



Officers of the Board



Veronica Ross
2nd Vice Chair

Veronica Ross is a 1st Vice President, Treasury Management Leader, for Kearny Bank. She works closely with all departments and her team to strategically select, rollout and implement new products and services while enhancing the existing product suite in order to meet the needs of business clients in this ever-changing banking environment.

Veronica is a financial professional with over 30 years of experience. Prior to joining Kearny, she was responsible for developing and coaching team members to ensure they provided clients with the best solutions to help them achieve financial success. Having spent 25 years in various retail management roles including District Manager for the Northeast Market, she also led a Hispanic initiative for the tristate area and was a media spokesperson. During her prior tenure she was credit trained and investment licensed.

She feels strongly about giving back to the community. She actively supports and volunteers her time at St. John the Baptist Church in Hillsdale and the Girl Scouts of Northern New Jersey. She is proud to serve on the Board for the GSNNJ as their 2nd Vice Chair, Chair of the Finance Committee and also on their Audit Committee.

Veronica lives in Bergen County with her husband. They are both very proud of their son, who achieved the rank of Eagle Scout at the age of 15 and is now a New York State Trooper

Members at Large



Leslie Achter

As a Vice President and member of the senior leadership team of Express Scripts (recently acquired by Cigna), Leslie Achter leads the subsidiary, Inside Rx. Under her leadership, Inside Rx is on a mission to expand access to affordable medication, particularly for consumers without insurance.

In leading teams and organizations to meet and exceed business goals, Ms. Achter believes in clear communication of vision, plans, and performance. She strengthens the culture of every organization she leads and reaches out to build connections across the company and with clients.

A lifelong resident of New Jersey, Ms. Achter and her family reside in Bergen County. Passionate about learning, she is currently a master's candidate at Penn State University for Health Policy & Administration. She earned an MBA in Finance from Fairleigh Dickinson University and a bachelor's degree in International Business and French from Muhlenberg College. She joined the Board of Directors for Girl Scouts of Northern New Jersey in 2019.



Melissa LaPorta

Melissa LaPorta is President, Global Market Brand and Content at American Express Global Business Travel. In this role, she is head of B2B, B2C, Global Marketing, Brand and Content. Ms. LaPorta is also responsible for prospect marketing, strategic partnerships, business development, client/traveler marketing, content creation, and brand management and compliance.

Ms. LaPorta is a graduate of Lehigh University with a Bachelor of Applied Science degree in Accounting and is a Certified Public Accountant. She has volunteered with the Henry Street Settlement since 2002 and has served on the board of Girl Scouts of Northern New Jersey since 2019.

She lives in Bergen County with her husband and two children.



Karyllan Dodson Mack

Karyllan Dodson Mack is Assistant General Counsel at BASF Corporation in the Environmental and Safety Practice Group. In this role, she assists Corporate Ecology (remediation group) in the investigation and remediation of contamination at inactive and/or former BASF sites and Superfund sites. She represents BASF in the defense of enforcement notices or actions and manages the defense and prosecution of environmental lawsuits. Prior to joining BASF in 2015, she was a partner at K&L Gates LLP.

Ms. Mack enjoys working with Volunteer Lawyers for Justice (VLJ) to provide free legal services to those in need, particularly veterans. She was recognized as VLJ's volunteer of the month last year. She also enjoys participating in the Leadership Counsel for Legal Diversity, whose goal is to promote inclusiveness to build a more open and diverse legal profession. She frequently volunteers to cook and serve at a soup kitchen in Elizabeth.

Ms. Mack earned her juris doctor from Pace University School of Law and her bachelor's degree from Indiana State University. Outside the office, she loves spending time with her husband and two kids and playing tennis. She is a licensed ballet, jazz, and acro instructor and loves dancing as often as possible. She has fond memories of her time as a Girl Scout while growing up in Indiana.



Priya G. Prasad

Priya Prasad, of Morristown, is counsel for ExxonMobil Research and Engineering Co. As a Global IP Attorney, she manages the hydroprocessing, active materials, and separations downstream teams, sustainable electrochemistry projects, and EM Corp.'s IP operations in India. Prior to her current position, Ms. Prasad was an attorney for ExxonMobil Chemical Co. in Baytown, Texas and a process engineer for Chevron Corp. in Richmond, California.

Ms. Prasad joined the Board of Directors for Girl Scouts of Northern New Jersey in 2019.

She earned her bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering from Rice University in Houston, Texas and graduated from University of Houston Law Center.

She is a pro bono volunteer attorney for low-income individuals for the Legal Service of NW Jersey and is a volunteer for Grow it Green Morristown, which creates sustainable farms and gardens and educates communities on healthy eating and environmental stewardship. She previously served on the Board of Directors of the Rice Engineering Alumni (REA) organization and as President. REA is the oldest alumni organization at Rice University and supports engineering students through scholarships, grants, and internships and connects Rice alumni throughout the country.

Girl Representatives to the Board



Kylie Bill

Kylie Bill, of Florham Park, is a junior at Newark Academy. A member of Girl Scouts for 12 years, she has earned the Girl Scout Bronze Award and Girl Scout Gold Award. At her school, she participates in varsity cross-country and track and serves on the executive board for the Green and Blue Committee and Outdoors Club.

Miss Bill has played piano since she was in fourth grade and won the Golden Keys Silver Award and performed at Carnegie Hall. She is also a member of the New Jersey Youth Chorus, which has performed at the White House, Carnegie Hall, and the Kennedy Center.

She regularly attends the Environmental Commission meetings in her town and works on service projects with them. In addition, she volunteers for Grow it Green Morristown, which creates sustainable farms and gardens and educates communities on healthy eating and environmental stewardship.



Noelle Osborne

A junior at Tenafly High School, Noelle Osborne has been a Girl Scout for 11 years. She has earned her Girl Scout Silver Award. At school, she participates on the Junior Varsity Tennis Team, the Teen PeP Program, is a representative on the Teaneck High School Student Organization, and Vice President of the Made with Love Club. She is also a junior Sunday School staff member at Community Baptist Church of Englewood.

She applied to be a Girl Representative to the Board because she wants to bring a voice that will connect both girls and their leaders and shape the programs that are offered at Girl Scouts of Northern New Jersey.

Miss Osborne's hobbies include, art, baking, and architecture.



Isabella Viscera

Isabella Viscera, of East Hanover, has been a Girl Scout member for 12 years and is a junior at Mount Saint Dominic Academy.

At school, Miss Viscera participates in the Distributed Education Club of America {DECA}, Leadership Entrepreneurship Opportunity (LEO) Program, Varsity Math Club, Varsity Bowling, Spanish Club, and School Theater. She is also a member of the Science National Honors Society, president of Health Occupations Students of America {HOSA}, captain of the Competition Dance Team/Performance Dance Team, president of the Key Club, a school ambassador, and works on the Yearbook.

She has earned the Girl Scout Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awards.

Ms. Viscera said she wants to become a Girl Representative to the Board so she can give back to the sisterhood of Girl Scouts and enable other girls to enjoy the same benefits she has received from the Girl Scout program.

Board Development Committee



Tevra L. Francis, MS

After navigating a career in healthcare compliance and legal support, Tevra Francis formed her own company tevMedia, LLC, which offers marketing consulting, brand strategy, and positive media that promotes diversity, altruism, and excellence.

With over 20 years of progressive leadership roles in marketing and communications, Ms. Francis has a unique insight into the diverse opportunities possible for companies and organizations of all sizes. She has a master's degree in Health Services Administration, marketing credentials from the Society for Healthcare Strategy and Market Development, training and mentoring from the Institute for Healthcare Improvement and the American College of Healthcare Executives. She is a graduate of the University of South Carolina and the University of Central Florida.

Her interests include writing, [Poshmark](#), theater in New York City, and cooking. She lives a great life in Bergen County, NJ with her husband/best friend Richard.



Shanna Jafri

Shanna Jafri is an attorney experienced in corporate and public interest law. She was an associate attorney at Johnson & Bell in Chicago, Illinois, from 2001-2003, before becoming the Assistant State's Attorney for the Cook County State's Attorney's Office in Chicago.

After moving to New Jersey, she became a School Board Trustee for the Englewood Cliffs Board of Education, becoming the president of the board in 2018. She also serves as the chair of the negotiations, curriculum, technology and safety committees. She also served as the president of the Englewood Cliffs PTA from 2010 to 2012.

Ms. Jafri has been a member of the GSNNJ board of directors since 2016, is currently First Vice Chair of the Board, and serves on the Fund Development Committee. She served as Chair of the 2019 Women of Achievement Gala.

She received her bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Colorado at Boulder, and her law degree at DePaul University College of Law, in Chicago.



James M. McCreedy

James M. McCreedy was born in Hackensack, New Jersey. He is a graduate of Christian Brothers Academy, Lincroft, New Jersey; the College of William and Mary; and the Dickinson School of Law, Penn State University.

Mr. McCreedy was admitted to the Bars of the State of New Jersey and the State of Pennsylvania in 1991; the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit in 1994 and the United States Supreme Court in 2004. He served as a law clerk for the Honorable Melvin P. Antell, P.J.A.D. during the 1991-1992 term.

Mr. McCreedy practices in a number of areas including school law; insurance defense; banking; employment discrimination and labor; collection; personal injury and medical malpractice; environmental; bankruptcy; and real estate. He has handled trial and appellate matters in the state and federal courts in New Jersey and Pennsylvania as well as the Office of Administrative Law. Consistent with the firm's practice, Mr. McCreedy's cases have taken him to municipal courts around the state, the OAL, the Chancery and Law Division of New Jersey Superior Court, Federal District Court, the Bankruptcy Court, the New Jersey Appellate Division, the New Jersey Supreme Court, the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit and state and federal courts in Pennsylvania.

Mr. McCreedy is a member of the Morris County, New Jersey State and the American Bar Association. He served on the Board of Directors for the Girl Scouts of Northern New Jersey and was a Cubmaster for many years. He currently serves on the Audit and Finance Committees of Girl Scouts of Northern New Jersey.