

# KAREN A. POPP



## SUMMARY

Member of the Executive Committee (Board of Directors equivalent) for ten years, providing oversight of 20 offices worldwide and more than \$2 billion in revenue, and with responsibility for formulating and implementing business strategy and policies, overseeing and managing a budget, forecasting and setting strategy for global expansion, overseeing and approving compensation practices, and overseeing and managing issues related to hiring.

Chair of a 175 member global group with extensive experience representing corporations, Boards of Directors and members of the C-Suites, from a diverse range of industries and around the world in navigating crises arising from major corporate incidents or criminal and civil enforcement actions. Considerable experience with overseeing internal and government investigations, corporate compliance, cybersecurity risks, the appropriate management of corporate books and records, and interactions with the finance and audit teams. Represented senior government officials including a previous U.S. President and Cabinet Member in two different administrations. Served as a trusted advisor to CEOs and Boards of Fortune 500 companies and private corporate entities.

Considerable nonprofit board experience, including as Chair of several major boards.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### **SIDLEY AUSTIN LLP, Washington, D.C.**

**1998 to Present**

*Partner, Executive Committee Member and Global Chair of White Collar and Compliance Group*

- **Governance:** ten years on the firm's Board of Directors equivalent governing body (Executive Committee), overseeing 20 locations and more than \$2 billion in revenue, serving on the Future Markets for Expansion Committee, responsible for global strategy, the Practice Development Committee, responsible for identifying industry growth and new business trends and launching branding/marketing initiatives, and the Diversity Committee, responsible for addressing the recruitment, promotion and retention of diverse lawyers. Also served on the firm-wide committees to hire, evaluate and compensate employees before partnership and Chairs the Counsel Committee.
- **Management:** built and leads 175-member global group that defends public and private companies and provides compliance advice. Set and execute on business strategy, growth and budget. The group has grown from less than 30 members domestically to more than 175 members globally.
- **Board Counselling:** appeared before and counselled many Fortune 500 and private corporate boards regarding global government enforcement, regulation and litigation issues; retained directly by the Board, audit committee or special committee; counsels boards on global compliance issues, including conducting board training. The global matters have involved business issues in more than 70 countries, including Asia, Latin America and Europe.

- **Cybersecurity:** handles cybersecurity and data breach issues; co-author of “Cybersecurity: A Practical Guide to the Law of Cyber Risk,” PLI Treatise and the “Privacy and Security” chapter in Business and Commercial Litigation in Federal Courts, Third Edition.
- **Crisis Management:** handles high profile and other crises for corporate clients involving SEC, DOJ, and Congressional investigations, State Attorney General and other government actions, and cybersecurity. Industries include Life Science, Energy, Oil & Gas, Retail, Consumer Products, Automotive, Financial, Insurance, Technology and Defense/National Security.
- **Compliance:** design and enhance compliance programs, perform global compliance and risk assessments, respond to whistleblower allegations of wrongdoing, conduct training at all corporate levels including Boards of Directors and senior management; and conduct compliance due diligence on corporate transactions.

**THE WHITE HOUSE, Washington, D.C.**

**1996 to 1998**

*Associate Counsel to the President of the United States*

- Provided legal and policy advice to the President of the United States
- Advised the White House staff on U.S. Congressional and Special Counsel investigations, domestic policy issues and personnel related matters
- Worked with senior government officials at various Executive Branch agencies
- Worked with Congressional members and staffs on legislative and public policy initiatives

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, Washington, D.C.**

**1995 to 1996**

*Attorney Advisor, Office of Legal Counsel*

- Advised the United States Attorney General and Staff on a wide range of matters
- Participated in agency and interagency initiatives and legislative proposals
- Provided opinions to U.S. Congress related to proposed legislation.
- Outside counsel to the White House and other agencies of the Executive Branch

**U.S. ATTORNEY’S OFFICE, EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

**1991 to 1995**

*Assistant U.S. Attorney*

- Prosecuted RICO and other criminal charges involving fraud, bribery, extortion, tax evasion, money laundering, obstruction of justice, witness tampering and perjury
- Led dozens of trials and evidentiary hearings
- Briefed and argued numerous appeals before the U.S. Court of Appeals

**SULLIVAN & CROMWELL, New York, N.Y.**

**1986 to 1991**

*Litigation Associate*

- Represented commercial and investment banks and Fortune 500 companies in a wide range of litigation matters, including securities, shareholder, corporate valuation issues and M&A.

**HONORABLE SAM J. ERVIN, III**

**1985 to 1986**

**U.S. COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT**

*Law Clerk*

- Assisted a federal judge in his responsibilities on the bench

## BOARD EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING

Sidley Austin Executive Committee  
Kenan Institute for Private Enterprise (Chair)  
Chief Compliance Officer Forum (Chair)  
Board of Trustees, University of North Carolina at Charlotte (Chair)  
University of North Carolina at Charlotte Foundation Board (Chair)  
University of North Carolina School of Law Alumni Association Board (President Elect)  
Best Buddies International, Inc. Advisory Board  
Higher Education Works Foundation Board  
Women in Law Empowerment Forum Board  
North Carolina Council for Women  
Women's White Collar Defense Association (Global Chair and Co-Founder)

## HONORS AND RECOGNITIONS

*Chambers Global* and *Chambers USA*, *Washingtonian* magazine "Top Lawyers," International Who's Who, *Ethisphere Attorneys Who Matter* (for making a significant difference in the ethics and compliance fields), "First Annual Transformative Leadership Award," and first-ever GIR Award for *Services to Diversity*.

## EDUCATION

### UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA SCHOOL OF LAW, Chapel Hill

J.D. (*Cum Laude*), May 1985

**Honors/Activities:** Order of the Coif  
Kenan Merit Scholarship Recipient  
Editor and Staff Member, North Carolina Law Review

### OXFORD UNIVERISTY, Oxford, England

Honor School of Jurisprudence, 1980-81

**Honors/Activities:** Rotary International Scholarship Recipient  
Oxford Law Society Member  
St. Peter's College Women's Crew

### UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA, Charlotte

B.A. (*Cum Laude*), Political Science, May 1980

**Honors/Activities:** Alumni Merit Scholar  
Student Body President (First female elected in the UNC System)  
Pi Sigma Alpha  
Outstanding Student of the Year Award  
Woman of the Year Award  
Humanitarian Award  
NC Student Legislature  
Varsity Women's Basketball Player