



## Louise Firestone

**Global Business Leader & General Counsel | Trusted Advisor to Senior Management Teams**

### **& Boards of Directors | M&As | Retail & Banking**

Global and multi-cultural business leader, lawyer and General Counsel in the retail and banking industries with deep experience and hands-on management at leading institutions, overseeing complex matters, particularly in M&A phases, providing effective results across the full range of critical legal challenges and achieving valuable business outcomes.

**Expertise** in high-profile M&A, tax optimization; negotiating domestic and international transactions, including agreements relating to mergers and acquisitions, financing, real estate, corporate and board governance; e-commerce; and in guiding management teams and board members through complex issues with clear communication and gravitas.

**Strengths** include a collaborative style and the ability to understand and effectively support business operations; provide actionable strategic counsel to senior management; develop and mentor high performing legal teams; anticipate/overcome major and complex legal issues; communicate effectively with stakeholders at all levels; and build effective partnerships. Work effectively across many cultures around the world having lived on three continents. Dual nationality, professional proficiency in French and Italian.

### **Board Memberships**

- **LG Distribution LLC**, New York, NY, Member, Board of Managers 2020 - 2022
- **Loro Piana & C. Inc.**, New York, NY, Member, Board of Directors 2016 - 2022
- **Warren Corporation** (LVMH Group companies), Member, Board of Directors 2016 -2022
- **Marc Jacobs Holdings, LLC**, New York, NY Member, Board of Managers 2013 – 2022
- **Tiffany & Co.**, New York, NY Member, Board of Directors 2021- 2022

### **Professional Experience**

**LVMH Moet Hennessy Louis Vuitton Inc., New York, NY** **1999 – 2022**

*US holding company for the world's largest luxury goods retailer.*

**Senior Vice President, Legal Affairs and General Counsel** **2003 – 2022**

**Vice President, Legal Affairs and General Counsel** **1999 – 2003**

Strategic Advisor to the Chairman, Member, the Executive Management Team and Senior Member of the Global Legal Team

- **Contributed to maintaining business continuity during Covid** as senior leader on the LVMH North America COVID-19 response team
  - Kept businesses in all 50 states apprised of CDC regulations by disseminating information nationwide and analyzed the Covid relief act (passed in 2020) to determine how it was applicable to LVMH Group companies
- **Advise management on corporate governance programs and corporate positions**
- Act as counsel and corporate secretary to US subsidiaries of LVMH Group in Perfumes and

Cosmetics, LVMH Fashion Group, Watch and Jewelry and Wines and Spirits Divisions

Proactive in protecting LVMH from potential liability by advising re: changing regulations

Foster growth by advising LVMH on legal changes that may provide opportunities for the businesses

- **Expanded Group's footprint** by leading deal team for all US merger and acquisitions activity ○ Since 1999, LVMH grew its portfolio of *Maisons* (brands) from 50 to 70+ worldwide. Most recently LVMH expanded its hospitality division with the acquisition of the hotel and leisure company Belmond (2019) and completed its acquisition of Tiffany & Co. on January 7, 2021. Completed numerous acquisitions, divestitures and mergers during tenure
- Work closely with finance and tax divisions to structure US subsidiaries in the most tax-efficient manner
- Successfully coordinate and oversee US litigation
- Leverage institutional knowledge to promote effectiveness of group-wide initiatives, such as US anticounterfeiting and e-commerce.

## Earlier Career History

- **Credit Suisse First Boston**, New York, NY, Director, Legal & Compliance Department, Senior Staff Attorney in charge of Corporate Banking legal function, 1997 – 1999
- **Credit Suisse**, New York, NY, 1991 – 1997, General Counsel for US operations, including corporate banking, treasury products, private banking and general
- **Citibank**, N.A., New York, NY, VP, Global Finance NA, 1991, VP, International and Regulatory Relations Unit, 1986 – 1991. Bank regulation and Bank Holding Company regulation, including advice on legal issues re. operations of Citicorp abroad.
- **Cole & Deitz**, New York, NY, 1984 – 1986, Associate, 1985 – 1986, Summer Associate, 1984. General corporate, regulatory and transactional experience.

## Professional, Not-for-Profit & Advisory Affiliations

- **March For Our Lives**, Board member since 2022
- **Fordham Law School**, Adjunct Professor since 2025
- **Columbia Law School**, Lecturer in Law 2016-2022
- **Fordham University School of Law**, Member, Dean's Planning Council since 2012
- **Jhpiego**, Baltimore, MD (international non-profit health organization), Advisory Board Member 2014-2023
- **Classic State Company** (NYC Off-Broadway Theater), Board Member, 1998 – 2007.
- Mentoring of students and early career lawyers on career development and leadership training
- Received **Luxury Law Summit Lifetime Achievement Award** in 2022

## Education

- **Fordham Law School**, New York, NY, JD, 1985
- **Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs**, New York, NY. **Master of International Affairs** (International Economics)

- **The Johns Hopkins University**, Baltimore, MD, BA, International Studies.

## **Other**

Fluent in French and Italian (written and spoken) | Dual US and Italian citizenship.