



The Women's Leadership Forum

The Women's Leadership Forum ("WLF") was established to further the Firm's commitment to the strategic retention and advancement of women and to provide a forum for our women attorneys to discuss issues and share information. A driving force for its creation was the recognition that as a national law Firm we have an enormous amount of wisdom, experience and vision within our midst, which, when collected and shared internally and externally, can empower women at all levels in their careers to achieve success and satisfaction.

Examples of steps we have recently taken to fulfill this commitment and support our mission include:

- Creating a National Committee of the Women's Leadership Forum, comprised of representatives from each of the Firm's offices, to formulate a global strategy for the WLF.
- Becoming a lead signatory to the Chicago Bar Association's "Call to Action," an initiative designed to promote women's leadership in the legal profession.
- Establishing mentoring clusters of not more than 10 women attorneys each from all practice areas and experience levels in the Firm to facilitate relationships and communication.
- Instituting internal training and round-table sessions to discuss specific issues that affect women in the legal workplace today.
- Engaging an outside consultant to provide business development training geared specifically toward women attorneys.
- Encouraging member involvement in activities to benefit the greater business and legal communities, including assisting in the creation of a Women's Bar Association in Charlotte, North Carolina; partnering with Simpson Academy, a Chicago Public School for pregnant teens; and collecting donations for "Dress for Success," a non-profit organization that provides women in need access to professional apparel.

Mission Statement

The Firm is dedicated to the strategic retention and advancement of women by creating and maintaining an environment that recognizes, cultivates and utilizes the talent of its women attorneys to expand and create business opportunities and achieve long-term success.