



***TECHNOLOGY SUPPLIER DIVERSITY OPPORTUNITY SHOWCASE***

**CO-SPONSORED BY THE  
MEDIA BUREAU  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION,  
INTERNET ASSOCIATION,  
AND THE  
DIGITAL EMPOWERMENT AND INCLUSION WORKING GROUP OF THE  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON DIVERSITY AND DIGITAL EMPOWERMENT**

**October 23, 2020  
1:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.**

**Speakers' Bios**

**Welcome**

**Rudy Brioché  
Vice President and Policy Counsel, Global Public Policy  
Comcast Corporation  
Chair, Digital Empowerment and Inclusion Working Group**



Rudy N. Brioché serves as Vice President for Global Public Policy and Policy Counsel for Comcast Corporation. In this role he focuses on the development of the company's public policy positions and legislative analysis.

Prior to joining Comcast, Rudy served as Legal Advisor to Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein at the

Federal Communications Commission and Legislative Counsel to U.S. Senator Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ). In these roles, he focused on media and broadband policy.

Earlier in his career, Rudy practiced law as a commercial litigator in New York City and Baltimore, and served as Counsel to the Washington Bureau of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. He also clerked for Judge André Davis on the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland and Chief Judge Robert Bell on the Maryland Court of Appeals.

Rudy received a B.A. from Rutgers College, a J.D. from the University of Maryland, and an M.A. in Public Policy from Harvard Kennedy School.

**Sanford Williams**  
**Director**  
**Office of Communications Business Opportunities**  
**Federal Communications Commission**



Sanford has worked as an attorney and in various other roles at the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) since 1999. Mr. Williams is currently the Director for the FCC's Office of Communications Business Opportunities. Mr. Williams has also worked as an attorney for Womble, Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, and taught at Augusta State University in Augusta, Georgia. Sanford is a member of the Virginia Bar and the Georgia Bar.

Sanford has been married to Dr. Anastasia Williams for 31 years and they have three children: Kiara Imani Williams, Esq. (University of Virginia (UVA) '11; UVA Law '15); Dr. Sanford Johnathan Scott Williams (UVA '13; Boston U. M.Med.'15; Wake Forest Medical School '19); and Nia CC Williams (UVA '21).

Sanford graduated from Newark Academy in New Jersey in 1983 and then enrolled at Cornell University at the age of 15, where he earned his Undergraduate Degree in Operations Research & Industrial Engineering and an MBA from the Johnson School of Management. He later attended UVA's School of Law and earned a J.D. in 1996. At UVA, he was a member of the Virginia Law Review.

Sanford was elected to the Manassas City, Virginia School Board in 2010 and has served as a member for ten years, and the Chair since 2018. Mr. Williams is the first African-American Chairman of the Manassas City School Board. Mr. Williams serves on numerous Boards and Committees including the Keitt Institute in Atlanta, the University of Virginia Physicians Group, and the University of Virginia Parents Committee.

## **FCC Chairman Ajit Pai**



Ajit Pai is the Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission. He was designated Chairman by President Donald J. Trump in January 2017. He had previously served as Commissioner at the FCC, appointed by then-President Barack Obama and confirmed unanimously by the United States Senate in May 2012.

### **Regulatory Philosophy**

Chairman Pai's regulatory philosophy is informed by a few simple principles. Rules that reflect these principles will result in more innovation, more investment, better products and services, lower prices, more job creation, and faster economic growth.

- Consumers benefit most from competition, not preemptive regulation. Free markets have delivered more value to American consumers than highly regulated ones.
- No regulatory system should indulge arbitrage; regulators should be skeptical of pleas to regulate rivals, dispense favors, or otherwise afford special treatment.
- Particularly given how rapidly the communications sector is changing, the FCC should do everything it can to ensure that its rules reflect the realities of the current marketplace and basic principles of economics.
- As a creature of Congress, the FCC must respect the law as set forth by the legislature.
- The FCC is at its best when it proceeds on the basis of consensus; good communications policy knows no partisan affiliation.

### **Selected Issues**

#### Broadband

Broadband is critical in modern American life. Especially when it comes to innovation, the Internet has leveled the playing field. It's created a phenomenon that Chairman Pai calls the "democratization of entrepreneurship." With a good idea and a broadband connection, entrepreneurs anywhere can compete in ways unthinkable a generation ago.

Yet too many Americans still don't have broadband. They are left on the other side of the "digital divide." Chairman Pai has seen this for himself, from Barrow, Alaska to Fayetteville, West Virginia. That's why he has proposed a comprehensive plan to promote broadband deployment to all Americans. The federal government must make it easier for broadband providers to retire increasingly obsolete copper lines in favor of next-generation technologies like fiber. It must enable rural residents to have the same choice for stand-alone broadband typically found in cities. It must create a roadmap for state and local governments so that companies that want to compete in the broadband market don't have to jump through unnecessary regulatory hoops in order to lay fiber to consumers. It must promote common-sense policies like "Dig Once" and reform pole attachment rules to reduce the costs of building digital networks. It must streamline the process for deploying wireless infrastructure, from big towers to small cells. It must free up more licensed spectrum for use by wireless carriers and more unlicensed spectrum for things like Wi-Fi. And it must preserve Internet freedom here and abroad, so that the online world can flourish free from heavy-handed government intervention.

#### First Amendment

Chairman Pai has been an outspoken defender of First Amendment freedoms. When the FCC proposed to send researchers into newsrooms to question why reporters cover some stories and not others, Chairman Pai sounded the alarm. Soon after, the FCC canceled the study. Chairman Pai has also spoken out about threats to free speech here and abroad and has warned against government efforts to regulate the marketplace of ideas.

#### Public Safety

Public safety is a top priority for Chairman Pai. He took action to ensure that consumers can reach emergency services whenever they dial 911. He has also called on the FCC to help law enforcement combat the rising threat posed by contraband cellphones in our jails and prisons. And he's pushed for the advancement of Next Generation 911, an Internet-based system which will help keep Americans safe.

#### Fiscal Responsibility

Chairman Pai has fought to eliminate waste, fraud, and abuse in federal programs. He was the first commissioner to demand an end to corporate welfare in a recent major spectrum auction; the agency ultimately agreed, saving taxpayers over \$3 billion. He has been outspoken against the waste, fraud, and abuse in the Lifeline program, leading an investigation into the issue. And he wants to make sure that every federal program under the FCC's purview gets the most bang for the buck.

#### Taking the Initiative and Getting Results

In addition to the accomplishments mentioned above, Chairman Pai was the first member of the FCC in over two decades to call for revitalizing the AM radio band; the basic reforms he proposed were adopted in 2015. He also urged the FCC to create a task force to study the "Internet Protocol Transition" and report on obsolete rules that could be repealed; that task force was created. He proposed a way for the FCC to address petitions filed by the public much more quickly; that "rocket docket" is now in place and has dramatically sped up the agency's decision-making. With respect to outside review and oversight, in at least half a dozen high-profile cases in which he dissented, federal courts of appeals have

upheld his position. And in other such cases, one or both Houses of Congress has passed legislation consistent with his position.

### **Biographical Information**

Jenner & Block, LLP. Partner, 2011 – 2012

Federal Communications Commission. Deputy General Counsel, Associate General Counsel, and Special Advisor to the General Counsel, 2007 – 2011

U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, Chief Counsel, Chairman Sam Brownback, Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights, and Property Rights, 2005-2007

U.S. Department of Justice. Senior Counsel, Office of Legal Policy, 2004 – 2005

U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, Deputy Chief Counsel, Chairman Jeff Sessions, Subcommittee on Administrative Oversight and the Court, 2003-2004

Verizon Communications Inc. Associate General Counsel, 2001 – 2003

U.S. Department of Justice. Trial Attorney (Attorney General's Honors Program), Antitrust Division, Telecommunications Task Force, 1998 – 2001

Hon. Martin L.C. Feldman, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana. Law Clerk, 1997 – 1998

Chairman Pai graduated with honors from Harvard University in 1994 and from the University of Chicago Law School in 1997, where he was an editor of the University of Chicago Law Review and won the Thomas R. Mulroy Prize. In 2010, Pai was one of 55 individuals nationwide chosen for the 2011 Marshall Memorial Fellowship, a leadership development initiative of the German Marshall Fund of the United States.

The son of immigrants from India, Chairman Pai grew up in Parsons, Kansas. He now lives in Arlington, Virginia, with his wife, Janine; son, Alexander; and daughter, Annabelle.

**Anna M. Gomez**  
**Partner, Wiley Rein LLP**  
**Representing Hispanic National Bar Association**  
**Chair, Advisory Committee on Diversity and Digital Empowerment**



The former National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) Deputy Administrator, Anna specializes in a wide range of spectrum licensing issues and regulatory, policy, and transactional matters related to domestic and international telecommunications and unmanned aircraft systems. Anna also served for 12 years in various positions at the FCC, including Senior Legal Advisor to then-Chairman William E. Kennard and Deputy Chief of the International Bureau, where she developed and implemented Commission policy on international telecommunications and satellite spectrum. Anna is co-chair of Wiley's Unmanned Aircraft Systems Practice Group and chairs Wiley's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee.

**Jon Berroya**  
**Interim CEO and President**  
**Internet Association**



Jon Berroya is Internet Association's (IA) Interim President and CEO. Berroya remains IA's General Counsel, and in that capacity, he is responsible for leading the association's legal, public policy, and regulatory initiatives, which seek to foster innovation, promote economic growth, and empower people through the free and open internet.

Berroya has been working on technology-related legal and policy issues for over 20 years, during which he has advised companies on a wide range of issues, including: data security/privacy, intellectual property enforcement, and export controls. Before joining IA, Berroya was the Entertainment Software Association's Vice President, Legal Affairs. Berroya also previously worked for BSA | The Software Alliance, he served as in-house counsel to Yahoo! Inc., and he also represented prominent social networking sites, internet portals, and ISPs as a private practitioner. Berroya began his legal career as an Assistant District Attorney in the New York County District Attorney's Office.



**S. Jenell Trigg, Esq.**

**Member, Lerman Senter PLLC**

**Representing Wireless Internet Service Providers Association**

**Co-Lead, Digital Empowerment Subgroup, Digital Empowerment and Inclusion Working Group, ACDDE**



S. Jenell Trigg, a former broadcast television sales and marketing executive spanning a sixteen-year advertising career in the Chicago and Baltimore markets is Chair of Lerman Senter PLLC's Privacy and Data Security Practice. In addition to her varied regulatory and policy practice in the broadcast, wireless, cable, and telecommunications industries, Ms. Trigg specializes in privacy and data security issues, intellectual property concerns, and government regulation of the Internet and new technologies. She is accredited as a Certified Information Privacy Professional (CIPP) through the International Association of Privacy Professionals.

Ms. Trigg is also a recognized authority on small business, women and minority telecommunications business issues from an industry, regulatory, and legislative perspective, and has worked with all previous FCC Federal Advisory Committees on Diversity as a consultant and/or subject matter expert.

Prior to private practice, Ms. Trigg served as Assistant Chief Counsel for Telecommunications for the Office of Advocacy, U. S. Small Business Administration, where she directed Advocacy's involvement in all telecommunications and Internet issues and proceedings before the FCC, other federal and state government agencies, the White House, and Congress. She was also the first Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer for The Telecom Opportunity Institute, a non-profit corporation that promoted career and training opportunities in telecommunications for disadvantaged youth, minorities and women.

While in law school, Ms. Trigg worked at the FCC as a law clerk to Commissioners Rachelle B. Chong and

Susan Ness, and as the Senior Telecommunications Policy Analyst for the Office of Communications Business Opportunities. She received a B.S. in Science in Speech from Northwestern University and a J.D., *magna cum laude*, from The Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law. She also has a certification in communications law, with honors, from CUA's Institute for Communications Law Studies.

## **Session I: Show Me the Money! Traditional and Alternative Sources of Capital**

### **Moderator**

#### **Clint Odom**

**Senior Vice President for Policy and Advocacy and Washington Bureau Executive Director  
National Urban League  
Member, Startup Subgroup, Diversity in the Tech Sector Working Group, ACDDE**



Clint Odom currently serves as the National Urban League's Senior Vice President for Policy & Advocacy and Executive Director of the Washington Bureau. Odom previously served for a decade in the United States Senate as legislative director for Senator Kamala D. Harris of California, Democratic General Counsel of the Committee on Commerce, Science & Transportation, and General Counsel to Senator Bill Nelson of Florida.

Odom also served as a senior advisor at the Federal Communications Commission and practiced law at the firm Dow, Lohnes & Albertson (now Cooley LLP). Odom served as law clerk to the Honorable Henry T. Wingate of the U.S. District Court of the Southern District of Mississippi and is a graduate of Louisiana State University and the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

## Remarks

**William M. Manger, Jr.**  
**Chief of Staff and Associate Administrator**  
**Office of Capital Access**  
**US Small Business Administration**



William Manger serves as the Chief of Staff and the Associate Administrator for the Office of Capital Access at the U.S Small Business Administration. The Office of Capital Access helps make funding available through banks and other lending partners to small business that cannot otherwise obtain loans. After being appointed by Administrator McMahon in March 2017, Manger has taken responsibility over the SBA's loan program policy, technology, operations and oversight. This includes SBA's flagship 7(a) and 504 loan programs, the microloan program and the surety bond program. As Associate Administrator, Manger manages a \$120 billion portfolio of direct and guaranteed loans, nine operation centers, and 560

employees of SBA's Office of Capital Access.

Prior to his current SBA appointment, Manger served as Managing Director at Brock Capital Group, a boutique Investment bank in New York City, where he advised and supported small-to-medium sized enterprises in their efforts to raise capital and expand their businesses. From 2007 to 2009, Manger served as Associate Administrator for Field Operations at SBA. He first came to SBA in 2005 to serve as Regional Administrator for Region 2, based in New York City. Manger holds an MBA from Columbia Business School and a BA from Trinity College in Hartford, CT.

## **Panelists**

**Jesús Borboa**  
**Supplier Diversity Manager**  
**PayPal**



Jesús is a veteran supplier diversity professional with extensive experience in the public and private sectors. In the public sector, Jesús worked in municipal, state and federal supplier diversity programs. In the private sector, Jesús worked in the energy industry for 10 years with Arizona Public Service. Under his tenure, he was able to grow the spend levels for diverse businesses from \$123M to eventually more than \$400M.

Currently, Jesús works for PayPal and is responsible for establishing and implementing their national supplier diversity program. PayPal is committed to democratizing financial services and empowering people and businesses to join and thrive in the global economy. Supplier diversity is a logical and natural extension of the company's commitment to diversity.

Borboa's career has allowed him to participate on many boards that are directly related to supplier diversity and focused on diverse communities. Currently, he sits on the Board of Director's for WBEC-West. In addition to his undergraduate degree, Jesús was awarded his master's degree in Public Administration from the University of Colorado.

**Melissa Bradley**  
**Founder and Managing Member**  
**1863 Ventures**

**Melissa L. Bradley** is a co-founder of venture-backed Ureeka, a community where small businesses gain unprecedented access to the expertise needed to grow their business. The Ureeka mission is to democratize economic opportunity by enabling community and by reducing the cost and risk associated with growing a small to medium business (SMB). She is also founder and Managing Partner of 1863 Ventures, a business development program that accelerates New Majority entrepreneurs from high potential to high growth. In this role she created a community of over 10,000 New Majority entrepreneurs in three years. Melissa is a Venture Partner at NextGen Ventures and serves an advisor the New Voices Foundation and New Voices Fund, as well as the Halcyon Fund. Melissa is the former Co-Chair, National Advisory Council for Innovation and Entrepreneurship and was recently named one of The Most Entrepreneurial Women Investors in 2018.

Melissa is a professor at the McDonough School of Business at Georgetown University where she teaches impact investing, social entrepreneurship, P2P economies and innovation. She recently received The Ideas Worth Teaching Award which celebrates exceptional courses that are preparing future business leaders to tackle society's largest challenges and create a more inclusive, just, and sustainable version of capitalism. She is also a Co-Founder and Managing Partner of Sidecar Social Finance, a social impact agency that provides impact investing advisory and capital services to individuals, institutions, and social enterprises.

Melissa currently serves as board chair for My Way to Credit (MWTC) and board member for AEO. She is a Founding Advisor to the Dell Center for Entrepreneurs as well as a Senator with the Board of Governors at Georgetown University.

**Marcelino Ford-Levine**  
**Managing Director**  
**Intel Capital**



Marcelino Ford-Livene is Managing Director of Portfolio Management and Executive-in-Residence for Intel Capital. In this capacity, he provides consulting support to portfolio companies. He also manages assets in the portfolio and provides leadership to Intel's diversity initiative fund investments and accelerator programs.

Marcelino joined Intel in 2006 and has held a variety of senior leadership and operational roles throughout his career. Prior to Intel Capital, he was the General Manager and Director of Worldwide Corporate Affairs. In this role, he led a global organization tasked with building global alliances with private sector and elected government officials and policymakers, managing all digital platform and content development/technical operations, and creating and executing global programs that aligned to and supported Intel's growth strategy in key areas such as autonomous systems, AR/VR, data visualization/analytics, and the application of IOT in agriculture, logistics and manufacturing.

His previous roles include General Manager of New Channels and Advanced Advertising for OnCue at Intel Media as well as General Manager of the Advanced Advertising Group in the Digital Home Group. He has co-authored patents on TV viewership analytics and advanced advertising behavioral targeting. Prior to Intel, he was a senior member of the M&A and Corporate Development Group at Gemstar-TV

Guide; held senior positions with the Federal Communications Commission including Special Counsel for New Media Policy; and worked as a corporate law associate at the law firm of Hill, Farrer and Burrill. Marcelino has served as the Division Chairman of the Interactive Media Division for the American Bar Association's Forum on the Entertainment and Sports Industries, eight years as a board member of the TV Academy, a board observer of Intel Capital portfolio company Delivery Agent, and TRA Global (acquired by TiVO). He also serves on the advisory board of the Digital Diversity Network. He holds an undergraduate degree in Economics from UC San Diego and a JD/MBA from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.



**Dr. Francis C. Spampinato**  
**Associate Administrator**  
**Office of Government Contracting and Business Development**  
**US Small Business Administration**



Dr. Francis (Frank) Spampinato currently serves as the Associate Administrator of Government Contracting and Business Development (GC/BD) at the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). His team supports thousands of small businesses every year as they compete for over \$500 billion in federal prime contracts and billions more in subcontracts. In his current role, Dr. Spampinato is responsible for overseeing the Agency's offices of Size Standards, HUBZone, Business Development, which includes the 8(a) and All Small Mentor Protégé Programs, and the Office of Government Contracting which includes the Women-Owned Small Business Program.

Dr. Spampinato is a seasoned leader with over twenty-five years of experience as a professional administrator, including eight years as a Senior Executive in the federal government. He has served as the Chief Procurement Officer for the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Director, Acquisition and Contracting for the Federal Aviation Administration and the Chief Acquisition Officer at the Department of Energy. He brings in-depth knowledge, experience, and leadership in customer service, strategic planning, and program execution to his current role.

Dr. Spampinato earned a Juris Doctorate from Catholic University, a Doctorate and Master's in public administration from the University of Southern California, a Master's in Science in Public Administration from Central Michigan University, and a Bachelor's in Accounting from Siena College.

**Yanki Tshering**  
**Executive Director**  
**Business Center for New Americans**



Yanki Tshering founded BCNA as a department of the New York Association for New Americans (NYANA) in 1997. Her leadership was key as BCNA transitioned into an independent entity in 2009. Ms. Tshering is responsible for developing and directing all of BCNA's programs, including the Microloan Fund, Individual Development Account Program for Refugees, Home Ownership Program, and all technical assistance program offerings. Ms. Tshering also oversees BCNA's relationships with financial ending institutions, city and state agencies, and nonprofit organizations. She received her M.A. in International Affairs from Columbia University. Under Ms. Tshering's leadership, BCNA became an SBA Intermediary Microloan Lender, was certified as a CDFI by the U.S. Department of the Treasury, and was approved as a Community Advantage (CA) Lender by the SBA. In 2012, Mayor Bloomberg of New York City presented Ms. Tshering with the American Dreamer Award for Business Leadership. Ms. Tshering is a founding board member of the NY State CDFI Coalition and on the Advisory Board of the New York City Neighborhood Capital Corporation (NYCNCC) of NYEDC, that utilizes the New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) program to make low-interest loans to community development projects like schools, health care centers, community facilities and grocery stores in low-income communities; serves on the Advisory Board of the Loan Fund of the Credit Builders Alliance (CBA), and also on the National Advisory Committee of IRC's Center for Economic Opportunity (CEO).

**Sonja Wells**  
**Chief Lending Officer**  
**City First Bank**



Sonja Sanders Wells is a Sr. Vice President and Interim Chief Lending Officer for City First Bank and trusted advisor to numerous business and not for profit clients. Sonja has been instrumental in successfully growing and expanding the bank's loan, deposit and cash management portfolio for the past 5 years. She has been providing businesses with targeted financial recommendations and resources regarding lending, deposits and treasury management and investment strategies for over 21 years in the DMV. Sonja provides clients with the necessary tools to strategically grow their balance sheet and increase their cash flow and banking efficiencies. She has over 30 years of experience in Commercial lending and financial consulting. Sonja currently manages a bank portfolio of \$200 Million.

City First Bank has been serving its community for over 25 years and is a nationally chartered CDFI and Certified B Corporation doing business in the DMV, Delaware and Pennsylvania and specializes in Affordable Housing, Non-Profits, Charter Schools, Community Facilities and Small Business lending and financial services.

Prior to joining City First Bank; Sonja was a Vice President and Senior Relationship Manager at M&T and Business Banker for First Union Bank now known as Wells Fargo.

Sonja specializes in Commercial Lending and financial consulting for businesses with revenue and sales volume under \$100 Million and is an expert in customizing commercial credit facilities specific to client needs and industry segments; inclusive of leverage and leverage source loans in NMTC transactions. <sup>P</sup><sub>SEP</sub> Prior to her Commercial Banking and Real Estate career, Sonja was a Shopping Center Leasing Executive for the Taubman Company in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, a Marketing Executive for the Rouse Company in Columbia, Maryland and a Retail Buyer and Executive for several high-end retail specialty stores along

the East Coast.

Sonja is a member of the African American Real Estate Professionals and Southeast Community Development Corporation's Board of Directors, the Real Estate Council for Friends of Choice in Urban Schools and the Maryland Casino Business Investment Fund's (MCBIF) Loan Committee. Sonja is active in several professional and community organizations throughout the DMV.

Sonja is the Immediate Past Chair of the Board of Directors for the Baltimore City Community College Foundation and was formerly the Vice President of the Butcher's Hill Neighborhood Association's Executive Board, member of the loan committee for Maryland's Department of Housing and Community Development's Neighborhood Business Works program, the United Way of Central Maryland's Marketing Committee, Howard County Hospital's Marketing Committee, the Columbia Association's Marketing Committee and numerous other philanthropic and community organizations.

Sonja is a graduate of Boise State University with extensive certifications, training and experience in Commercial Banking and Real Estate, Marketing, Retail Management and Buying.

Sonja and her husband of 24 years reside in the District of Columbia. Her husband, Ernest N. Wells, Jr. is Department Head and Systems Engineer/ Electronic Engineer for the U. S. Department of the Navy in Washington, D.C.

## Remarks

**Sean Perryman**

**Director, Social Impact Policy and Counsel Internet Association**

**Member, Supplier Diversity Subgroup, Diversity in the Tech Sector Working Group, ACDDE**



Sean Perryman is the Director of Social Impact Policy and Counsel at Internet Association. He is responsible for leading IA's policy efforts around artificial intelligence (AI), diversity, inclusion, and immigration-related policies at the local, state, and federal level.

Prior to joining IA, Sean served as Counsel on the House Oversight Committee, Democratic staff where he conducted investigations and advised on technology policy including AI, cybersecurity, and privacy issues. Before working on the Oversight Committee, Sean practiced civil litigation both in Texas and D.C. Outside of work, he is the President of the Fairfax County NAACP—the youngest President in the branch's 102-year history. He also just declared his candidacy for Lieutenant Governor of Virginia.

Sean earned his B.A. from City University of New York- Baruch College. He received his J.D. from Vanderbilt University Law School.

**Dr. Nicol Turner Lee**  
**Senior Fellow and Director**  
**Brookings Institution Center for Technology Innovation – Governance Studies**  
**Chair, Diversity in the Tech Sector Working Group**



Dr. Nicol Turner Lee is a senior fellow in Governance Studies, the director of the Center for Technology Innovation, and serves as Co-Editor-In-Chief of TechTank. Dr. Turner Lee researches public policy designed to enable equitable access to technology across the U.S. and to harness its power to create change in communities across the world. Her work also explores global and domestic broadband deployment and internet governance issues. She is an expert on the intersection of race, wealth, and technology within the context of civic engagement, criminal justice, and economic development. Her current research portfolio also includes artificial intelligence (AI), particularly machine learning algorithms and their unintended consequences on marginalized communities. Her recent co-authored paper on the subject has made her a sought-out speaker in the U.S. and around the world on the topics of digital futures, AI and ethics, algorithmic bias, and the intersection between technology and civil/human rights. She is also an expert on topics that include online privacy, 5G networks and the digital divide. Dr. Turner Lee has a forthcoming book on the U.S. digital divide titled *Digitally Invisible: How the Internet is Creating the New Underclass* (forthcoming 2021, Brookings Press). She sits on various U.S. federal agency and civil society boards. Dr. Turner Lee has a Ph.D. and M.A. from Northwestern University and graduated from Colgate University.

**Session II: How to Pivot in a COVID-19 World: Opportunities and Reinvention Strategies for Diverse Communications Businesses**

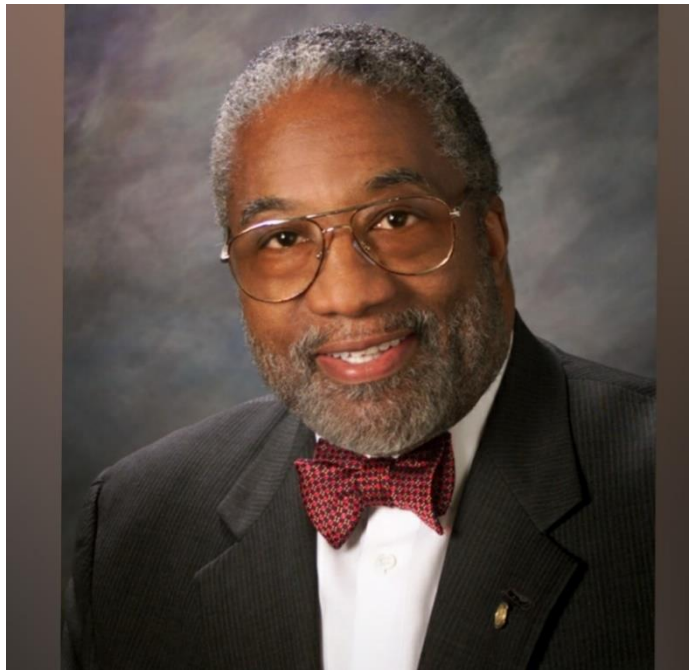
**Moderator**

**Dr. Ron Johnson**

**Chief Subject Matter Expert – Diversity and Inclusion**

**The Wireless Infrastructure Association**

**Lead, Supplier Diversity Subgroup, Diversity in the Tech Sector Working Group, ACDDE**



Ronald Johnson serves the Wireless Infrastructure Association (WIA) as external Senior Advisor and Chief Strategist, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, and SME on higher education, workforce development and supplier diversity. He is serving his 5<sup>th</sup> 4-year term as an appointed Commissioner of the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority. He is Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Multicultural Media, Telecom and Internet Council, and serving his 5<sup>th</sup> two-year Chairman's appointment to an FCC diversity advisory committee.

In higher education, Dr. Johnson served as chair of a university board of trustees, president of a university foundation, president a religious foundation, industry board director of a university research foundation, and served as adjunct professor at the renowned Institute for Urban Affairs and Research. Dr. Johnson has authored studies and reports and convened many sessions and panels on supplier diversity, workforce and economic development.

As an entrepreneur, Johnson founded and for twenty-five years managed successful engineering services, infrastructure and logistics companies that supported the CAPEX requirements of the telecommunications industry, and the government sector. In retirement, he advises on mergers,

acquisitions, business strategies and capital formation for emerging and established businesses in communication and related industries. He is firmly committed to eradicate barriers to entrance for minority entrepreneurs across industry sectors.

Dr. Johnson served in appointed positions during the term of five Virginia Governors, including: Rector, Virginia State University Board of Visitors; Vice-Chairman (first African American), Virginia Board of Agriculture and Consumer Services; Member, Virginia Highway Transportation Advisory Board; Virginia's Representative to the Southern Technology Council; Advisor, Virginia Alcohol & Beverage Control Board's Technology Group; and, Co-founder and Chair, The Governor's Partnership for a Drug Free Virginia, Inc.

His Business Citations include: "Top 25 Blacks in Technology" by Black Enterprise Magazine; Virginia's Outstanding Business; Virginia's Small Business "Best of the Best"; and, SBA Small Business Award.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts, Political Science, Virginia State University; Master of Arts (*Danforth Fellow*) University of Cincinnati; Master of Education with business concentration, Xavier University (Ohio); further studies at University of Michigan, Institute for Labor Relations; New School of Social Research; the University of Virginia and University of Cincinnati Schools of Law; and, awarded the Doctorate in Humane Letters, Virginia State University.

In higher education, he has received university's highest awards and honors, to include NAFEO Distinguished HBCU Alumnus Award, University President's Vintage Award, Friend of the University Award, Renaissance Award for Outstanding Philanthropy, induction to the Football Sports Hall of Fame, and Outstanding Service Award for Seven Years as Rector Board of Trustees.

Johnson is serving in his twenty-sixth year on the governing board of historic Alfred Street Baptist Church, Alexandria, Va. Captain Johnson received an Honorable Discharge of his military duties from the U.S. Army Quartermaster Corp.



## Remarks

**Marc Morial**  
**President and CEO**  
**National Urban League**



Marc Morial, who has been described as one of the few national leaders to possess “street smarts”, and “boardroom savvy”, is the current President and CEO of the National Urban League, the nation’s largest historic civil rights and urban advocacy organization.

He served as the highly successful and popular Mayor of New Orleans as well as the President of the U.S. Conference of Mayors. He previously was a Louisiana State Senator and was a lawyer in New Orleans with an active, high profile practice.

He is a leading voice on the national stage in the battle for jobs, education, housing and voting rights equity.

A graduate of Georgetown University Law Center, and the University of Pennsylvania, he has been recognized as one of the 100 most influential Black Americans by Ebony Magazine, one of the top 50 Non Profit Leaders by the Non Profit Times, one of the 100 Most Influential Black Lawyers in America and he has also been inducted into the International Civil Rights Walk of Fame in Atlanta, GA.

## Panelists

**Anita Stephens Graham**

**Maryland Market Manager, Arctaris Impact Fund**

**Advisor, *Heart and Soul Magazine***



Anita S. Graham is the Baltimore Business Development Manager and Maryland Market Manager for Arctaris Impact Investors and oversees opportunities that fits the investment strategy of Arctaris primarily in Maryland and Washington, DC. . In that capacity, she sources and reviews opportunities, negotiates term sheets, and oversees the investments to exit. Arctaris Impact Investors, a 10-year fund, focuses on investments in opportunity zones and businesses that have an impact in communities that are underserved. Arctaris has pioneered an innovative capital structure, blending public capital from federal and state government agencies with private capital from institutional investors, foundations and CRA banks.

Ms. Graham is also a co-founder and Managing Director of Graham Communications, Inc. d/b/a Graham & Associates, a company formed to provide financial and administrative advisory services to businesses. Graham & Associates has assembled and partnered with a network of professionals, experienced in assisting management teams in developing processes to meet operational and financial objectives, identifying the appropriate source of capital to support the management team's goals, and performing internal operational and financial audits to insure that the goals are being met. Graham & Associates is experienced in private equity, mergers and acquisitions, management buyouts and senior/mezzanine debt financing. Recently Ms. Graham expanded her operations and became a Managing Director of Commodities Ventures LLC, a company formed to engage in trading and investment activities, primarily

focused on petroleum products.

Anita Stephens Graham served as a General Partner of Opportunity Capital Partners (“OCP”), a private equity firm (that also included an SBIC and an SSBIC) with \$135 million of capital under management that focused on providing later stage growth equity to companies primarily in the telecommunications, media, industrial services and healthcare industries. As a private equity investor with over 25 years’ experience, Ms. Graham has made direct investments in an array of sectors leading transactions that total in excess of \$300.0 million. In her capacity as a Partner, Ms. Graham did fundraising for OCP IV, sourced transactions, structured and negotiated term sheets, and actively oversaw the investments until a liquidity event. Prior to joining OCP, Ms. Graham served as the President of Renaissance Capital Corporation, a company that provided equity to small middle market companies in diversified industries. Ms. Graham also formerly held banking and management positions at Manufacturers Hanover Trust, Benton & Bowles, and Prudential Insurance Company.

Ms. Graham has served on the board of directors of several of OCP’s portfolio companies. She is the former Chairman of the National Association of Investment Companies, the trade association and the largest network of diverse owned and merging manager private equity funds and hedge funds, who collectively manage more than \$50 billion in capital. She also served on the Advisory Board and was a founding board member of Pacific Community Ventures, a fund with over \$40 million of capital under management that targets markets primarily in California. Ms. Graham also served as a board member of the Maryland Small Business Development Financing Authority which provides financing to small business throughout the state of Maryland. Ms. Graham is a frequent speaker on panels involving capital raising for businesses sponsored by organizations including the FCC’s Office of Communications Business Opportunities and the National Association of Investment Companies. She serves as a dean and speaker for the National Association of Broadcasters’ (“NAB”) Broadcast Leadership Training Academy. Ms. Graham has a BA in Economics from Cornell University and an Executive MBA from Golden Gate University.

**Ajamu Johnson**  
**Vice President, Procurement**  
**Comcast Corporation**



As Vice President of Procurement for Comcast, Ajamu leads an enterprise-wide team focused on responsible sourcing activities for one of the world's leading providers of media and entertainment. His group is responsible for establishing corporate policy, strategy and objectives to maximize supplier diversity and sustainability with Comcast's vendor partners. Additionally, he leads negotiations with Comcast's value-added resellers, and supports the Xfinity Retail and Freewheel organizations.

In 2015, after consecutive years of economic impact growth, Comcast became the first media and technology company to be inducted into the prestigious Billion Dollar Roundtable. From 2008 to 2013, Mr. Johnson led vendor diversity and inclusion activities for Comcast's cable division. He worked closely with the executive team to establish an unprecedented series of diversity and inclusion-related voluntary public commitments in connection with the successful completion of Comcast's acquisition of NBCUniversal.

In his previous position at the Urban Affairs Coalition he was instrumental in assisting several organizations in fulfilling economic development plans for commercial real estate projects.

Mr. Johnson earned a degree in Commerce and Engineering from Drexel University; and was named to Drexel's inaugural 40 Under 40 list. He is a graduate of UCLA's Executive Leadership Development Program, the Leadership Philadelphia CORE Program, and was recognized by Bank of America as a Neighborhood Builder Emerging leader. He received the Trailblazer Award from the National Association of Multi-Ethnicity in Communications (NAMIC). Currently he serves on the advisory boards for the Women's Business Enterprise National Council, the Billion Dollar Roundtable and the Philadelphia Conventions and Visitors Bureau.

Joyce Christanio  
Senior Program Manager, Supplier Diversity  
T-Mobile USA



Joyce, a 30-year legacy Sprint veteran, served as Sprint's Manager of Supplier Diversity January 2009 through April 1, 2020. In this role she supported corporate business leaders in their efforts to meet supplier diversity goals and wrote annual Filings submitted to the California Public Utility Commission (CPUC) and General Services Administration (GSA). Additionally, Joyce cohesively aligned with the Sales Proposal team to ensure customer's diverse utilization goals were achieved in Proposal opportunities **to WIN business**. As of April 1, 2020, Sprint merged with T-Mobile at which time Joyce was named T-Mobile's Sr. Program Manager, Supplier Diversity.

Under Joyce's leadership, at legacy Sprint, the company achieved its' first-ever corporate supplier diversity spend goal. While Joyce and Sprint have received several notable recognitions in the Supplier Diversity area, she is especially proud of her 2017 recognition, ***as one of 20 Best of the Best Wonder Women of Diversity by the Professional Woman's Magazine, alongside Michelle Obama, Beyoncé, Admiral Michelle Howard, Suze Orman and others.***

In 2013, Joyce was inspired to author and self-publish the book "**Dressing Classy Doesn't Change**" which provides women a few do's and don'ts of professional workplace attire.

**Joyce's favorite Quote:** "Remember to send the elevator back down to a less fortunate individual upon achieving career success." Joyce holds a BS degree in management.

**David Reaves**

**Director - Partnerships and Professional Services, Public Sector  
Verizon Business Group**



David Reaves is a 27-year veteran of The Verizon Business Group and has worked in a variety of capacities across Sales, Marketing and Business Development. Over the years David has held a variety of roles of increasing responsibility to include leadership positions across both the Enterprise and Federal sectors.

David currently leads The Verizon Public Sector Partnerships and Professional Services Business Development, and Contracts Strategy Team in support of Verizon Public Sector \$3B Business Unit. In this role, David has overall revenue and growth responsibility for Verizon's Public Sector Consulting and Staff Augmentation business. David manages all of Verizon's Partner relationships and makes strategic teaming decisions in support of a 15 year \$50B ceiling government contract IDIQ.

David manages \$180M professional services business supported by the creation of a 150+ Partner ecosystem of both small and large businesses designed to drive consulting engagements, equipment resale and engineering support services.

David partners with Sales in a Business Development capacity to identify targeted agency opportunities based on requirements alignment and funding initiatives. He also identifies new partners, negotiates teaming agreements and provides competitive and business intelligence to develop capture, pursuit and teaming strategies for large complex government procurements.

David reports to Verizon's VP of Business Development, and works closely with Verizon's VP Legal, Corporate Sourcing, Operations, and Finance leadership to execute sales and delivery strategies to meet Federal Agency requirements along with Annual Verizon Bookings and Revenue growth objectives.

David is a graduate of St. Joseph's University with a BS degree in Food Marketing and has the distinction of being named The Large Business Contractor of the Year in 2016 by The Dept. of Treasury's Small Business Office.

Today, David lives with his wife and family in Fairfax, Va. He is an active member of his community,

church, sits on the board of Helping Hungry Kids of Northern Va. and is a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc.

**Melynnie Rizvi**

**Deputy General Counsel, Senior Director of Employment, Inclusion, and Impact  
SurveyMonkey**



Melynnie Rizvi is the Deputy General Counsel and Senior Director of Employment, Inclusion and Impact at SurveyMonkey, the world's largest online survey company, helping 100% of the Fortune 500—as well as academic institutions, small businesses, HR departments, and neighborhood soccer leagues everywhere—get the answers they need. In her role at SurveyMonkey, Ms. Rizvi provides strategic guidance to the Chief People Officer and People team, oversees the company's global employment law strategy, leads SurveyMonkey for Good, the company's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion and Social Impact initiative, and is a member of SurveyMonkey's Racial Justice Taskforce.

Prior to joining SurveyMonkey, Ms. Rizvi was a Senior Director, Global Employment, Litigation, Chief Sustainability & Diversity Officer, and Chief Compliance Officer at Veritas Technologies LLC, a leading global technology company headquartered in California. In her role at Veritas, Ms. Rizvi led the company's global employment law and litigation teams, managed the company's global compliance program, and drove strategy and program development for their Corporate Responsibility and Diversity and Inclusion initiatives.

Prior to joining Veritas, she was a Director of Global Employment Law at Symantec Corporation, where she also managed the company's global employment law team for over 20,000 employees. Prior to joining Symantec, she was a partner in the Employment Law Group at a leading national law firm, Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith and worked as an associate in the International Employment Law Group at Baker & McKenzie.



Ms. Rizvi is a passionate and authentic leader and a graduate of Northern California Grantmaker's Racial Equity Action Institute and The Leadership Consortium, Harvard Business School's Executive Leadership Acceleration Program. Ms. Rizvi was named Silicon Valley Business Journal's 2016 Employment Counsel of the Year and is an accomplished speaker on global employment law, corporate responsibility, and diversity and inclusion issues.

Ms. Rizvi currently serves as a Board Member for the non-profits Watermark and Fresh Lifelines for Youth (FLY) and served as a Board Member for Success Through Education Program (STEP) from 2014-2019. She also previously served as an Advisory Board Member for the Association of Corporate Counsel, Corporate Counsel University; and is currently the Silicon Valley Alumni Chapter President for the University of Alberta. Ms. Rizvi received her JD from the University of Alberta and has also received a Bachelors degree in Human Resources Management and Organizational Theory, also from the University of Alberta.

**Guylaine Saint Juste**  
**Managing Director**  
**Employer of Influence Strategy, Year Up**



Guylaine Saint Juste joined the Year Up team as the Executive Director of the National Capital Region in September 2015. As of April 2020, she serves as Managing Director, Employer of Influence Strategy where she focuses on the design, execution, and implementation of YearUp new strategic plan.

Guylaine is a passionate and spirited leader who believes that a culture of belonging is instrumental to high performance and growth. An activist at heart, Guy is tackling colorism in the workforce, the “4 year degree required” for entry level to middle skills jobs, pedigree as a barrier to entry for opportunity youth, and the inter-dependency of equity and economic mobility, just to name a few.

Under her leadership, Year Up National Capital Region grew from serving over 240 students in 2015 to almost 500 young adults by the end of 2019. The organization increased its revenue generation by over 30%, improved performance in every key area, grew its corporate partnerships base from 36 to 52, and developed a best in class board and leadership team to guide and lead the organization.

Prior to joining Year Up, Guy served as the Business Banking Virginia Market Executive at Capital One Bank where she led the development of a new start-up region. She counts 3 decades of experience in the Financial Services industry in senior and executive roles.

Guy holds an Associate’s Degree from Northern Virginia Community College, a Bachelor’s degree from George Mason University, a Graduate Degree in Retail Banking Management from the University of Virginia, and holds SHRM-SCP and CAE certifications.

She currently serves as an appointed commissioner to the Arlington Economic Development Authority, and has served on numerous board to include DC Goodwill, Adventure Theatre, Fairfax YMCA, Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Stafford, Loudon and Prince William County, the YMCA, DC Goodwill, and was the inaugural co-chair of Mason Women Business Consortium and the President and co-founder of the Women Alliance for Financial Education. She is a co-author of the anthropology “from

what if to what is.”

Guy lives in the Washington, DC area with her husband Jacky.

## Closing Remarks

**Susan Au Allen**

**National President and CEO**

**US Pan Asian American Chamber of Commerce Education Foundation**

**Co-Lead, Digital Empowerment Subgroup, Digital Empowerment & Inclusion Working Group**



Susan Au Allen came to the United States from Hong Kong on an invitation from the White House in recognition of her volunteer work for people with disabilities. She received her Juris Doctor from the Antioch School of Law and LL.M. in International Law from Georgetown University. During her 17 years with Paul Shearman Allen & Associates of Washington, DC and Hong Kong, she became nationally recognized for her work on immigration, international trade and investment.

Upon receiving her law degree in 1984, Susan founded the US Pan Asian American Chamber of Education Foundation (USPAACC) with a group of business and civic leaders in Washington, DC and California, to bring the diverse Pan Asian American business and professional people together as one unified voice in business, commerce and trade. In 2001, she won two Federal cases for her small business clients, took sabbatical leave from her law practice, and became USPAACC National President & CEO.

At USPAACC, Susan found her true calling in helping immigrants and new American citizens pursue their American Dreams through entrepreneurship and remained at USPAACC. Since then, she has changed the national landscape of minority business development and supplier diversity by adding thousands of qualified Pan Asian American businesses to the mainstream marketplace.

Susan also speaks Chinese (Cantonese and Mandarin) and writes Chinese fluently.

**Jamila Bess Johnson,  
Designated Federal Officer  
Advisory Committee on Diversity and Digital Empowerment  
Federal Communications Commission**