of the asset, from initial acquisition, joint venture and financing, to development, repositioning, refinancing and ultimate disposition. His clients include hotel, office building and residential developers and operators, investment banks, and US and non-US investors.

Jason Epstein

Managing Director & Co-Head of Real Estate, Americas

Sonder

Jason Epstein is a managing director and co-head of Real Estate Americas for Sonder. He joined Sonder as a Regional Director in 2018. He is responsible for overseeing Sonder's real estate growth for North America, which currently includes over 30 markets throughout the United States, Canada and Mexico. Epstein has over twenty years of real estate industry experience. Prior to joining Sonder, Epstein was a managing director at Seligson Properties, a regional real estate developer based in Norwalk, CT, where he oversaw acquisitions, asset management and capital markets.

Prior to joining Seligson Properties, Epstein ran his own commercial real estate investment and consulting company and was a Partner at The Cordish Company in Baltimore, MD for nearly a decade. Prior to starting his real estate career, Epstein practiced law in New York City, where he concentrated in commercial litigation. He is admitted as an attorney in New York and Maryland.

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F

Cecelia L. Fanelli

Partner**Brewer, Attorneys & Counselors**

Cecelia L. Fanelli is a partner at Brewer, Attorneys & Counselors. She has over 40 years of experience in litigation and dispute resolution, trying cases across the country in federal and state trial and appellate courts, and in arbitration, mediation, and alternative dispute resolution proceedings, both domestically and internationally.

Fanelli handles major litigation for a variety of clients who are significant players in the hotel industry. She also serves as an arbitrator in high-stakes hotel industry arbitrations. She has successfully represented clients and obtained a number of multimillion-dollar recoveries in hotel industry and convention center litigations involving a broad array of matters, including breach of contract, fiduciary duty, trademark infringement, labor, and antitrust claims. Fanelli has represented clients in cutting edge litigation involving branding issues and the respective rights of members of international joint ventures in disputed hotel transactions. Additionally, she is a nationally recognized expert on hotel management agreements.

Sheila Farahpour

**Vice President, US Luxury Development and Mixed-Use
Marriott International, Inc.**

Sheila Farahpour is vice president, US Luxury Development and Mixed-Use for Marriott International, Inc. In her role, she is responsible for the development of luxury hotels and branded residences in the US and Canada. Farahpour brings a life-long passion for design, fashion, and real estate to her role of elevating luxury growth.

Prior to her tenure with Marriott, she served as an associate for Hodges Ward Elliott, a leading hotel brokerage firm, where she was directly involved with individual and portfolio transactions that resulted in over \$1 billion in hotel sales. She cultivated and managed relationships with a variety of institutional hotel buyers and sellers while supporting negotiations of key buy-side and sell-side decision makers. In 2018, Sheila was recognized and featured as one of 20 rising stars by *HOTELS* magazine.

John S. Fareed

**Global Chairman
Horwath HTL**

John Fareed leads Horwath HTL's global brand and oversees the firm's Americas offices. Over the past twenty-five years, Fareed's consulting clients have included Fortune 500 companies, global brands, lenders, developers, REITs, management companies, investors, owners, attorneys, and insurers.

Fareed has appeared as an HTL industry expert on national television programs including ABC News, CNN, and Fox News Network, in publications such as *The New York Times*, *USA Today*, and *The Wall Street Journal*, and has had articles published in numerous trade journals. Additionally, he has provided HTL industry-focused, expert witness and litigation support services.



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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.

Warren Fields

Chief Executive Officer
Pyramid Global Hospitality

Warren Fields leads Pyramid Global Hospitality as its chief executive officer and founding partner, focusing his time on strategic growth, planning, and development of the organization. Pyramid Global Hospitality was formed by the 2021 merger of three hotel and resort management companies, creating the most owner-focused, experiential company in the industry and its best workplace. The organization's global portfolio spans more than 220 properties in the US, Caribbean, and Europe. Fields oversaw the growth of Pyramid and previous to his responsibilities as CEO, was the company's chief investment officer responsible for business development, via acquisitions, third-party management and asset management contracts, fundraising, development, and new investment opportunities, including mergers and acquisitions.

Fields possesses over three decades of experience in all facets of hospitality acquisitions, development, finance, and operations. He is the former vice president of Development & Operations for Promus Hotel Corporation, which was sold to Hilton Hotel Corporation in 1999. At Promus he developed and implemented a strategy for creating a new hotel brand, eventually growing the portfolio from 0 to 30 properties.



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Mark Fisher

Managing Director
JLL Hotels & Hospitality

Mark Fisher is a managing director in JLL's Hotels and Hospitality Group where he is responsible for raising debt for hotel owners across all parts of the debt capital markets: insurance companies, money-center and regional commercial banks, investment banks, debt funds, and the family offices/private lenders that focus on the higher-yielding opportunistic end of the debt spectrum.

Prior to joining JLL's Hotels and Hospitality Group in 2021, Fisher was part of the JLL Capital Markets platform in the New York office since 2015. Fisher oversaw debt and equity execution from 2017 through 2019 for a team that averaged \$16 billion in annual volume across all commercial real estate asset classes on both a local and national level. Before joining JLL in late 2015, Fisher had a brief stint on the principal side of the real estate business which included overseeing capital markets and arranging debt on several prominent hotels. He also spent 13 years as a member of the large loan structured finance group at Eurohypo AG.

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.

James Francque

Global Head of Transactions
Hyatt Hotels Corporation

James Francque serves as global head of transactions for Hyatt Hotels Corporation. In this role, Francque is responsible for implementing the company's capital strategy globally-leading investments, mergers and acquisitions, and related transactional activity. Francque previously served as senior vice president, capital strategy and head of Hyatt Residential from 2014 to 2018 and as senior vice president and associate general counsel, providing legal support to the Corporate Transactions and Asset Management Groups, from 2011 to 2014. Prior to joining Hyatt, Francque was a partner at international law firm Jones Day. He is involved with a number of charitable organizations, including Misericordia, which serves more than 600 disabled children and adults in the Chicagoland area.



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Geoff Freeman

President and CEO
US Travel Association

As president and CEO of the US Travel Association, Geoff Freeman is the leading advocate for the \$1.1 trillion US travel and hospitality industry. In this role, Freeman is charged with ensuring the industry's full recovery from COVID-19, positioning the industry to seize emerging opportunities in a post-pandemic market environment and further establishing travel as a vital economic force in the United States.

Freeman is a seasoned association CEO with a proven track record of building successful organizations that unite member interests, grow member value, increase revenue and unlock growth opportunities. Prior to joining US Travel, Freeman was president and CEO of the Consumer Brands Association, the trade association for America's \$2.1 trillion food, beverage and consumer products industry. During his tenure, Freeman launched a strategic campaign to transform the association into a powerful, modern advocacy organization aimed at driving growth and delivering sound regulatory and legislative outcomes that benefit industry leaders and consumers. During his tenure, Freeman grew membership by 35 percent and boosted total revenue by nearly 50 percent.

Greg Friedman

Managing Principal, Chief Executive Officer
Peachtree Hotel Group

Greg Friedman has successfully led Peachtree, a private equity firm focusing on opportunistically deploying capital across its distinct operating and real estate divisions, including hospitality, commercial real estate lending, residential development and capital markets, in more than \$8.0 billion in transactions since co-founding the company in 2008.

Friedman has more than 23 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, originating more than \$2 billion of hotel debt. He is a board member of the American Hotel & Lodging Association. He serves on the real estate fund advisory board for the Texas McCombs School of Business at the University of Texas at Austin, and is a member of the Real Estate Roundtable, a nonprofit public policy organization based in Washington, DC, that represents the interests of real estate.

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G

Laurence Geller CBE

Chairman and Founder
Geller Capital Partners

Laurence Geller has a storied history with the hospitality and humanitarian health care sectors. With decades of professional experience in the hospitality sector, Geller is recognized as a global leader in the hotel industry. He is not only one of the pioneering forces behind modern hotel asset management, but is recognized as the pioneer and leader in hospitality driven senior living and care.

In 2016 he founded Loveday and Co. as the UK's only senior-living Members Club. Loveday prides itself in providing a tailored, compassionate care service that partners with world-class hospitality to create an unrivaled culture of uncompromising excellence in every aspect of the organization. Geller not only serves as the Chancellor of the University of West London, which houses the London Geller School of Hospitality and Tourism and the Geller Institute of Aging and Memory, but is also the UK Government's advisor on its Major Conditions Strategy, Dementia Care, and Concussion in Sport.

Geller is the founder and chair of the UK Government-supported Geller Commission on Dementia Care. In the late "80's" Laurence was also co-founder of Classic Residences by Hyatt, now trading as Vi Senior Living., the first branded senior living organization in the US. He is also the author of two thrillers set in the lodging industry, and has written over 100 published articles on tourism, hospitality, and care.

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 most recently was appointed to the board of directors of a.k.a. Brands Holding Corp. and also serves on the board of directors of the US Travel Association and Uniform System of Accounts for the Lodging Industry.

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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Bill Grice

President
CBRE Hotels

Bill Grice is an experienced and accomplished commercial real estate professional with over 20 years of hospitality capital markets experience. As president of CBRE Hotels, he leads the investment sales, debt and structured finance, valuation, advisory, and research platforms, providing clients a fully integrated service offering. Under Grice's leadership, CBRE Hotels secured and executed over \$165 billion in engagements last year, establishing the platform as the leading intermediary for hospitality investment sales, financing, and lodging asset advisory activity globally.

Timothy Grisius

Global Officer, M&A, Business Development and Real Estate
Marriott International, Inc.

Tim Grisius is the Global Officer, M&A, Business Development, and Real Estate for Marriott International. He is globally responsible for mergers and acquisitions, business development, real estate investments, mixed use development, branded residential operations, and timeshare. Grisius started his Marriott International career in 1996 working in corporate finance.

He then worked with Marriott Vacation Club's finance group as a member of the Executive Committee. Grisius later joined Marriott's Project Finance team, where he was responsible for raising capital for development deals as well as selling company owned hotels. He transitioned to Lodging Development in 2006. While in Development, he has been responsible for cultivating numerous company owned hotels under various Marriott brands, growing the branded residential portfolio to the largest in the industry, leading the spin-off of Marriott Vacation Club, launching the Ritz Carlton Yacht Collection, and leading the development of Marriott's new global corporate headquarters.

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Jenna Hackett

Global Leader**Canopy by Hilton and Curio and Tapestry Collections by Hilton**

Jenna Hackett is the global leader of Canopy by Hilton and Curio and Tapestry Collections by Hilton, responsible for the strategic direction, vision, growth and performance of these lifestyle brands. Hackett has been with Hilton since 2011, in a series of escalating and cross-departmental roles. Within Brands, she has worked on the launch and establishment of both Curio and Tapestry Collections, spending significant time defining the meaning of collection brands within Hilton.

In addition to her work on Curio and Tapestry Collections, she has overseen brand management, strategic planning and support for Hilton Hotels & Resorts and DoubleTree by Hilton. She also 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. 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.

Leslie D. Hale

President and Chief Executive Officer**RLJ Lodging Trust**

Leslie D. Hale is the president and chief executive officer at RLJ Lodging Trust, a leading hotel real estate investment trust that owns 96 hotels with approximately 21,200 rooms across the United States. Since joining in 2005, Hale has played a pivotal role in setting and executing the strategic vision at RLJ and has held progressively senior roles. She was appointed chief financial officer in 2007, chief operating officer in 2016 and CEO in 2018. She helped successfully lead the execution of RLJ's initial public offering (IPO) in 2011, oversaw the first merger of two hospitality REITs in 2017, and is on RLJ's Board of Directors.

In addition to her work at RLJ, Hale currently serves on the Board of Directors of Macy's, Inc. and Delta Air Lines, Inc., is a Howard University trustee, and is a board member of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond's Baltimore Branch. Other organizations in which she is a member are the MINA Advisory Board, NAREIT Advisory Board of Governors, AHLA Executive Board, IREFAC, and The Real Estate Roundtable.

John S. Hamilton

Executive Vice President**Acquisitions and Business Development****Pyramid Global Hospitality (PGH)**

John Hamilton is responsible for PGH's new management assignments, acquisitions, and business development. In the past 20 years, Hamilton and his team have underwritten, financed, acquired and/or taken over management of over 250 hotels with over 45,000 rooms.

Hamilton has years of experience sourcing, evaluating, underwriting, and executing hospitality real estate and management transactions. Previously a licensed CPA, he has been associated with such prominent firms as Lowe Hospitality Group, Promus Hotels, Carnival Hotels & Resorts, Doubletree Hotels, and Laventhol & Horwath.

Michele Haynes

Vice President, Capital Strategy**Hyatt**

Michele Haynes is vice president of capital strategy for Hyatt. Haynes is part of Hyatt's global transactions team, which is responsible for implementing Hyatt's capital strategy, including asset dispositions, mergers and acquisitions, and strategic investments. Haynes previously served as vice president and assistant general counsel supporting development and asset management activities in Latin America and the Caribbean, and joint venture investment and divestiture, preferred equity and mezzanine-level capital commitments, as well as balance sheet finance activities. Prior to joining Hyatt, Haynes was in private practice at Chicago law firms where she had a finance-focused real estate practice.

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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 two decades of business experience operating and growing companies, including 18 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.

Sean Hennessey

**Clinical Assistant Professor
NYU SPS 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 member 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.



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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.

Tim Hentschel

Co-founder and CEO
HotelPlanner

Tim Hentschel is the co-founder and CEO of HotelPlanner, one of the world's leading travel technology companies that serves all traveler hotel needs from a single platform. Now celebrating its 20th year under Hentschel's leadership, HotelPlanner has enduring partnerships with the world's largest online travel agencies, global hotel chains, individual hotels, online wedding providers, alternative lodging providers, corporations, sports franchises, universities, and government agencies.

Hentschel is a third-generation hotelier and a graduate of the Cornell University School of Hotel Administration with a degree in hotel management and concentration in microcomputing. In 2018, Cornell awarded him their prestigious Innovator of the Year Award. He founded the American Group Travel Awards and the European Group Travel Awards which donates proceeds to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and other charities. He is a frequent TV/radio/podcast guest and is quoted in national and global news stories on a weekly basis.

Brian Hicks

SVP Commercial & Revenue Management
InterContinental Hotels Group PLC of the United Kingdom

Joining IHG in 1998, Brian Hicks has worked across many functions and regions, he spent seven years heading up Revenue Management for Europe, Middle East and Asia. He was a founder of the Revenue Management for Hire program and opened the first in-market call/revenue centre for a cluster of IHG hotels in the NYC market.

In 2016 he left IHG and joined TMI Hospitality, a subsidiary of Starwood Capital where he was Chief Operating Officer for 185 hotels across 25 states. Hicks rejoined IHG heading up Revenue Management for the Americas when TMI Hospitality was purchased by Aimbridge Hospitality.



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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.

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 current position, Hoplamazian served as president of The Pritzker Organization (TPO), the principal financial and investment advisor for Pritzker family business interests. During his 17-year tenure with TPO, he served as advisor to various Pritzker family-owned companies, including Hyatt Hotels Corporation and its predecessors.

Hoplamazian previously worked in international mergers and acquisitions at The First Boston Corporation in New York. He serves on the American Hotel and Lodging Association (AHLA) board of directors, the VF Corporation board of directors, the executive committee of the board of directors of World Business Chicago, and the Aspen Institute board of trustees as vice chairman. Hoplamazian is a member of the World Travel & Tourism Council and the Commercial Club of Chicago. He is also a member of the Discovery Class of the Henry Crown Fellowship..

Bill Hornbuckle

Chief Executive Officer and President
MGM Resorts International

Bill Hornbuckle is chief executive officer and president of MGM Resorts International. He is also a member of MGM Resorts' Board of Directors and serves as the chairman of the Board of Directors of MGM China Holdings, which operates resorts in Macau. As a more than two-decade veteran of MGM Resorts, Hornbuckle has held a variety of positions within the organization, serving as president since 2012 and becoming chief operating officer in 2019.

His previous positions with MGM Resorts include chief marketing officer, president and chief operating officer of Mandalay Bay, chief operating officer of MGM Resorts International-Europe and president and chief operating officer of MGM Grand Las Vegas. Hornbuckle also serves as chairman of the US Travel and Tourism Advisory Board, which advises the US Secretary of Commerce on policy, regulation, programs and issues that impact the travel and tourism industry in the United States.



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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.

Jason Hsiang

**Executive Vice President of Development
Ennismore**

Jason Hsiang serves as executive vice president of development for Ennismore, a global collection of lifestyle brands and management company. As the world's fastest-growing lifestyle hospitality company, the Ennismore portfolio consists of hotel, restaurant, and nightlife brands.

With over 20 years of brand building and developing lifestyle hotels, Hsiang oversees the development efforts in the Americas by bringing together Ennismore's know-how in building brands with creative storytelling, design, and authentic experiences, with diverse restaurants and nightlife venues. Over his career, he has successfully launched several independent lifestyle hotel brands into global operations including Thompson Hotel, Morgans Hotel Group and Yotel. Prior to the hospitality industry, he held several positions in real estate acquisitions including Northstar Capital and Lazard.



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Alexi Huntley Khajavi

President, Hospitality & Travel
Questex

Alexi Khajavi is president of Hospitality & Travel for Questex LLC, a global business intelligence company that informs and connects buyers and sellers across five key sectors; hospitality, travel, healthcare, wellness and technology. Khajavi is responsible for the overall management and development of the company's global hospitality and travel communications properties and events, including notable flagship assets like the International Hotel Investment Forum (IHIF) Summit Series, The Bar & Restaurant Expo, Ultra Travel Summit, Luxury Travel Advisor, Hospitality Insights, HOTECH, and the Destination Develop investment promotion arm.

Khajavi has been a board member and advisor to a number of nonprofits and tech companies, including the Center for Responsible Travel at Stanford University, The Center for Health and the Global Environment at the Harvard School of Public Health, Sustainable Travel International and KERBspace an early stage startup in the revolutionizing the electric vehicle charging stations for the built environment.



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Andrew “Andy” Ingraham

President, Founder and Chief Executive Officer

National Association of Black Hotel Owners, Operators and 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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Abc Iyer

Head of Design

IHG Hotels & Resorts

Kavitha Iyer joined IHG Hotels & Resorts in 2021 as head of design for the Americas. An architect and designer with over 20 years of experience in Hospitality, she is responsible for leading architecture and design for IHG's 13 global brands.

Iyer and her team of talented architects and designers at IHG collaborate closely with Brand, Development and Operations to imagine and create distinctive design experiences which align closely to each brand personality. She and her team are responsible for leading various design strategy initiatives across the portfolio, which include new mainstream brands like Atwell Suites to upscale and luxury brands like Hotel Indigo and Intercontinental Hotels.

Prior to joining IHG® Hotels & Resorts, Iyer was the director of design at Marriott International where she led several high-profile initiatives which focused on transformative next generation design experiences for upscale brands.

Iyer's love for travel fuels her continued passion to spend her free time exploring, discovering new places, meeting new people and being inspired by the everyday.

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J

Kevin J. Jacobs

Chief Financial Officer & President, Global Development
Hilton Worldwide Holdings, Inc.

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

Jacobs is a member of the Board of Directors of Omega Healthcare Investors, Inc., a triple-net, equity REIT that supports the goals of skilled nursing facility and assisted living facility operators with financing and capital. He is also a trustee of Cornell University and a member of the Dean's Advisory Board of the Cornell University School of Hotel Administration; is vice chairman of the Board of Directors and treasurer of Goodwill of Greater Washington; and is a trustee of the Federal City Council. He also serves as vice chair of the American Hotel & Lodging Association.

Abhishek Jain

Partner
PwC

Abhishek "Abhi" Jain is a partner in PwC's Real Estate & Hospitality practice, with over 17 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 complex 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 is a member of the CFA Institute and the CFA Society - New York, in addition to being a Counselor of Real Estate (CRE) as well as an active member of Urban Land Institute's Hotel Development Council (HDC). He contributed extensively to real estate industry thought leadership, including leading the publication of PwC Hospitality Directions and contributing to Emerging Trends in Real Estate.

Jeanelle Johnson

Lead Client Partner
Travel, Transportation and Hospitality (TTH) Sector Co-Leader
PwC

Jeanelle Johnson is a principal, lead client partner and Travel, Transportation and Hospitality (TTH) sector co-leader at PwC, focused on client service, industry perspective and research for the firm's leading TTH 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.

Johnson is a board trustee and serves on the Education Committee of the PwC Charitable Foundation Finance Committee and is a board member on the Ambassador's Council at N Street Village.

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Christopher J. Jordan

Managing Director/Head of Specialty Real Estate Finance
Wells Fargo

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 and leisure, seniors housing, medical, office, and 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.

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 C. Everett Johnson Award.

Helen Jorski

Treasurer and SVP of Corporate Finance
Hyatt Hotel Corporation

As Hyatt Hotel Corporation's treasurer and SVP of corporate finance, Helen Jorski is responsible for leading Hyatt's capital markets, treasury operations, investments, project finance and risk, safety, and security functions. Jorski brings over 20 years of markets, banking, M&A, and insurance experience to her role on Hyatt's senior leadership team.

Helen started her career at the reinsurer Swiss Re, structured and traded fixed income at Deutsche Bank, led M&A deals at Walmart, and covered corporate clients at Bank of America. She received her MBA from the University of Chicago and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Economy from the University of California, Berkeley.

Greg Juceam

President & Chief Executive Officer
Extended Stay America

Greg Juceam serves as president and CEO for Extended Stay America, the leading brand family in the mid-priced extended stay hotel segment in the US. Previous to ESA, Juceam was president & COO of G6 Hospitality, the parent franchisor of 1,400 hotels under the iconic Motel 6 and Studio 6 brands.

Juceam also was CEO of BRE Hotels & Resorts, a hospitality real estate platform comprising 250 hotels representing \$10B in asset value in the Upscale, Upper-Upscale, and Luxury segments. Prior to this role, Juceam served as chief operating officer for BRE Select Hotels, the select-service division of the company. He also spent 12 years at Interstate Hotels & Resorts, culminating as executive vice president of full-service operations. Juceam is the immediate past chair of the board of trustees of the American Hotel & Lodging Association Foundation and a board member of the American Hotel & Lodging Association.

Adrienne Jubb

Senior Vice President
Business Development
Aimbridge Hospitality

Adrienne Jubb is senior vice president of business development at Aimbridge Hospitality, where she leads a team to drive growth in the Select Service and Enhanced Select Service Divisions and product categories throughout the Western US. Jubb has an extensive background in hospitality real estate and a strong analytical thought process focused on strategic partnerships and growth.

With a combined 10 years of success that includes serving as vice president of lodging development with Marriott International and West Coast managed development at Starwood Hotels and Resorts, she excels at structuring complex transactions and using her vast network of industry connections to support hotel owners and prospective owners. Adrienne also has owner/operator, acquisitions, and operations experience and aligns with the Aimbridge value to "Think Like A Guest, Act Like an Owner."

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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 230 hotels in the United States and Canada with concentration in virtually all major markets plus resort destinations from coast to coast. 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.

Robbie Karver

Principal, Strategy & Transactions
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 (16 at EY) in the valuation and strategic advisory areas of residential, commercial, 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.

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.

Emily Keip

Senior Vice President
Americas Design Services
Hyatt

Emily Keip is senior vice president for Americas Design Services, where she oversees the Americas regional team handling all new build, conversion, and renovation projects for Hyatt's full-service brands in Timeless, Boundless, and Independent Collections. Keip joined Hyatt in 2007 as a design manager and transitioned into her current role in 2019, after serving as the Studio Head for Americas Design Services for the previous four years.

Prior to her role at Hyatt, Keip practiced architecture, focusing on high-end residential and hospitality projects. Her projects have been featured in many industry publications, including *Hospitality Design*, *Interior Design* magazine and *Contract Design's* Interior Awards issue. Keip was also featured as one of *Hospitality Design's* Wave of the Future honorees in 2020. She is a registered architect, LEED-Accredited professional, and holds a Bachelor of Architecture degree from Cornell University.

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Phil Keb

Senior Executive, Luxury Brand Growth for the Americas
IHG Hotels & Resorts

Phil Keb is the senior executive, Luxury Brand Growth for the Americas at IHG Hotels & Resorts. In this role, Keb supports the regional development team in building and extending the Regent Hotels & Resorts and Six Senses brands across the Americas. Keb joined IHG with more than 25 years of leadership experience across the hospitality industry, namely in global development across international luxury and lifestyle brands.

Prior to assuming his current role, Keb served as executive vice president of development for US-based investment firm Gencom, where he oversaw its luxury project investments in Bermuda, Miami, and managed general development planning and execution. Keb additionally has directed global development for several well-known hospitality companies, including Langham Hospitality Group and Capella Hotel Group, and led a team responsible for introducing branded residences within luxury hotels as vice president, international at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company. Beyond his role at IHG, Keb is an active member and long-time leader of the Recreational Development Council of the Urban Land Institute.

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.

Elizabeth King

Executive Director, CMBS Banking/Origination
JPMorgan Chase

Elizabeth King is an Executive Director in CMBS Banking/Origination for JPMorgan Chase. She originates both fixed and floating rate financings for all property types including hotels, office, self-storage, life science, retail and multifamily across the United States. Prior to joining JPMorgan in 2011, she worked at Credit Suisse in the Real Estate Finance and Securitization Group in CMBS origination. She graduated from Cornell University with a Bachelor of Science in Hospitality Administration and a concentration in Real Estate Finance. She also has a graduate certificate in Real Estate from the NYU SPS Schack Institute of Real Estate.



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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.

Jason Koye

General Counsel N.A. and Worldwide Privacy Officer
Omnicom Media Group

Jason Koye currently serves as general counsel, North America & Worldwide Privacy Officer for Omnicom Media Group, responsible for the organization’s privacy program including but not limited to the development, implementation, and maintenance of relevant policies and procedures and for monitoring program compliance. He has presented on privacy related topics at numerous digital marketing conferences and routinely counsels on the dynamic evolution of global privacy regulation(s) and their effects on the use of big data in the digital advertising ecosystem. Koye has over 16 years of experience, focusing on privacy, compliance and general commercial legal matters while working at international publicly traded companies and market leaders in the digital media & marketing, healthcare technology, and consumer products sectors.

Koye serves on the American Association of Advertising Agencies, Board of Directors – Government Relations Committee, Facebook’s Global Policy Council, Digital Advertising Alliance – Programming Committee, as well as the Rutgers University Big Data Advisory Board.

Aliya Kritzler

Group Vice President, Food and Beverage & Lifestyle Brands
HEI Hotels & Resorts

Aliya Kritzler is responsible for strategizing and creating experiences to generate food and beverage revenue, creating brand experiences, and maintaining expenses. In her role, she oversees food and beverage concept curation, programming and activation and new lifestyle hotel transitions. Kritzler joined the team as a member of the Corporate Food & Beverage team, working on projects such as The Gwen Chicago, EnVue Hotel in Weehawken, and Mar Monte, Unbound Collection in Santa Barbara. Prior to joining HEI in 2017, Kritzler held various leadership positions in Las Vegas and New York City, including at Morgans Hotel Group.

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L

Brad LeBlanc

Senior Vice President and Chief Development Officer
Best Western Hotels & Resorts

Brad LeBlanc is senior vice president and chief development officer for Best Western Hotels & Resorts. Joining Best Western in 2019, LeBlanc leads sales and development efforts for North America expansion of the Best Western core brands, SureStay Hotel Group, Executive Residency by Best Western, Vīb, GLō, Aiden by Best Western, Sadie Best Western, BW Premier Collection by Best Western, and BW Signature Collection by Best Western. He also serves on the brand's senior executive team, which shapes and executes Best Western's long-term strategies.

LeBlanc previously served on the executive team of Serendipity Labs, a hospitality-focused co-working brand launched in 2012 across North America. In 2004, LeBlanc successfully launched the Cambria Suites brand and upscale hotel division for Choice Hotels.

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).

Daniel H. Lesser

Cofounder, President, and CEO
LW Hospitality Advisors LLC

Daniel H. Lesser, cofounder, president, and 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 and wellness properties, and timeshare/fractional ownership properties.

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. He has served as a Court Appointed Receiver in connection with dozens of hotels throughout the US.



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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).

McKenna Luke

Managing Director
HVSI

McKenna Luke, MAI, co-leads the direction of HVS practices and appraisal thought leadership as a managing director. She has overseen and completed thousands of assignments spanning hotel appraisals, market studies, and feasibility studies for hotels, resorts, resort-residential properties, waterparks, casinos, mixed-use assets, and portfolios. Furthermore, Luke has extensive nationwide hotel consulting and valuation experience having lived and worked in Colorado, Texas, Missouri, Oklahoma, South Carolina, and most recently, New Mexico.

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M

Jane Mackie

Senior Vice President
Global Marketing Luxury
Lifestyle & Premium Brands

With over 25 years of experience in luxury hospitality from her early days with Sheraton and Starwood followed by Loews Hotels, Mackie has held leadership roles in sales and marketing and has led teams across brand strategy, digital and social, partnerships and revenue management. She also led the Fairmont brand globally where she was responsible for executing strategies to further enhance Fairmont's position in the luxury segment. Prior to joining IHG, Mackie served as chief marketing officer of Aman Resorts, based in the UK and Switzerland.

Caroline Mahl

Managing Director, Head of Portfolio Management & Underwriting
Wells Fargo Bank – Real Estate Specialty Finance

Caroline Mahl is managing director and head of portfolio management and underwriting for Real Estate Specialty Finance within Wells Fargo Bank's Commercial Real Estate Group where she is responsible for all underwriting and post-closing loan surveillance and asset management functions, in addition to portfolio optimization and capital allocation strategy. The Real Estate Specialty Finance Group is a specialized lending division that provides debt products and financial services to leading public and private owners and institutional investors in the Hospitality and Recreation, Seniors Housing, Manufactured Housing, and Data Center industries 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. She earned Bachelor of Science degrees in Hotel Administration from Cornell University and César Ritz Colleges in Switzerland..

Bharet Malhotra

Senior Vice President, Sales
Cvent

As senior vice president of sales at Cvent, Bharet Malhotra leads the company's global Hospitality Cloud sales and development strategy. Under Malhotra's leadership, Cvent has established long-term relationships with hotel executives around the world from leading brands including AccorHotels, Hilton, Hyatt, Intercontinental Hotels Group, Marriott, Ritz-Carlton and Starwood, to help them grow their business.

As part of the founding Executive team, Malhotra has been instrumental in growing the company organically and through strategic acquisitions. Today, Cvent's robust portfolio of supplier and venue solutions connects more than 302,000 hotels and venues with an active global network of more than 109,000 event planners, helping to deliver millions of events at tens of thousands of hotels around the world.



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Tim Marvin

**Executive Vice President
Hotels & Hospitality Group
JLL Hotels & Hospitality**

Tim Marvin is an executive vice president with JLL's Hotels & Hospitality Group specializing in brand and operator selection, strategic planning, management and franchise agreement negotiations, and acquisition/disposition underwriting and due diligence. He is responsible for account management and serves as a conduit for both domestic and offshore clients involved in the ownership, operation, development and branding of hotels.

Marvin has represented several top companies and has been involved in hospitality real estate for more than 30 years. Prior to joining JLL, he was managing director for Host Hotels & Resorts where he led two teams focused on investing capital in North and Latin America which included underwriting, negotiating, and transacting investments totaling over \$1 billion over a five-year period.

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.

Rachel Moniz

**Chief Operating Officer
HEI**

Responsible for the day-to-day operation of HEI's growing portfolio of 95+ hotels, Rachel Moniz oversees HEI's team of regional leaders across all disciplines while also interacting directly with portfolio hotel asset managers and ownership representatives. She has held positions within HEI Hotels & Resorts including executive vice president, senior vice president of independent brands and food and beverage, and regional vice president of Operations, prior to being named as principal and COO.

Prior to her corporate leadership role, Moniz worked in several executive leadership positions in independent, luxury, and lifestyle hotels including the famed Liberty Hotel in Boston where she was general manager for eight years. Prior to this, she held executive leadership positions with St. Regis and W Hotels and several independent hotel collections where she was directly responsible for branding, repositioning, and creating a business plan to increase real estate value.

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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.

Jean-Jacques Morin

**Group Deputy CEO, Group CFO and Premium, Midscale & Economy Division CEO
Accor**

Jean-Jacques Morin 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 internationally 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 Transport sector, before being appointed Group CFO.

Morin joined Accor's Executive Committee as CFO in 2015 and was later appointed Deputy CEO responsible for Finance, Strategy, IT, Legal Affairs, Procurement and Communications. In January 2023, in addition to his current roles, he also took under his leadership the Group's Premium, Midscale & Economy division as division CEO.

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 145 hotels (over 21,000 guestrooms) across 37 states and has developed landmark properties such as the TWA Hotel at JFK Airport.

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 Courtyard by Marriott Advisory Board and the Hilton Worldwide Distribution Advisory Committee. He serves on the advisory board of New York University's 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.



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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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Francis J. Nardozza

Chairman and CEO
REH Capital Partners, LLC

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 45 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.

Nardozza is the founding chairperson and member of the US 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.

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.

Marty Newburger

Partner
KSL Capital Partners

Marty Newburger is a partner at KSL Capital Partners, a private equity investment firm with equity and credit funds focused exclusively on travel and leisure businesses with over \$21 billion in assets under management. Newburger is also a member of KSL’s private equity Investment Committee.

Prior to joining KSL, Newburger was a director at Citigroup and Deutsche Bank, focusing on lodging and leisure investment banking clients, including our predecessor KSL Recreation Corporation, among others.



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Kathleen Oberg

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
Marriott International

Kathleen “Leeny” Oberg was appointed executive vice president and chief financial officer effective January 1, 2016 and was additionally designated in February 2023 as Executive Vice President, Development tasked with the strategic growth of the company’s lodging brands. Previously, Oberg was the chief financial officer for The Ritz-Carlton since 2013, where she contributed significantly to the brand’s performance, growth, and organizational effectiveness.

Prior to assuming that role, Oberg served in a range of financial leadership positions with Marriott, including senior vice president, corporate and development finance and senior vice president, International Project Finance and Asset Management for Europe and the Middle East and Africa. She first joined Marriott as part of its Investor Relations group in 1999. Oberg is an active member of the American Hotel and Lodging Association’s IREFAC Council, and she currently serves on the Board of Directors of Adobe Inc. 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.

Suzy O’Mara

Partner
Deloitte & Touche LLP

Suzy O’Mara is an audit partner based in New York City with 21 years of experience serving complex, multinational clients. She is Deloitte’s National Regulatory & Compliance leader for the Transportation, Hospitality & Services (TH&S) sector and the Sustainability, Climate & Equity leader for the Attest practice for TH&S. O’Mara also currently leads the consumer business audit practice for the tri-state region and is the deployment leader for the New York City commercial audit practice.

She currently serves as either the lead client service partner or audit engagement partner for a number of Deloitte’s most eminent hospitality clients, where she leads audit and audit related services provided to those organizations globally. O’Mara graduated from The Catholic University of America in Washington DC with a Bachelor of Arts in accounting. She is a CPA in the state of New York and is a member of the AICPA.

Lauren O’Neal

Senior Director, Brand Management
Marriott International

Lauren O’Neal is the senior director of brand management at Marriott International overseeing the Apartments by Marriott Bonvoy and Marriott Executive Apartments business. In this role, O’Neal has primary responsibility for guiding the evolution and growth of these exciting brands. She is developing the brand strategies and collaborating closely across the Marriott enterprise to activate Brand Strategy & Operations, Marketing, PR Strategy, and Design & Development.

O’Neal brings over 19 years’ experience across Brand, Marketing and Creative roles having worked in a number of industries in both client side and marketing agency positions. During her 12 years at Marriott, O’Neal has had held a number of positions across Homes & Villas, Loyalty Marketing and the Creative & Content Studio helping to shape the brand identity for the award winning Marriott Bonvoy loyalty program as well as developing and executing global marketing plan strategies and programs while driving top line performance for the business.



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Joon Aun Ooi

President, Asia Pacific
Wyndham Hotels & Resorts

Joon Aun Ooi is the president, Asia Pacific for Wyndham Hotels and Resorts. He leads the development and growth of the Wyndham Hotels and Resorts family of brands across the Asia Pacific region which comprises a portfolio of more than 1,600 hotels in approximately 20 markets and territories. Ooi joined Wyndham in 2013 as vice president, openings and operations, Greater China.

In 2018, he was appointed president and managing director for the South East Asia and Pacific Rim (SEAPR) region and led the region in its development and growth after its spin-off from Wyndham Worldwide. Under his leadership, the SEAPR region became Wyndham's fastest growing region which achieved 22% growth year-on-year in 2019 and launched five brands in six new markets. He was promoted to president, Asia Pacific in 2020 and led the consolidation of the Greater China and SEAPR region to form the Asia Pacific division that further strengthened its value proposition, drove operational efficiencies, and accelerated expansion while creating additional opportunities for cross-border collaborations.

Mark Owens

Vice Chair and Leader of the Hospitality Practice Group
Colliers International

Mark Owens is vice chair and leader of the Hospitality Practice Group at Colliers International, joining in 2023. His transactional experience is achieved through diligent work and an international team-oriented approach, consistently closing iconic transactions with international clients and capital sources. Most recently, Owens was head of hospitality capital markets for CBRE Hotels, working with his colleagues to move the platform into one of the leading advisors, completing more than \$4.5 billion in annual debt and structured finance volume. He and his colleagues are responsible for hospitality related transactions across the spectrum, including investment sales, debt, equity, and joint venture equity.

Prior to joining CBRE, Owens ran the hospitality practice at The Ackman-Ziff Real Estate Group, building the team's production upwards of \$1 billion in annual transaction volume. In addition to Ackman-Ziff, he was a vice president at Sonnenblick Goldman where he closed \$3 billion in transactions representing a variety of institutional and opportunistic investors as well as ownership /management companies. Owens also worked at HVS International in its New York office.



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Steve Pack

Managing Director
Americas Real Estate Financing Group
Goldman Sachs

Steve Pack is a managing director in the Americas Real Estate Financing Group. He joined Goldman Sachs in 2021 as a managing director. Prior to joining the firm, Pack worked at Deutsche Bank, where he was a managing director in the bank's Commercial Real Estate Finance Group.

Prior to Deutsche Bank, he worked at Rockwood Capital and the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce. Pack earned a BBA with a focus in Real Estate from the University of Georgia in 2003 and an MBA with a focus in Marketing and Finance from The Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University in 2011.

Daniel C. Peek

President & COO
HWE

As chairman and CEO of NewcrestImage, Mehul Patel guides one of the country's premier hotel companies which Daniel C. Peek joined HWE in June of 2019 and serves as the president and COO 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 \$50 billion in investment sales, 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 cofounder of Regent Street, an affiliate of The Plasencia Group (TPG), a boutique firm specializing in sales, financing, and advisory services for distinctive hotels and resorts throughout the Americas.

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

David A. Pepper

Chief Development Officer
Choice Hotels International, Inc.

David Pepper is chief development officer of Choice Hotels International, Inc., one of the world's largest hotel companies. In this role, he is responsible for driving unit growth for each of the company's brands in key markets worldwide. Pepper joined Choice Hotels in 2002 as vice president, franchise sales and development for the company's new construction brands. Shortly thereafter, he was promoted to senior vice president of franchise development for North America, and later to his current executive position.

During his tenure, Pepper notably led the company to record-levels of franchise sales; during his first three years of leadership franchise sales more than doubled. He also played an integral role in expanding Choice's presence in both the upscale and extended stay hotel markets by launching and growing the Cambria Hotels brand, including overseeing up to \$475 million in corporate capital that the company is authorized to invest. In addition, he helped with the acquisitions of the WoodSpring Suites, Suburban Extended Stay Hotels, and Radisson Hotels Americas..

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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, Gilda 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.

Perez-Alvarado also serves on the Board of Directors of Blackstone Mortgage Trust (NYSE: BXMT) and Sonder (NASDAQ: SOND). Ms. Perez-Alvarado is also a member of the Board of Trustees of Cornell University, and is an active member of IREFAC (Industry Real Estate Financing Advisory Council), a member of Cornell School of Hotel Administration Dean's Advisory Board, a member of WX New York Women Executives in Real Estate, and a member of the World Travel and Tourism Council.

Steen Petri

Managing Director, Investments
HEI Hotels + Resorts

Responsible for deal sourcing at HEI, Steen Petri maintains an extensive network of brokers, institutional investors, lenders and other stakeholders. He oversees all aspects of transaction underwriting, contract negotiations, due diligence and deal execution.

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.

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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Abhinay Poonja

Managing Director and Head of US Real Estate, Gaming, Lodging & Leisure Investment Banking
Deutsche Bank

Abhinay Poonja is a managing Director and head of US Real Estate, Gaming, Lodging & Leisure Investment Banking at Deutsche Bank. Poonja has successfully built his career at Deutsche Bank over 18 years, beginning as an analyst in mergers and acquisitions and joining the Real Estate, Gaming, Lodging & Leisure team as an associate after completing his MBA at Columbia Business School.

Vikram Pradhan

Senior Vice President
Revenue Management and Distribution
Wyndham Hotels & Resorts

Vikram Pradhan serves as senior vice president, Revenue Management and Distribution, at Wyndham Hotels & Resorts, the world's largest hotel franchising company with nearly 9,000 hotels across 22 brands in approximately 95 countries. In this role, he is responsible for maximizing revenue generating opportunities across Wyndham's diverse portfolio of brands with oversight for the Company's customer engagement and revenue management functions.

A hospitality industry veteran with more than 20 years of progressive experience, Pradhan joined Wyndham in 2020 after leading revenue strategy for Convene, where he was vice president, Revenue Management. Prior to Convene, he founded the luxury booking platform SuiteStory and before that, spent eight years with Starwood Hotels & Resorts, where he oversaw revenue management strategy for its more than 500 hotels throughout the US, Canada and the Caribbean. He began his hospitality career in property-level roles with brands like St. Regis and Hilton.

Lauren Pravlik

Senior Director of Committee Initiatives and Member Relations
AHLA

Lauren Pravlik, CMP, is the senior director of committee initiatives and member relations—leading AHLA's Sustainability, Food & Beverage and Safety & Security committees and programs. Working closely with leaders in these verticals to identify industry-wide opportunities for support. Pravlik was instrumental in the development of Responsible Stay—AHLA's sustainability initiative to drive industry engagement around four core pillars in sustainability: energy, waste, water, and sourcing.

Prior to her current role, Pravlik served as the director of Strategic Partnerships & Business Development at AHLA managing relationships with key industry partners. Pravlik's career began at the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society and joined AHLA in the spring of 2011 as a member of the conventions and events team. Lauren earned her Certified Meeting Professional (CMP) designation through the Convention Industry Council.

Tracy L. Prigmore

Executive and the Founder
TLTsolutions

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. Prigmore's 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, Prosperity Fund I focused on lodging properties; TLTsolutions is actively pursuing acquisitions and redevelopment projects that will more than double its portfolio.



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Brian Quinn

Chief Development Officer
Sonesta

Brian Quinn joined Sonesta as the chief development officer with 20+ years of experience in executive roles in public companies and private equity firms. Prior to joining Sonesta in 2021, 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 & 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. His areas of expertise include hospitality, real estate, finance, acquisitions and hotel operations. Quinn brings these talents to Sonesta as he oversees the development effort for the company.

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Kirk Reed

Vice President of Sales & Marketing
MCR Hotels

Kirk Reed leads operations finance for MCR, a premier hotel management company and the third largest hotel owner-operator in the United States. Reed has over 25 years of hospitality experience, starting with operations management roles in both resort and urban environments, including two general manager positions.

He worked for 14 years in the corporate headquarters of Starwood and IHG, leading the corporate investment, feasibility, and financial analysis functions. He has also spent several years performing hospitality advisory work, both for PricewaterhouseCoopers and independently. Reed taught hospitality finance at NYU for ten years.

Allison Reid

Chief Global Growth Officer
Aimbridge Hospitality

Allison Reid is chief global growth officer of Aimbridge Hospitality. In her role, Reid is responsible for the company's global growth pursuits and empowering Aimbridge's business development teams to fuel the company's global development pipeline.

Reid comes to Aimbridge with 35 years of hospitality operations, finance, real estate, brand management, and development experience, and has excelled in several executive leadership positions. Previously, Reid was chief development officer of Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants, where she drove the strategic growth and led all real estate development activities including the sales process for managed and franchise development, client relationships, and asset repositionings. Before Kimpton, Reid was senior vice president, North America Development for Starwood Hotels & Resorts, where she led development and acquisition efforts for all 11 of its brands in North America, the Caribbean, and French Polynesia. She was also instrumental in launching three new brands including Starwood's Tribute Portfolio.

Eric Resnick

CEO
KSL Capital Partners

Eric Resnick is Co-Founder and CEO of KSL Capital Partners, a leading global private equity investment manager specialising in the travel and leisure industry. Since 2005, KSL has raised approximately \$18 billion of capital across dedicated equity, debt and tactical opportunities funds. Resnick first merged his passion for outdoor adventure and travel with his profession when he joined Vail Resorts in 1996, serving as vice president, Strategic Planning & Investor Relations, and treasurer through 2001. Prior to joining Vail Resorts, he served as a consultant for McKinsey & Company.

Resnick is a member of the Industry Real Estate Financing Advisory Council, World Travel and Tourism Council, and Real Estate Roundtable. He previously served as the vice chairman of US Ski and Snowboard and remains a trustee of its related Foundation. He is also a trustee for Ski and Snowboard Club Vail and serves on the Advisory Board of the University of Colorado Anschutz Cancer Center.

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.

Michael Ritz

Senior VP, Investments
Peachtree Group

Michael Ritz is responsible for managing capital allocation, investment strategy and credit for Peachtree Group's debt and equity investments. He is also actively involved in managing operations and execution of Peachtree Group's hotel acquisition, hotel lending, and hotel development companies.

Prior to joining Peachtree in 2017, Ritz worked for Marcus and Millichap's National Hospitality Group, where he was responsible for national market research, hotel asset valuations, inventory analytics and underwriting model development for all primary asset classes.

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.

Agnès Roquefort

Chief Development Officer – Luxury & Lifestyle
Accor

Agnès Roquefort is a seasoned professional with more than 15 years' experience in hospitality, travel and tourism with different positions in Strategy, Business Development, M&A, Marketing, Digital, Revenue Management, and Data. On top of this, Roquefort is an enthusiastic team leader with a strong dedication to talent development. Roquefort 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, SVP Digital Strategy, Integrations & Data, and group chief development officer.

In January 2023, Agnès joined Accor's Luxury & Lifestyle Executive Committee, as the division's Chief Development Officer.



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Dana Rosenberg

Senior Vice President, Marketing
Wyndham Hotels & Resorts

Dana Rosenberg serves as senior vice president, Marketing, at Wyndham Hotels & Resorts, the world's largest hotel franchising company with over 9,000 hotels across approximately 90 countries.

In her role, Rosenberg leads a team that is responsible for Brand Marketing, CRM, Media, Loyalty and Partnerships. She develops and executes strategies, initiatives and programs that distinguish Wyndham and its brands from competitors, delivering industry-leading value to our owners and guests.

Prior to Wyndham, Rosenberg served as senior vice president, Global Issuer Loyalty, Data & Services for Mastercard, where she drove enterprise-wide travel recovery efforts to increase customer/cardholder engagement through a refreshed value proposition, targeted sales efforts, and marketing campaigns. Rosenberg previously served as vice president of Global Partnerships at Starwood Hotels & Resorts, where she held several strategic marketing roles of increasing responsibility for nearly a decade.

Vail Ross

Senior VP of Sales and 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, HSMAI 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

Jennifer Rinck oversees the global learning and development strategy at Hilton. In her current role she is responsible for the global learning and development strategy at Hilton. 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

Managing Director
Karen Rubin Hotels

Karen E. Rubin is founder and managing director 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.

Stephen Rushmore, Jr., MAI, FRICS

President & 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.



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Michelle Rutledge

Managing Director, Canada
Ferguson Partners

Michelle Rutledge is managing director for Canada at Ferguson Partners and is based in the Toronto office. Her focus is on sourcing and executing Real Estate assignments throughout North America and on a global basis. She serves as a leader of the firm's Diversity Practice and Hospitality Practice, and she also participates in Infrastructure Practice.

Prior to joining Ferguson Partners, Rutledge worked as a Consultant with a Hospitality search firm. She gained extensive international exposure by executing hotel, gaming and restaurant searches throughout North America, Europe, the Middle East, and Asia. At Ferguson Partners, Michelle conducts regional and corporate-level searches across functions—including development, investments and operations—and places candidates in positions up to the C-Suite within the Real Estate, Infrastructure and Hospitality practices.



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Matthias Schreiner

Senior Manager, Global Accounts
Booking.com

Matthias Schreiner leads a team of performance and strategy support for regional chains, ownership groups, and management companies on behalf of Booking.com for the North American region. Matthias has been with Booking.com USA since 2011 and through his time has supported different markets on the east and west coast.

Prior to his career with Booking.com Matthias worked for Accor, Marriott and independent hotel operators across the US, Europe and Dubai and during his time received service level awards. Originally from Stuttgart, Germany Matthias holds a degree in hospitality, and completed several E-Cornell & HSMAI courses in revenue management.

Nick Scribani

Executive Managing Director
Newmark

Nick Scribani is a senior managing director with Newmark's Debt and Structured Finance Group in New York, where for the past six years he has been 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 \$40 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.

Mili Shah

Attorney
Imperial Investments Group, Inc

After graduating from New York University, Mili Shah pursued her JD/MBA degrees at the University of Tennessee. SHah leads the financing and legal aspects of Imperial Investments Group, Inc., a Georgia-based hospitality company founded in 1984 by her father, Nitin Shah. Through her law firm, Shah Firm, LLC, she is able to represent hoteliers in acquisition, development, and financing of their real estate portfolio. Her experience as an attorney helped her pursue a career in banking, where she served as the SBA Lending Director of a bank. Shah now balances three different careers, helping grow businesses through her legal, banking, and business ownership expertise.



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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.

Neil H. Shah

**President and Chief Executive Officer
Hersha Hospitality Trust**

Neil H. Shah is president and chief executive officer of Hersha Hospitality Trust. Over the last 23 years, Shah has led the acquisition, development, and management of over \$3 billion of hotel real estate in New York, Washington, DC, Boston, Philadelphia, Miami, Northern and Southern California, and Seattle. Shah serves on the Board of Trustees for the National Constitution Center. He is a former chairman of the Institutional Real Estate Finance Advisory Council (IREFAC) of the American Hotel & Lodging Association.

He is a research sponsor at the Wharton Zell-Lurie Real Estate Center, serves on the Real Estate Board at the University of Miami, and is a member of 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.

Rishi Shah

**Senior Director, Sustainability
Wyndham Hotels & Resorts**

Rishi Shah is the senior director of sustainability for Wyndham Hotels & Resorts where he leads global sustainability efforts, including ESG reporting, for the Company. Shah helps guide franchisees to integrate sustainability into their day-to-day operations, helping to deliver additional value to each hotel. Before joining Wyndham, Shah ran his own consulting firm where he assisted hotels and other commercial properties with the development and implementation of sustainability-related strategies and operational best practices. Additionally, he has a decade of experience working on his family's hotel business.

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Mark D. Shalala

Senior Vice President
Upscale Development

Mark D. Shalala serves as Senior vice president of upscale development for Choice Hotels International, Inc., one of the world's largest hotel companies. In this role, he is responsible for the growth and distribution of the company's upscale portfolio, which includes the Ascend Hotel Collection, Cambria Hotels, Radisson Hotels and Radisson Blu, a combined global portfolio of nearly five hundred upscale and upper upscale hotels and growing.

Shalala joined Choice Hotels in 2015, bringing more than 18 years of hospitality development and franchise sales experience to the company's upscale leadership team. During his successful tenure, Shalala has been responsible for developing and driving the growth strategy for the upscale brands which has resulted in Choice's upscale portfolio more than doubling in size while helping both Cambria and Ascend achieve one of their best development years on record. In addition, he led the Choice upscale development team to implement new strategies to further improve brand growth, including orchestrating the deployment of the company's \$750 million authorized corporate capital investment for Cambria.

Edward Shapard

Managing Director, Head of Asset Management
LW Hospitality Advisor

Edward Shapard, managing director, head of asset management at LW Hospitality Advisors has more than 25 years of specialized international experience in Hospitality related in; Hotel Operation, Food and Beverage, Sales, Marketing, Revenue Management, Marketing, Spa & Wellness, Development, Condominiums, Homeowner Associations, and Fractional Developments.

Shapard participated in The Malcom Baldrige award for ITT Sheraton, holds a Black belt distinction in Six Sigma, and has been a process-oriented problem solver in all his various roles throughout his career. An internationally recognized industry expert, Shapard served as a founding member of The Bermuda Tourism Board and participated in the country's development of a National Tourism Plan.

Noah Silverman

Global Development Officer, US & Canada
Marriott International, Inc.

Noah Silverman is global development officer, US and Canada for Marriott International, Inc. He is responsible for the development of all Marriott brands in the United States and Canada. Prior to his current role, Silverman served as chief development officer, US & Canada Full Service Hotels, where he was responsible for overseeing all aspects of the development process in the United States and Canada for the company's luxury and premium brands. Before his appointment as chief development officer, US & Canada Full Service Hotels in May 2011, Silverman held a number of leadership roles in asset management and finance, including senior vice president, global asset management from 2010 to 2011; senior vice president, development asset management, from 2008 to 2010; senior vice president, Project Finance, from 2006 to 2008; and vice president, Global Asset Management, from 2002 to 2006. Silverman joined Marriott in July 1997 as an attorney in the Marriott Law Department.

Prior to joining Marriott, Silverman was an associate with the law firm of Covington & Burling in Washington, DC. Silverman is program chair of the American Hotel & Lodging Association's Hospitality Investment Roundtable, a member of the Executive Planning Committee of the NYU International Hospitality Industry Investment Conference, a member of the Advisory Board of the Hunter Hotel Investment Conference, and a past member of the Urban Land Institute's Hotel Development Council.

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Julienne Smith

**Chief Development Officer, Americas
IHG Hotels & Resorts**

Julienne Smith is currently the chief development officer for IHG Hotels & Resorts, where she oversees the company's growth in the Americas region. Prior to joining IHG, she was senior vice president Development & Owner Relations for Hyatt Hotels Corporation based in Chicago from 2014 until 2019 where she was responsible for franchised and managed development in the United States and Canada. Previously, Smith served as vice president of Real Estate and Development where she helped launch and oversee the growth of Hyatt's select service brands throughout the Northeastern and Mid Atlantic regions of the United States. Smith 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 AHLA and ULI. She also serves on the Advisory and Planning Committees for the Hunter Hotel Conference, The Americas Lodging Investment Summit, NYU Hospitality Investment Conference and AHLA's ForWard. Within IHG, Julienne serves on the Global and Americas Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Councils.

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.

Thomas Song

**Chief Financial Office
Aimbridge Hospitality**

Thomas Song is the chief financial officer of Aimbridge Hospitality. As a member of the executive team, he is responsible for leading Aimbridge Hospitality's overall financial management and driving the Company's corporate strategies through data driven investment, operations and business development. Tom oversees Aimbridge Hospitality's corporate finance, strategy, business analytics, M&A, procurement, project management, central accounting, shared services and capital markets teams.

Prior to Aimbridge, Song was most recently the CFO of Dine Brands Global, Inc., one of the world's largest full-service dining companies with 3,600 restaurants, including Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar® and IHOP® brands, where he led the finance, technology, strategy and international groups. Prior to that, he was Senior Vice President of Corporate Development and Innovation of Choice Hotels International, Inc., one of the largest lodging franchisors with more than 7,000 hotels, where he led global M&A, real estate, and strategic partnerships.



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Amit Sripathi

Head of Corporate and Strategic Development
Wyndham Hotels & Resorts

Amit Sripathi is a real estate and hospitality professional whose career has spanned across investment banking, lodging REITs and lodging C-Corps. Sripathi started his career in the Real Estate, Lodging and Gaming investment banking group at Deutsche Bank focusing on equity and debt capital raising, sell-side and buy-side M&A and leveraged buyouts.

He is currently the head of corporate and strategic development at Wyndham Hotels & Resorts and responsible for leading Wyndham's corporate development and property-focused investment activities globally, including helping shape the company's business growth strategy and orchestrating the sourcing, evaluation and execution of all acquisitions, investments, and partnerships. Prior to Wyndham, Amit was with RLJ Lodging Trust and responsible for leading Capital Markets and Corporate Finance verticals.

George Stephanopoulos

Co-anchor
Good Morning America

George Stephanopoulos is a seasoned, veteran reporter, with more than two decades of experience in the media industry. As co-anchor for America's most watched morning newscast, *Good Morning America*, he has conducted groundbreaking interviews with Vice President Kamala Harris, Secretary of State Antony Blinken, former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, FTX founder Sam Bankman-Fried amid his crypto-empire collapse, Ukrainian Minister of Foreign Affairs Dmytro Kuleba on the one-year anniversary since Russia's invasion into Ukraine and Los Angeles Press Club Award-winning interview with Alec Baldwin following the shooting on the set of *Rust*. Coming off a record-breaking season win for ABC's *This Week with George Stephanopoulos*, where the Sunday show ranked No. 1 in Adults 25-54, Stephanopoulos had exclusive interviews with Rep. Adam Kinzinger amidst the January 6th Committee hearings, Dr. Anthony Fauci, Rep. Nancy Pelosi, New York City Mayor Eric Adams, Secretary Pete Buttigieg and Sen. Bernie Sanders.

Stephanopoulos founded George Stephanopoulos Productions (GSP), his eponymous production unit within ABC News, that focuses on long-form nonfiction projects. Recent projects include *Power Trip: Those Who Seek Power and Those Who Chase Them*, a weekly docuseries in which he utilizes his former experience as the senior advisor to the President for policy and strategy in the Clinton administration to mentor young reporters covering key races in battleground states. Additional GSP projects include *Two Men at War*, *The Informant: Fear and Faith in the Heartland*, and the Emmy® Award-nominated special *Alec Baldwin Unscripted*.

He is also a co-founder of production company BedBy8, which focuses on scripted television projects, limited series, and documentaries, including the critically acclaimed and award-winning documentary, *Pretty Baby: Brooke Shields*, produced in conjunction with GSP. Stephanopoulos joined ABC News in 1997 as an analyst for *This Week*. His pivotal role at the network has since garnered three Emmys®, a DuPont, three Edward R. Murrow Awards and two Cronkite Awards. He is also the author of *All Too Human*, a *New York Times* bestseller.



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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.

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.

Debra Stock Wolman

Vice President, Americas Group
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, 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.

Wolman joined Duetto in 2014, helping the company rapidly ascend from a hospitality tech upstart to the industry's #1 RMS platform (2022 and 2023 Hotel Tech Report RMS Winner). Prior to joining Duetto, Wolman led Expedia's Hotel Supply group in their largest market worldwide. She is active in a number of hospitality industry and civic organizations including the NYU Tisch Center of Hospitality Advisory Board and the HSMIA Revenue Optimization 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.



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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.

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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T

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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Dan Thorman

**Senior Vice President
Development – Full Service, Eastern US, Canada, and Caribbean
Aimbridge Hospitality**

Dan Thorman is senior vice president of development for Aimbridge Hospitality, responsible for sourcing new hotel management opportunities in the Eastern US, Canada, and Caribbean inclusive of full service and resort assets owned by a wide spectrum of hotel owners, developers, and investors. He is a highly experienced investment and development leader in the hospitality space with a successful track record of expanding hotel portfolios through both new development and repositioning of existing assets.

Prior to joining Aimbridge, Thorman was vice president of development with MCR Hotels based in New York City. Before MCR, he held senior-level business development positions with Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants as vice president of development – Americas East in addition to Marriott International as vice president, Full Service and Luxury Development. His early career includes positions with Starwood Hotels & Resorts from an analyst in global development operations to ultimately as Director, North America Development.

James Tierney

**Senior Vice President of Development and Owner Relations, North America
Hyatt Place, Hyatt House, Caption by Hyatt and Hyatt Studios**

James Tierney is the senior vice president of development and owner relations for Hyatt, responsible for the growth of Hyatt's top-performing select service brands: Hyatt Place, Hyatt House and Caption by Hyatt in North America. Tierney has been instrumental in helping strategically expand the Hyatt Place and Hyatt House brands into locations where Hyatt's loyal guests and members are traveling including many new markets for Hyatt such as Montréal, Québec, Panama City Beach, Florida, Sacramento, California, Virginia Beach, Virginia, and more.

Guided by a listen-first and collaborative approach to development, Tierney has helped identify opportunities to serve more stay occasions for guests and increase Hyatt's brand presence in key markets. He helped launch Caption by Hyatt, a new lifestyle brand, which debuted in 2022 with the opening of Caption by Hyatt Beale Street Memphis. Most recently, he was instrumental in announcing Hyatt Studios, Hyatt's first upper midscale extended-stay brand. Tierney joined Hyatt in 2014 and previously served as Hyatt's Vice President of Development and Owner Relations where he led a team responsible for the development and growth of the Hyatt Place and Hyatt House brands in the Eastern half of the United States. Prior to joining Hyatt, Tierney served as Director of Development for Cambria Suites at Choice Hotels International.

Lori Tirado

**Managing Director, Head of Business Development
Access Point Financial (APF)**

As managing director and head of business development for Access Point Financial, Lori Tirado brings more than 15 years of commercial real estate expertise with a specific focus on hospitality to address the industry's latest financial service needs. Using her in-depth knowledge of loan requirements, Tirado ensures that APF continues to expand its customer base by working to identify flexible financing options that can be tailored to a hotelier's precise goals.

Prior to joining APF in 2019, Tirado served in several notable leadership roles where she was credited with facilitating multiple large scale funding agreements. These include securing more than \$1.2 billion in hotel loans within the United States and Canada in her capacity as managing director for the Hospitality Finance Group of the Largo Group of Companies.



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Rob Turner

Managing Director
Eastdil Secured

Rob Turner 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.

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V

Arno Van Der Walt

Chief Information Security Officer
Marriott International

Arno Van Der Walt is the chief information security officer at Marriott International and leads the IT Global Information Security team. He is passionate about eradicating today's cyber adversaries through transforming organizations to detect, respond, and expel threat actors while recovering from breaches with minimal impact to the business. This is effectuated through technology, process, building competent teams, collaboration and threat intelligence sharing as well as leveraging the human firewall throughout the organization.

Van Der Walt is based in Bethesda, MD and started his career with Marriott in January, 2018. Prior to his appointment at Marriott International, he was the CISO at Wyndham Worldwide. He holds a bachelor's degree in Civil Law from the University of Pretoria.

Homi Vazifdar

Founder and Executive Director
Canyon Equity

Homi Vazifdar is founder and executive director of the Canyon Group based in Larkspur, California just north of San Francisco. The Canyon Group acquires and/or develops ultra-luxury resorts in exotic destinations around the world. The Company's legacy and currently owned portfolio are considered architectural gems and consist of some of the most high-performing assets in North America, Latin America, and the South Pacific. The Canyon Group's resorts are managed by marquee 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 over 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.

Nancy M. Vu

Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary
Park Hotels & Resorts Inc.

Nancy M. Vu serves as executive vice president, general counsel, and secretary of Park Hotels & Resorts Inc. Vu served as senior director, Asset Management at Choice Hotels International from 2014 to 2016. Prior to that role, Vu served as senior counsel at RLJ Lodging Trust from 2013 to 2014 and at Choice Hotels International from 2010 to 2013. Vu received her Bachelor of Science degree from Georgetown University and her Juris Doctor degree from the University of San Diego.

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W

Neva Wagner

Associate
Perkins Coie

Neva Wagner's practice focuses on real estate transactions affecting commercial property. Wagner has experience with local, multistate, and portfolio transactions, including acquisitions, dispositions, development, leasing, financing, and joint ventures. Wagner frequently assists partners with deals involving hotels, multi-family and senior housing facilities, shopping centers and other retail, mixed-use developments, performance venues, commercial properties, and office buildings.

In their practice, Wagner regularly drafts and negotiates purchase and sale agreements, leases, financing documents, hotel management agreements, development agreements, and organizational documents. They also assist Perkins Coie's personal planning group with real estate matters affecting high net worth individuals. Additionally, Wagner is experienced with managing closing and conducting property-related due diligence such as title and survey review.

As part of their pro bono commitment, Wagner represents asylum seekers referred to the firm by Heartland Alliance, and they assist incarcerated transgender people through the Transgender Law Center's programs that equip transgender inmates to advocate for themselves and encourage facilities to adopt more equitable policies and procedures. Wagner is also part of the executive committee for the University of Iowa College of Law's Alumni DEI Council.

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.

Estelle Wang

Senior Associate, Hospitality Capital Markets
Colliers

Estelle Wang is a senior associate of hospitality capital markets at Colliers, specializing in raising debt and equity capital for acquisition, refinancing, recapitalization, and development of hotel assets and portfolios throughout the Americas, as well as institutional investment sales. Prior to joining Colliers, Wang was an associate at CBRE Capital Markets. She is actively involved in all aspects of transactions, including underwriting, financial analysis, financing memorandum preparation, due diligence, and loan closing. Wang has been involved in and closed over \$1.5 billion in transactions.

She has been an integral part of the Strategic Hotels & Resorts portfolio (JW Marriott Essex House, Four Seasons Washington DC, Westin St. Francis) refinancing, EAST Miami acquisition financing, Loews Arlington Hotel & Convention Center construction financing, Frenchman's Reef Marriott resort redevelopment facility, among others. She worked with IHG's Development team where she completed feasibility studies for 19 proposed hotel projects in Greater China. Estelle started her career interning in various front and back office capacities at hotels.



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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

Hotel Investment Today

With a career spanning more than 36 years in hospitality reporting and writing, Jeff Weinstein spent the past 29 years as editor-in-chief of *HOTELS* and *HOTELS Investment Outlook*, a global B2B media platform. He previously covered the national restaurant industry and during his career has won five prestigious Jesse H. Neal awards for excellence in business journalism. Weinstein resides in suburban Chicago and has two children.

Evan Weiss

Cofounder, Chief Operating Officer, Principal

LW Hospitality Advisors

Evan Weiss serves as cofounder, chief operating officer, and principal of LW Hospitality Advisors. As a cofounder of the firm, Weiss’ 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 cofounder 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.



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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

Mark Willis

Chief Executive Officer
Fairmont Hotels & Resorts

As the chief executive officer of Fairmont Hotels & Resorts worldwide, Mark Willis is responsible for the luxury brand's revered portfolio of more than 100 hotels in operation and under development globally.

He brings to the role more than three decades of high-level industry experience with international hospitality brands IHG and Sun International, as well as the Radisson Hotel Group where he spent many years in senior leadership positions, including senior vice president Middle East, Africa and Turkey. Willis holds an MBA in International Business from Oxford University in the United Kingdom and has completed several senior management programmes at Cornell University, New York.

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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.

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 Meridien 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.

Clint Woodlock

**SVP, Americas Finance
Hilton**

Clint Woodlock is the SVP Americas Finance for Hilton based out of the company's global headquarters in McLean, Virginia. With 20 years of experience at Hilton, Woodlock is responsible for financial planning, analysis, and driving achievement of operating results across North, Central, and South America with particular focus on Hilton's managed estate which includes over \$30 billion assets under management across more than 270 hotels with over 100,000 rooms and 18 countries.

In his previous position as vice president of finance for Hilton's Global Brands & Commercial Services teams, Woodlock led the global finance function in support of sales, marketing, technology, brand management, distribution, and Hilton's award-winning loyalty program, Hilton Honors. In this capacity, Woodlock was instrumental in his support of the development and launch of new brands, geographic expansion of existing brands, and the negotiation of a premier financial services agreement with American Express.



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X

Chu Xu

Director of Investment & Portfolio Analysis
RLJ Lodging Trust

Chu Xu is the director of investment and portfolio analysis at RLJ Lodging Trust. Xu has over 15 years of industry experience and has completed underwriting and due diligence in support of hotel transactions totaling over \$5 billion. Prior to joining RLJ, Xu performed over 200 hotel appraisal and consulting engagements for HVS.

Xu holds a bachelor's degree in Hotel & Tourism Management from the Tisch Center of Hospitality at New York University with a concentration in Lodging Development.



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Y

Jing Yang

Clinical Assistant Professor

Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality

Jing Yang, PhD, is a clinical assistant professor in the NYU School of Professional Studies Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality. She received her M.S. and P.D. degrees from Oklahoma State University. Yang has been teaching hospitality and tourism finance and related subjects at both the undergraduate and graduate levels for more than 10 years. Her research areas of interest include hospitality marketing and finance, hotel and restaurant branding, as well as tourism economic impact. She has published and presented more than 30 research papers at hospitality refereed journals and national/international conferences. Since 2010, her contracts/projects contribution has amounted to over \$120,000. In 2019, she received the

W. Bradford Wiley Memorial Research Award at the 2019 International Council on Hotel, Restaurant, and Institutional Education (ICHRIE).

Eddie Yu

Managing Director, Investments

Ohana

Eddie Yu is a managing director on Ohana's Investments team and oversees the firm's equity and debt investment strategies. Prior to joining Ohana, Yu was on the investments team at CIM Group and in the M&A group at RBS. Yu graduated with a Bachelor of Science from Columbia University, obtained a JD/MBA from the Kellogg School of Management/Northwestern School of Law, and was a member of the State Bar of California.

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Z

Lou Zameryka

Director of Managed Chains
Booking.com

Lou Zameryka is responsible for Booking.com's relationship with strategic travel and lodging partners including the world's largest hotel brands, management companies, and owners. He has been with Booking.com for 17 years. During his time at Booking.com Lou has created, and managed various commercial teams and key markets as the company grew explosively from 100 employees to over 15,000.

Prior to joining Booking.com, Zameryka spent several years in the hotel industry specializing in new hotel openings with a focus on developing people and processes for Sales, Guest Services and Revenue Mgmt/Reservations. He also stays involved with the broader travel community through his role on the HSMAI America's Board and as a past president of the HSMAI NYC Chapter. He has previously been an advisor for travel startups via the Booking.com Booking Booster Accelerator Program.

Philippe Zrihen

Head of Ennismore Americas

Philippe Zrihen serves as head of Ennismore Americas, overseeing all aspects of the company's strategic and operational activities in the region. In addition, Zrihen serves as a brand COO and member of the company's executive committee. In this role, he helps oversee the strategic direction of the Ennismore platform which combines 14 hotel lifestyle hotel brands with proprietary F&B and nightlife brands making up the largest independent lifestyle hospitality company in the industry.

Prior to Ennismore, Zrihen served as chief business officer and partner of SBE, where he oversaw all of the company's corporate activities including strategic and corporate initiatives, M&A, capital investment, and asset management. Before joining SBE, Zrihen was recognized as a leading authority in hospitality investment banking, having served as strategic advisor and board member to leading financial and strategic industry players for 20 years. Most recently he was a managing director within the Real Estate Strategic Advisory Group at Houlihan Lokey and was responsible for the firm's global hospitality and leisure efforts. He also served as a managing director at Rothschild Inc. where he co-founded and led the firm's North American Hospitality Practice.

Abc Zrihen

Head of Americas
Ennismore

Philippe Zrihen is New York based and serves as head of Ennismore Americas, overseeing all aspects of the company's strategic and operational activities in the region. In addition, he leads the global integration efforts of the Ennismore platform which combines 14 hotel lifestyle hotel brands (including SLS, Mondrian, Delano, Hoxton, Mama Shelter) with proprietary F&B and nightlife brands to create the largest independent, lifestyle hospitality company in the industry.

Prior to Ennismore, Zrihen served as chief business officer and partner of sbe where he oversaw all of the company's corporate activities including strategic initiatives, capital investment and asset management.

Zrihen has been recognized as a leading authority in hospitality investment banking for the past 20 years, having served as long-term advisor and board member to leading financial and strategic players in the industry. Prior to sbe he was a managing director within the Real Estate Strategic Advisory Group at Houlihan Lokey and was responsible for the firm's global hospitality and leisure efforts. He also served as a managing director at Rothschild, where he co-founded and led the firm's North American Hospitality Practice.



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