

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## DirectWomen Celebrates its 200<sup>th</sup> Board Seat. DirectWomen's Board Institute Positions Women Lawyers to Serve on Corporate Boards

NEW YORK (March 6, 2024) —With its mission to increase the representation of women lawyers on corporate boards, <u>DirectWomen</u> is pleased to announce that its <u>Board Institute</u> alumnae have obtained 200 corporate board seats.

DirectWomen positions women attorneys to serve on corporate boards of directors through its Board Institute. The highly trained lawyers who apply to the Board Institute are identified through a rigorous application and selection process. Typically, in any given year, more than twice as many lawyers apply to the Board Institute than are accepted into the class. The class is purposely kept small to build relationships among the cohort and faculty.

"We are proud of our Board Institute Alumnae's success in acquiring 200 corporate board seats," said Shawn Taylor Kaminski, Executive Director, DirectWomen. "To date, 104 DirectWomen Board Institute alumnae have served on 200 boards, and we applaud each and every one of them."

Empirical studies specifically indicate that lawyer-directors' professional judgment, knowledge of corporate governance, legal expertise, and familiarity with regulation and risk management, greatly improve the value and operation of the company.

"This is a milestone we are delighted to celebrate," said Lily Yan Hughes, Chair, DirectWomen Board of Directors. "In February 2024, we announced the 16 members of the new Board Institute class. These women join the 270 highly qualified, board-ready women lawyers who have completed the Board Institute. These women are business executives and strategic thought leaders and will make excellent corporate directors."

Board Institute alumnae hail from pre-eminent public and private companies, law firms, non-profit organizations, and the government with a broad range of business expertise. Some of the boards of directors' Board Institute alumnae have served on include The AES Corporation, Emcor Group, Inc., Cardinal Health, Inc., Cleveland-Cliffs Inc., Diamondback Energy, Fluor, Genuine Parts Company, McKesson Corporation, Tesla, Inc., The TJX Companies, Inc., Union Pacific Corporation, Valero Energy Corp., Visa, Inc., WEC Energy Group, Inc., and Williams.

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## **About DirectWomen**

DirectWomen's mission is to increase the representation of women lawyers on corporate boards. To this end, DirectWomen identifies leading women lawyers who provide the experience, independence and business judgment required for corporate

board effectiveness. Through its various programs, DirectWomen develops and positions women attorney leaders for board service. It also serves as a resource for companies seeking qualified women board candidates. Direct Women is a registered 501(c)(3) charitable organization. For more information, go to <a href="https://www.directwomen.org">www.directwomen.org</a>