

Media Contacts:

Sarah Gevlin

sgevlin@directwomen.org

518-929-4077

Bobbi Liebenberg

rliebenberg@finekaplan.com

215-567-6565

DirectWomen Selects 7th Annual DirectWomen Board Institute Class

*Organization Formed To Position Women Lawyers To Serve On Boards Of Public Companies
Will Host Institute From June 3-5, 2015*

NEW YORK —DirectWomen, an organization formed to position women lawyers to serve on boards of public companies, announced today the members of the 2015 DirectWomen Board Institute, a program now in its 7th year. The Board Institute will be held June 3-5, 2015 in New York City at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel.

DirectWomen selects a group of experienced and accomplished women lawyers from a highly competitive pool of applicants across the country to attend the Board Institute. The Institute covers key issues facing current and future corporate directors and provides an opportunity for class members to interact with leading executives, directors, search firm consultants, and Institute alumnae.

The 2015 DirectWomen class is comprised of an outstanding group of leading women lawyers, including General Counsel of *Fortune 500* companies, as well as partners at top law firms.

The 2015 class members represent a wide range of business knowledge and experience. Eighteen members of the new class are in-house counsel and other senior executives at leading companies in their industries, which include the retail, health care, banking, aerospace and defense, commercial banking, manufacturing, tobacco, and oil and gas sectors. Ten of these companies are listed in the *Fortune 500*. The 2015 class also includes the Immediate Past Chair of the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and two partners at major law firms.

The Institute is co-chaired by Professor Hillary A. Sale, Walter D. Coles Professor of Law and Professor of Management at Washington University in St. Louis, and Professor Lisa M. Fairfax, Leroy Sorenson Merrifield Research Professor of Law at George Washington University Law School. The Institute provides an orientation and update on significant issues facing current and future directors, with the goal of positioning a group of exceptional senior women lawyers for service as directors of major U.S. corporations. The Board Institute faculty features experienced directors and officers of large public companies. The program covers a wide range of cutting-edge subjects, including the work of nominating and corporate governance committees, the evolving nature of shareholder relations, the strategic role of audit committees and the involvement of executive search firms in board searches. In addition, the Board Institute affords participants the opportunity to network with DirectWomen alumnae and top representatives of executive search firms, as well as past recipients of the Sandra Day O'Connor Board Excellence Award, which honors women lawyers who have served with distinction as independent directors of public companies.

QUOTES:

“The DirectWomen Board Institute provides a great opportunity for women attorneys to focus their analytical and problem-solving skills on positioning themselves for service as Directors. The 2015 Class continues to make the case that women attorneys possess the judgment and business expertise needed for good board service,” said Mary Ann Jorgenson, Selection Committee Chair and Past Chair of DirectWomen.

ABOUT:

The mission of DirectWomen is to increase the representation of women lawyers on corporate boards. DirectWomen identifies, develops, and supports a growing group of accomplished women attorneys who provide the experience, independence and diversity required for good corporate governance. Partners of the program include Catalyst, the leading nonprofit membership organization expanding opportunities for women and business, and the American Bar Association's Commission on Women in the Profession.

The members of the 2015 DirectWomen Board Institute are:

Michelle A. Banks

Executive Vice President, Global Responsibility, General Counsel, Corporate Secretary and Chief Compliance Officer, Gap Inc.

Jacqueline A. Berrien

Immediate Past Chair, United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

Angelee F. Bouchard

Senior Vice President, General Counsel & Secretary, Health Net, Inc.

Wendy Breuder

Co-General Manager, Head of Midwest General Industries, US Corporate Banking Division, MUFG Union Bank, N.A.

Kathleen F. Burke

Vice President, General Counsel and Assistant Secretary, MKS Instruments, Inc.

Sheila C. Cheston

Corporate Vice President and General Counsel, Northrop Grumman Corporation

Barbara Daniele

Senior Executive Counsel, Strategic Initiatives, GE Capital Americas

Ann D. Davidson

Senior Vice President, Chief Legal Officer and Corporate Secretary, Exelis Inc.

Sarah C. Dodds-Brown

Managing Counsel, American Express Travel Related Services Company, Inc.

Meena L. Elliott

Senior Vice President, General Counsel & Secretary, Aviat Networks, Inc.

Maria C. Green

Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary, Illinois Tool Works Inc.

Denise F. Keane

Executive Vice President and General Counsel, Altria Group, Inc.

Sylvia J. Kerrigan

Executive Vice President, General Counsel & Secretary, Marathon Oil

Chérie R. Kiser

Managing Partner of DC Office, Cahill Gordon & Reindel LLP

Susan S. Lanigan

Retired Executive Vice President, Member Executive Management Team and General Counsel, Dollar General Corporation

Lynn J. Loacker

Partner, Davis Wright Tremaine, LLP

Stephanie Lucie

General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer, Austin Ventures

Karen G. Narwold

Senior Vice President, General Counsel, Corporate & Government Affairs, Corporate Secretary, Albemarle Corporation

Jane E. Nelson

Retired General Counsel/Secretary, CPI Corp.

Linda J. Vilardo

Chief Administrative Officer, Radio One, Inc.

Emily Ward

Vice President & Deputy General Counsel – Chief Technology Counsel, eBay Inc.