## RENA MIWAKO WHEATON

# **SENIOR CORPORATE EXECUTIVE**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Highly efficient, reliable and industrious **Senior Corporate Executive** with strong oral and written communications skills and extensive experience as a senior management team player advising fellow executives and clients on a wide variety of business and legal issues gained through years of exemplary service. An innovative, resourceful professional with extensive domestic and international business transactions experience, advisory skills and proven ability to meet deadlines, surpass targets and deliver results.

### **CORE COMPETENCIES**

- Strategic Planning & Organizational Leadership
- Team Leadership & Motivation
- Competitive & Market Analysis
- Project Management

- Complex Commercial Transactions
- Secured & Unsecured Lending
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- Litigation Management
- Regulatory Compliance

### RECENT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### LA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BANK, Los Angeles, CA

1996-2000

LACDB, the largest United States urban lending program in history, capitalized with \$435 million in U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funds

## Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary

General counsel chosen to advise the CEO and senior management regarding all legal matters including compliance with HUD regulations and guidelines, loan policy and documentation and litigation, and to advise the Board of Directors on governance and legal concerns.

- Managed the organization's venture capital program that generated \$25M of equity investments in businesses in the LA Empowerment Zone.
- Managed the organization's loan team tasked with sourcing and closing \$15M of loans to small businesses.
- Advised board of directors and individual directors on governance, board-management and community relations and public policy and compliance issues regarding deployment of federal funds.

### ZONE REACTOR, Los Angeles, CA

2000-2001

A market driven technology commercialization company that helps to bridge the gap between marketplace problems and developers of disruptive technology by working with commercial companies, R&D organizations, and the investor community

### Vice President and General Counsel

Senior executive responsible for all legal affairs including joint venture agreements with technology partners, establishment of new technology firms, consulting arrangements with entrepreneurs in residence, technology licensing, and raising capital investment.

- Guided negotiation and closing of joint venture technology transfer agreements with R&D organizations at Rockwell International, Lockheed Martin and California Institute of Technology.
- Advised board of directors on legal and corporate governance matters.

## TITAN CORPORATION AND TITAN WIRELESS, INC., San Diego, CA

2001-2005

Titan specializes in providing information and communications products, solutions and services for the U.S. Departments of Defense and Homeland Security and developing nations with 12,000 employees worldwide and \$2B in annual revenue

## Senior Vice President, Corporate Development and Legal Counsel

Senior executive appointed to examine technologies in the parent organization's patent portfolios for commercialization, and to handle all legal affairs of Titan Wireless including overseeing contracts with telecommunications providers in Benin, Nigeria and Guatemala and company acquisitions and sales of assets.

• Led technology commercialization efforts resulting in \$40M contract to provide eight electron beam irradiation systems and services to the United States Postal Service to sanitize mail feared to be contaminated with anthrax.

Recent Professional Experience (Continued)

- Spearheaded the renegotiation and settlement of a \$60M contract with the Government of Benin in West Africa for the configuration and installation of a GSM telecommunications network that services the Republic of Benin, and led the Titan team in diplomatically sensitive discussions with the President of Benin and its Prime Minister, telecommunications agency and trade unions, while working closely with the United States Ambassador to Benin.
- Supervised outside litigation counsel during defense of the company in a \$16M contract dispute with Alcatel before the International Arbitration Tribunal of the International Chamber of Commerce in Paris, France.
- Managed company internal investigation in U.S. and Benin made necessary by Securities and Exchange Commission and U.S. Department of Justice investigation of alleged Foreign Corrupt Practices Act violations, resulting in a \$28.5M settlement without admission or denial of allegations.

### GUTH CHRISTOPHER, LLP, Los Angeles, CA

2005-2007

Corporate law firm consisting of four experienced partners who specialized in structuring, negotiating and closing business transactions including business formation, financing, mergers and acquisitions, commercial contracts, and joint ventures

#### Partner

Essential partner charged with rendering legal counsel to corporations on business transactions including private equity financing, public offerings, secured and unsecured loans and purchase and sale of businesses, approaching each task with a rare combination of legal knowledge and practical business sense.

- Selected to represent Superconductor Technologies Inc. (STI) on an investment agreement pursuant to which Hunchun BaoLi Communication Co. Ltd. agreed to invest \$15M in STI in exchange for shares of STI's common stock at 5% premium over one-month average closing price.
- Chosen to represent Antone Wireless on a private equity investment of \$3.1M by Glenview Institutional Partners in exchange for Antone Series A preferred stock.
- Designated to represent Imaging Portals, Inc. in connection with the sale of patented technology company.

### THE WHEATON GROUP, Santa Monica, CA

2007-Present

Corporate law firm specializing in advising business clients, structuring, negotiating and closing business transactions including technology agreements, commercial contracts, financing, mergers and acquisitions, and joint ventures

#### Principal

High profile executive who serves as outside corporate counsel for major corporations on major commercial transactions and provides counsel in drafting and negotiating key business operations agreements, including secured and unsecured loans, software and intellectual property licensing, website development and hosting, technology development, mobile phone application development, advertising, marketing, merchandising, public relations, promotion, information technology, technical staffing, workforce development, consulting, procurement, purchase and maintenance agreements and real property and equipment leases.

- Serve as outside business and technology counsel to Epson America, Inc.
- Served as counsel to Rice Financial Products Company, as interest rate swap provider, on a \$40M interest rate swap transaction for Jackson State University.
- Selected to represent Japanese American National Museum, recipient of the 2010 National Medal of Museum and Library Service, on the refinancing of its \$8M bond, proceeds of which financed construction of the Museum.

### PREVIOUS PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Vice President, TRUST COMPANY OF THE WEST, SPECIAL CREDITS GROUP, Los Angeles, CA

Senior Project Manager-Finance, REBUILD LA, Los Angeles, CA

Senior Associate, SHEARMAN & STERLING, FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, New York, NY

Senior Associate; Associate, O'MELVENY & MYERS, CORPORATE DEPARTMENT, Los Angeles, CA

### **EDUCATION**

**Juris Doctor,** Columbia University School of Law, New York, NY, 1979

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science, Barnard College, Columbia University, New York, NY, 1975

Bar Admissions: California and New York

#### **BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

Member, Board of Trustees and Executive Committee, Japanese American National Museum

Member, Board of Directors, Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics (LEAP), a diversity education and e-learning company