



DIVERSITY IN LEADERSHIP F O R U M

“TAKING OWNERSHIP”

Retreat Agenda

Conference Host

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Willis Tower
233 South Wacker Drive, Suite 5900
Chicago, IL 60606

Recommended Hotel

Sheraton Grand Chicago
301 East North Water Street
Chicago, IL 60611

Wednesday, May 8, 2019

- 2:25 pm Arrival at Dentons conference room
- 2:30 pm **Welcome Remarks** (Kim Stuart & David Ackert)
- 2:45 pm **Roundtable Introductions, Intentions and Expectations for the Retreat**
- 3:00 pm **Keynote: Catapulting the Needle**
Sheila Murphy, Former Senior Vice President and Associate General Counsel, Metlife
The reality of women's progress in the legal field is depressing and even more so for women of color. For the most part, the legal profession and law firms have approached this issue on a micro level-- how can we make women more likely to be successful in the legal sector-- as it exists today. While the needle has inched forward, it has not gone far enough or fast enough to make the differences we need for parity in the profession. What if we approached this issue on a macro level--proposing changes to the institutions and cultures-- could we catapult the needle?
- 4:00 pm Break
- 4:15 pm **Negotiation Strategies**
David Ackert, President, Ackert Inc.
Negotiations are hugely important in leadership strategies with clients and with colleagues. We will discuss:
- Nuances of client and internal negotiation strategies
 - How to stop leaving money on the table
 - How to create win/win alternatives
- 5:45/6:00 pm **Networking Cocktail Reception followed by Dinner** (The Florentine 151 West Adams Street)



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Thursday May 9, 2019

- 8:30 am Arrive at Dentons conference room for catered breakfast
- 9:00 am **Talking While Female**
Susan Freeman, CEO, Freeman Means Business
The session focuses on raising awareness and navigating gender-based communication style differences. Men and women in the workplace need to understand one another's thoughts, attitudes and behaviors -- especially communication styles. We'll discuss:
- Various communication styles on how to adapt your style to others to achieve your goals.
 - How to remain aware of differing verbal and non-verbal communication styles.
 - How to combat gender biases that result from our own gender stereotypes to achieve equity in the workplace.
- 10:15 am Break
- 10:30 am **Idea Exchange Roundtables**
- Creating the Visibility that Fuels Growth: **Megan Braverman, Principal, Berbay Marketing & PR**
 - Business Development and Team Building: **David Ackert, President, Ackert Inc.**
 - Collaboration and Ownership: **Kim Stuart, President, Key Group**
- 12:00 pm Lunch & Networking
- 12:30 pm **Strategic Practice Planning**
Deborah Farone, Farone Advisors LLC
- How to get buy-in from your colleagues to create a plan
 - The seven deadly sins of practice planning
 - How to create tactics that tie in to overall goals
 - How to measure and provide a feedback loop for continuous improvement
- 1:30 pm **Highlights / Takeaways / Areas for Implementation**
- 2:00 pm **Closing Remarks / Adjourn**
**Afternoon architectural river boat tour for those who are available and would like to join*