

# Patricia A McQuater



## LEGAL MANAGEMENT EXECUTIVE / COMPLIANCE OFFICER

Highly accomplished Senior Corporate Counsel with 28+ years of experience hiring, training and managing legal teams to deliver optimum, bottom-line results. Exceptional 25-year track record as legal counsel for Fortune 100 multi-national company.

Legal Management • Team Building / Leadership • International Legal Matters  
Compliance • International Trade • Complex Commercial Transactions • Litigation Management  
Employment and Labor Law • Business Immigration

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### AMERICAN ARBITRATION ASSOCIATION, Arbitrator, 2010 to present

### SOLAR TURBINES INCORPORATED (Caterpillar, Inc.), San Diego, CA • 1984 to 2010

Solar Turbines is Caterpillar's largest subsidiary and is one of the 50 largest exporters in the United States. Global industry leader in design, manufacture, sales and service of industrial gas turbine engines, turbine-powered compressor sets, and microprocessor-based control systems.

#### Senior Corporate Counsel Manager, Compliance, Litigation & Real Estate

#### Global Accountability: Legal Team Manager & Compliance Officer

- Direct legal team charged with managing litigation, including commercial and employment / labor matters
- Proactive counsel and advice to executives on employment & labor law matters and corporate governance
- Corporate real estate transactions including purchase, sale, lease of industrial facilities and office buildings
- Regulatory & compliance matters including training, audits, defense of administrative claims
- Professional development of attorneys, paralegals and other administrative support staff direct reports
- Manage \$3.4M annual budget

#### Cross Functional Assignments

Operations Council Member ♦ Authority Delegation Policy Team Member  
Union Negotiating Team Member ♦ Threat Assessment Team Member  
Environmental Health & Safety Committee Member ♦ Instructor: Solar Turbines Core Curriculum  
Ethics & Compliance Committee Member ♦ Diversity Committee Member  
Assistant Secretary of Corporate Subsidiaries

## **Key Achievements**

- ◆ First year 90% reduction in number of employment/labor administrative claims, lawsuits and grievances filed against company by implementing policies, procedures, and training in collaboration with Human Resources; sustained low rates of litigation throughout tenure.
- ◆ 100% litigation success rate defending employment/labor lawsuits during 25+ year tenure.
- ◆ Implemented highly effective Export Controls Compliance Program to expedite export license processing and manage risks associated with US Commerce and US Trade Department Regulations.
- ◆ Outstanding track record for approval of non-immigrant and immigrant visa applications; implemented application process improvements to minimize use of outside counsel and significantly reduce associated costs.
- ◆ Improved team performance via organizational restructure; enhanced employee engagement.
- ◆ Consistently rated in top tier in customer service surveys and performance reviews.

## **FOODMAKER, INC. (Now Jack in the Box Inc.), San Diego, CA • 1982 to 1984**

Owner of national chain of fast food and dinner house restaurants; publicly traded stock

### **Corporate Counsel**

#### **National Accountability: Litigation Management, Regulatory Compliance Management**

- Proactive counsel and advice to executives on employment and labor law matters
- Proactive counsel and advice on regulatory and compliance matters including training, internal audits and defense of administrative claims
- Acquisition and risk management for Liquor Licenses including compliance with Alcoholic Beverage Control regulations in 12 US states
- Legal support to Marketing function to ensure compliance with Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations

## **Key Achievements**

- ◆ Successfully litigated defense of Alcoholic Beverages Control charges against company owned restaurant to protect critical revenue stream.
- ◆ Revised standard terms and conditions of purveyor contracts to limit corporate liability for onsite services.

## **ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS**

### **Juris Doctor**

UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO – San Diego, California

### **Bachelor of Science, Business Law**

BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT– Boston, Massachusetts

Certified Arbitrator, American Arbitration Association

Certified Six Sigma Green Belt

## **ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS**

(cont.)

Making Great Leaders

Executive Consortium on Managerial Issues in the Global Enterprise  
Thunderbird Garvin School of International Management  
Phoenix, Arizona

Caterpillar Advanced Management Program  
University of Indiana

## **BAR ADMISSIONS**

State of California  
United States District Court Southern District of California  
United States District Court of Appeals, 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit  
United States Supreme Court

## **BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

(Partial List)

US Senator Diane Feinstein Judicial Advisory Committee (2013 to present)  
San Diego Economic Development Corporation Strategic Roundtable (2010 to present)  
Planned Parenthood Pacific Southwest, Board of Directors (2019 to present)  
San Diego Theatres, Inc., Board of Directors, (2013 to present)  
San Diego Youth Symphony & Conservatory, Board of Trustees  
Leadership Council for Plan to End Chronic Homelessness  
San Diego Unified Port District Board of Port/Airport Commissioners, *Chair; Commissioner Emeritus*  
San Diego Convention Center Corporation, Board of Directors, *Chair*  
Urban League of San Diego, Board of Directors, *Chair*

## **HONORS**

(Partial List)

Woman of the Year, CA State Assembly Majority Leader, Toni Atkins  
San Diego's Top 10 Corporate Counsel, San Diego Daily Transcript  
American Bar Association Direct Women Institute, Inaugural Class  
Distinguished Community Service Award, Earl B. Gilliam Bar Association  
Salute to Women Pioneers, San Diego Catfish Club  
Career Achievement Award, University of San Diego  
20<sup>th</sup> Century Leadership Award, Black Contractors Association  
Distinguished Alumni Award, University of San Diego School of Law  
Gold Key Award, San Diego Hotel/Motel Association  
YWCA Tribute to Women in Industry  
Songs of My People: 100 African American Role Models

**References upon request**