

## Monica Karuturi

### Overview

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Public company executive with extensive experience advising Boards and executive teams on strategy, environmental, sustainability, governance, leadership transition, mergers and acquisitions, enterprise risk, supply chain and commercial matters.

### Relevant Experience

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**September 2014 – Present, CenterPoint Energy, Inc.**, Houston, Texas – Fortune 500 public electric and gas utility company with \$38 billion in assets and 9,400 employees as of December 31, 2021

*Executive Vice President and General Counsel* (January 2022 – present); *Senior Vice President and General Counsel* (July 2020-January 2022); *Vice President and Deputy General Counsel* (April 2019-July 2020); *Additional roles of increasing responsibility* (September 2014 – April 2019)

*Current Responsibilities:* Leading a 450-person organization, with responsibility for:

- legal and ethics, compliance, and data privacy,
- supply chain, warehouse, and materials management,
- enterprise risk management and crisis management,
- environmental and sustainability, which sets and executes ESG and net zero strategy, and
- insurance.

*Key Highlights:*

- Member of the Executive Committee, governance body comprised of most senior executives.
- Primary legal advisor to the Board and executive management on over \$40 billion in strategic and financing transactions; led negotiations for acquisition and divestiture activity.
- Co-led Board and executive management during shareholder activism engagements, including private placement transaction and formation of strategy committee of the Board.
- Led and advised Board on the launch of net zero targets for Scope 1 and 2 emissions and emission reduction targets for Scope 3 emissions.
- Created and serve as executive co-sponsor for enterprise Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council.
- Led strategic reset of Enterprise Risk Management function.
- Established and lead dedicated data-privacy function and enterprise crisis management team.

**January 2010 – August 2014, LyondellBasell Industries N.V.**, Houston, Texas – Fortune 250 public plastics, chemicals, and refining company with global operations in more than 100 countries

*Counsel, Corporate and Commercial and Strategic Transactions and roles of increasing responsibility* (July 2010 – August 2014); *Director of LyondellBasell Pro Bono Program* (January 2012 – August 2014)

Advised executive management of NYSE-listed, Dutch company with a principal taxable presence in the United Kingdom on:

- US securities, NYSE compliance and U.S. and Dutch corporate governance matters,
- Domestic and international strategic and commercial transactions in US, South America, and Europe,
- Closure of European facilities, including associated redundancies, and
- Served as primary legal counsel for \$12.9 billion-revenue business segment with responsibility for leading negotiations with key customers and large accounts (*Olefins and Polyolefins - Americas*).

**October 2006 – July 2010, Baker Botts LLP**, Houston, Texas – *Corporate Associate*

Counsel for investment banking firms, master limited partnerships and energy corporations on a variety of mergers and acquisitions, public offerings of debt and equity securities, Exchange Act reporting and corporate governance matters.

## **Appointments and Public Service**

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**Texas Bar Association Legal Services to the Poor in Civil Matters Committee**, Austin, TX – *Committee Member* (Serving for a third three-year term)

**Houston Bar Foundation**, Houston, TX (Serving first two-year term)

**CenterPoint Foundation**, Houston, Texas (Board Member)

**Texas Access to Justice Commission**, Austin, TX – *Commissioner and Chair of Technology Committee* (Texas Supreme Court Appointee; Completed two three-year terms)

**Tahirih Justice Center**, Houston, TX – Advisory Council (February 2016 – present); 2019, 2020 Houston Gala Chair

**Houston Pro Bono Joint Initiative**, Houston, TX – Committee Member (2014 – present)

**Pro Bono Program Chair**: Led CenterPoint Energy's pro bono program, which has been recognized by the Houston Bar Association (HBA) and Houston Bar Foundation as program of the year and designated as an Equal Access Grand Champion by the HBA. Department was also recognized as Department of the Year for Pro Bono by Texas Lawyer.

## **Recognitions**

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### **Law:**

Association for Corporate Counsel, Transaction of the Year

Texas General Counsel Forum Magna Stella Award for Senior Managing Counsel, Large Legal Department

National Diversity Council, Top 50 General Counsel, Top 50 Women Lawyers Top 100 Most Influential Women in Energy

**Diversity and Inclusion:**

Texas General Counsel Forum Magna Stella Award for Diversity and Inclusion

Houston Bar Association Award for Diversity and Inclusion

**Pro Bono:**

Houston Bar Association Pro Bono Coordinator of the Year; Pro Bono Program of the Year

Texas Access to Justice Commission Award for Corporate Counsel of the Year

ACC and Corporate Counsel Pro Bono and Public Service Award

**Director Education Programs**

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**DirectWomen**, Class of 2022

**Education**

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**Georgetown University Law Center**, Washington D.C.

Juris Doctor, May 2006

Honors: *cum laude*; 2006 Outstanding Advocate Award; Dean's List (2003-2006)

**Columbia University – Mailman School of Public Health**, New York, NY

Masters in Public Health in Department of Health Policy and Management, May 2003

**Brown University**, Providence, RI

Bachelor of Arts, *with honors*, Public Policy and American Institutions, May 2001

Focus Areas: Economics and Health Policy

Honors Thesis: *Assessing the Implementation of Mandatory Arrest Policy for Violence against Women in the State of Rhode Island*