



CHICAGO
FINANCIAL FUTURE
TASK FORCE

INTERIM REPORT | AUGUST 31, 2025

Task Force Team Bios

The voices and experience behind
Chicago's Financial Future Task Force.

CO-CHAIRS



Karen Freeman-Wilson

**Chicago Urban League
President and Chief Executive Officer**

Karen Freeman-Wilson began serving as President and CEO of the Chicago Urban League in January 2020. She brings a passion for equity and social justice to the organization, which works to advance economic, educational, and social progress for African Americans through direct service and advocacy. Having served in the public arena most of her professional life, Freeman-Wilson has deep experience in addressing issues that impact urban communities. She was mayor of her hometown of Gary, Indiana, from 2012 through 2019. She was the first female to lead the city of Gary and the first Black female mayor in Indiana.

Freeman-Wilson previously served as Indiana Attorney General, Director of the Indiana Civil Rights Commission, and presiding judge of the Gary City Court. She also served as Executive Director of the National Drug Court Institute and CEO of the National Association of Drug Court Professionals.

Freeman-Wilson is a graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Law School. She chairs the Cities for Financial Empowerment and sits on the boards of the National Policing Institute; Center for Community Progress; Sandy Hook Promise; and the Lyric Opera of Chicago. She is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc and the Links, Inc.



Jim Reynolds

**Loop Capital
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
Long-Term Liabilities Subcommittee Chair**

James Reynolds, Jr., is the Founder, Chairman, and CEO of Loop Capital, founded in 1997 with a commitment to exceeding client expectations. He leads all operations, including investment banking, brokerage, project finance, financial advisory, and asset management, establishing Loop Capital as a top-tier financial institution.

With 40 years in the financial sector, Mr. Reynolds held senior roles at major Wall Street firms before launching Loop Capital as a municipal bond firm. His leadership has expanded it into a leading diversified investment bank, offering corporate finance, global equity and fixed-income trading, mergers and acquisitions, public finance, infrastructure investment, asset management, and strategic ventures like &Partners and JLC Infrastructure, co-founded with Magic Johnson Enterprises in 2015.

A committed civic leader, Mr. Reynolds serves on boards such as The Chicago Community Trust, SIFMA, World Business Chicago, Intersect Illinois, the Chicago Urban League, and the Kellogg Global Advisory Board. Recognized with accolades like the Lincoln Leadership Prize and Bond Buyer Hall of Fame induction, he continues to shape the industry. He holds a Master of Management in Finance from Northwestern University's Kellogg Graduate School of Management and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Wisconsin, La Crosse. His innovative approach has earned Loop Capital a reputation for excellence and reliability.

SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRS



Thea Crum, MUPP

University of Illinois Chicago – College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs

Associate Director of Neighborhoods Initiative

Community Insights Subcommittee Chair

Thea Crum, MUPP is Associate Director of the Neighborhoods Initiative at the Great Cities Institute at the University of Illinois Chicago, where she has worked since 2008 and served in her current leadership role since 2011. With more than 20 years of experience in community development, civic engagement, participatory governance, and capacity building, she designs and leads applied research initiatives, develops programs, secures funding, supervises emerging practitioners, and collaborates with community, government, and institutional partners to advance participatory democracy, equitable urban policy, and practice.

Crum currently serves as Chair of the Community Insights Subcommittee of the Chicago Financial Future Task Force and is a member of the City of Chicago Reparations Task Force. She is also a Senior Fellow at People Powered, a global hub for participatory democracy, and serves as Facilitator of the North American Participatory Budgeting Research Board, which is hosted by the Great Cities Institute. In these leadership roles, she helps advance research, practice, and field-building efforts that strengthen democratic participation and equity-centered public decision-making.

Crum is a nationally recognized expert in qualitative research and participatory engagement and has led and co-authored applied research initiatives, including the Illinois Racial Equity Landscape Scan. Over the past four years, she has played a central role in designing the City of Chicago’s annual budget engagement process, conducting research on resident participation, and co-authoring reports that have directly informed municipal budget decisions. She has also partnered with the Illinois Latino Legislative Caucus Foundation to design community engagement strategies that elevate resident voice and inform statewide policy priorities.

At the Great Cities Institute, Crum has provided leadership across numerous initiatives, including the Community Economic Development Research Cluster, the Civic Leadership Training Program, the ChiWest ResourceNet capacity-building initiative, and the Participatory Budgeting Chicago Initiative, where she served as Project Director. She also served as Assistant Director on the Illinois ResourceNet Initiative, which helped secure more than \$113 million in federal investment for Illinois communities through technical assistance and capacity building.

Earlier in her career, Crum served as Consultant and Project Manager for the Domestic Violence & Mental Health Policy Initiative and as Associate Director of Operations at the Women’s Economic Agenda Project, where she managed organizational operations, policy development, and fiscal oversight.

Crum is an internationally recognized leader in participatory democracy and civic innovation. She is a frequent speaker, lecturer, and author, and has co-authored numerous influential publications, including *Youth at the Budget Table* (2024), *Youth Citizenship in Action* (2018), *Democratizing Tax*

Increment Financing Funds through Participatory Budgeting (2016), and The Civics of Community Development: Participatory Budgeting in Chicago (2015). She presented on advanced participatory budgeting practices at an Obama White House convening on Participatory Budgeting.

She holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Wisconsin–Madison and a Master of Urban Planning and Policy from the University of Illinois Chicago.



Ronald DeNard

United Way of Metro Chicago

Chief Financial Officer

Revenues and Expenditures Subcommittee Chair

Ronald DeNard is United Way of Metro Chicago’s Chief Financial Officer, overseeing financial operations, strategy, and data analytics. He has over 30 years of financial expertise across public and private sectors. He is known for leading high-impact financial turnarounds, fostering collaboration, and translating complex financial solutions into actionable insights for executives, boards, and stakeholders.

Ronald’s public sector experience includes serving as the senior vice president of finance for the Chicago Board of Education and the chief financial officer for the Chicago Transit Authority and the Chicago Park District. He has also held various financial positions in the private sector at Aluminum Company of America, L’Oréal USA SoftSheen–Carson division, Exelon Corporation, and Johnson Publishing. Some of his career accomplishments include:

- Spearheaded the elimination of a \$1 billion operating deficit through cost containment, revenue optimization, financial restructuring, and additional state funding.
- Refinanced and restructured debt, received upgrades from all four rating agencies, and reduced borrowing costs by 40% over prior issuances.
- Restructured and reduced administrative staff costs.

Ronald holds an MBA from the University of Chicago Booth School and a BS in Accounting from Florida A&M University.



Phil Clement

World Business Chicago

Chief Executive Officer & President

Economic Development Subcommittee Chair

Philip B. Clement, a dynamic executive with a global outlook, has a distinguished career marked by transformative leadership. He served as AON’s first global chief marketing and communications officer, where he pioneered the company’s global CRM systems, standardized sales processes, and established a cohesive global brand. At Johnson Controls, he spearheaded global market strategy, demand generation, and in-depth market research, achieving significant marketing targets. Currently, as leader of World Business Chicago, Clement drives equitable economic development, aligning

with Mayor Johnson’s growth agenda to position Chicago as a hub for business innovation. Through partnerships with industry, startups, universities, and investors, he fosters prosperity across the seven-county region, uplifting working families and enhancing Chicago’s global competitiveness. Clement’s academic foundation includes an M.B.A. with a concentration in Statistics and a Master of Public Policy Analysis from the University of Chicago, where he graduated with honors, and a Multi-Disciplinary Certificate in Visual Anthropology, Cinema, and Journalism from the University of Southern California. A passionate advocate for Chicago’s cultural and environmental landscape, he has served on the boards of the Chicago International Film Festival since 2018, Goodman Theatre since 2003, and the University of Chicago’s Harris School of Public Policy for multiple terms. Recognized for his marketing excellence, Clement has been inducted into the Marketing Hall of Fame and named a Top Executive Ally by the London Financial Times.

MEMBERS



Adrienne Alexander

**American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), Council 31
Director of Intergovernmental Affairs**

Adrienne Alexander serves as the Director of Intergovernmental Affairs for AFSCME in Illinois, where she has worked since 2010. In that capacity she leads on both policy and politics for City of Chicago and Cook County, as well as serves as a member of AFSCME’s State of Illinois lobbying team, particularly focusing on criminal justice issues. In 2023, she was named in the Crain’s Chicago Business 40 under 40 class. Adrienne lives in Chicago with her husband and three daughters. She is a graduate of Agnes Scott College, a small, women’s college in Georgia, and earned her Master’s degree in Public Policy from the University of Minnesota.



Martin Cabrera Jr.

**Cabrera Capital
Chief Executive Officer and Founder**

Martin Cabrera is the Founder and CEO of Cabrera Capital, a global investment bank, institutional brokerage and a real estate development firm.

Martin has more than 30 years of experience in the financial services industry. Martin founded Cabrera Capital in 2001 in Chicago, and since then the firm has grown to become a global financial enterprise with 9 offices nationwide and in London. The firm has issued over \$2.9 trillion in debt and equities for municipalities and corporations domestically and internationally. The firm’s taxable fixed income and global equities trading desks transact over \$2.7 billion in securities daily. In 2007, the firm

expanded to real estate development providing advisory services including development, acquisition, and management. Currently, Cabrera Capital is transforming a thirty-six-acre vacant in-fill site on Chicago's Southwest Side into a \$550 million mixed-income and mixed-use community.

He serves on the board of World Business Chicago, Illinois EDC, Homeboy Industries and as Chairman of Endowments and Life Trustee at St. Ignatius College Prep, among others. He has been featured in news publications that include CNBC, Crain's Chicago Business, Bloomberg, Yahoo Finance, and Axios.

Martin earned a Bachelor of Science in Finance from Northern Illinois University and studied at the London School of Economics.



Tyler Clark

Microsoft Corporation
Senior Director, State Government Affairs

Tyler Clark is a Senior Director of State Government Affairs for the Eastern United States at Microsoft, where he leads policy, advocacy, and partnership strategies that advance AI and cloud infrastructure, public sector digital transformation, and responsible technology policy.

In this role, he oversees a team of government affairs professionals, driving coordinated state and local engagement strategies aligned with Microsoft's strategic and growth priorities. He serves as the primary government affairs advisor to the State, Local, and Higher Education business, shaping market access, mitigating regulatory risk, and unlocking growth opportunities. He regularly represents Microsoft in legislative hearings, task forces, and public forums, and partners across policy, legal, communications, and sales teams to deliver durable outcomes for customers, communities, and the company.

Prior to Microsoft, Tyler served as Director of Public Affairs and Innovation at Serafin & Associates, where he advised clients across technology, energy, healthcare, and other regulated industries. He previously led the administrative and legislative effort to unify Illinois' state government IT functions and served as the first Chief of Staff at the Illinois Department of Innovation and Technology. Earlier in his career, he was a policy analyst in the Illinois Senate specializing in tax and economic development, and later served as Senate Liaison in the Governor's Office of Legislative Affairs.

Tyler holds a bachelor's degree from Illinois State University and a master's in public administration from the University of Illinois Springfield, where he is currently pursuing a doctorate focused on digital transformation and state capacity in the public sector. He serves on the board of directors of the North Lawndale Employment Network, supporting workforce initiatives in Chicago.



Julie Dworkin

Institute for Public Good
Co-Executive Director

Julie Dworkin is the Co-Executive Director of the Institute for the Public Good, a non-partisan policy institute that strengthens the public good by releasing research and supporting legislative efforts that advance racial equity and economic justice. Julie spent 27 years on the policy staff at the Chicago Coalition to End Homelessness (CCH), with 17 years as the Director of Policy. In her role, she worked on policy research, policy development, advocacy strategy, coalition building and facilitation, and legislative and administrative advocacy. She worked on a wide range of issues towards addressing homelessness including affordable housing, health care, public benefits, criminal justice reform, education, and living wages. Julie led a statewide coalition to create, develop and pass the state's homelessness prevention program, a statewide rental subsidy program, and the first funding for housing in the state's capital budget. She also supervised the work to put the Bring Chicago Home ballot measure on the ballot. Since leaving CCH in 2023, she worked on political campaigns and supported organizational functions of the United Working Families organization during a time of staff transition before co-founding Institute for the Public Good in 2025.



Brad Erens

Jones Day
Partner

Brad Erens is a partner at Jones Day and has counseled clients for more than 30 years in some of the most complex and cutting-edge chapter 11 cases filed in the country. He oversees the Business Restructuring & Reorganization team in Jones Day's Chicago Office. Brad has particular extensive experience assisting companies seeking to achieve permanent resolutions of mass tort liabilities, including asbestos and talc liabilities, in bankruptcy pursuant to section 524(g) of the Bankruptcy Code.

Brad's engagements include: Aetna and Zenith Industries (purchaser), Aldrich Pump and Murray Boiler (company), Allens (DIP lender), Amfac Hawaii (company), Appvion (administrative agent), AWI (DIP lender), Bestwall LLC (company), Borden Chemicals and Plastics (company), Boscov's Department Stores (company), Carmike Cinemas (bank group), Catalyst Paper (administrative agent), Circuit Systems (secured creditor), Collins & Aikman (purchaser), Detroit (debtor), El Camino Resources (secured lender), ERG Intermediate Holdings (company), Extreme Plastics (first lien lender), FLYi/Independence Air (company), FTD Company (company), General Growth Properties (DIP lender), Harry & David (company), Hollinger Inc. (primary secured bondholder), Hotel 71 (first lien mortgage lender), International Automotive Components Group (company), Leasing Solutions (securitization lender), LTL Management (company), Michigan Health Care (company), Molycorp (company), National Equipment Services (bank group), National Jockey Club (first lien secured lender), NII Holdings (parent company), NRG Energy (company), Penton Media (company), Pittsburgh Corning Corporation (DIP lender), PLVTZ (company), Rohn Industries (bank group),

SAExploration (company), Snyder’s Drug Stores (bank group and DIP lender), Southcross Energy (ad hoc secured noteholders), Teleglobe (company), Tribune Company (Special Committee of Board of Directors), and USG Corporation (company).

Brad has been an adjunct professor at the DePaul University College of Law where he teaches corporate reorganizations.



Maricela Garcia

Mujeres Latinas en Acción

Interim President and Chief Executive Officer

Maricela Garcia, Interim President and CEO of Mujeres Latinas en Acción since 1973, empowers Latinas with culturally relevant services. She led Gads Hill Center as CEO for 12 years, focusing on education and community engagement. With 20+ years in nonprofit leadership, she was Executive Director of the Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights, founding Executive Director of the Latino Policy Forum, and Director at UnidosUS.

A Guatemalan immigrant, Garcia arrived in the 1980s, founding Casa Guatemala and co-founding Women for Guatemala. She served on boards like the National Immigration Forum and Latino Policy Forum.

Garcia holds a BA from Northeastern University, an MSW from the University of Illinois at Chicago, and was a Harvard Kennedy School fellow. She completed executive programs at Kellogg and Harvard Business School. Awards include the Chicago Community Trust Fellowship and Casa Guatemala Human Rights Award. Named a top Chicago leader in 2001, she co-authored 2021 articles on COVID-19’s impact on Latinos.



Rocio M. Garcia

Grassroots Collaborative

Senior Organizing Director

Rocio Garcia is a Chicago-raised organizer. Born and raised in La Villita on the Southwest Side, she is the daughter and granddaughter of Mexican immigrants. García’s commitment to organizing is rooted in her family’s experience with wage theft, housing and food insecurity, language barriers, and in early memories of civic action alongside her parents.

Rocío García is currently the Senior Organizing Director at Grassroots Collaborative, a coalition of community and labor groups across Chicago and Peoria. She leads the People’s Unity Platform—created to bring together the people’s agenda ahead of the 2024 municipal election and currently leading the “Babies Before Billionaires” campaign aimed at getting \$1 billion in progressive revenue. She previously served as the Organizing Director at United Working Families, a multi-racial, working-class independent political organization that has elected over 20 members to city, state, county, and federal office.



Pasquale Gianni

Gianni Legal and Consulting Services

Principal and Founder

Commissioner - Chicago Zoning Board of Appeals

Pasquale Gianni is an attorney and experienced lobbyist with a proven track record of advocating on complex legislative and regulatory matters. He has built a reputation as a charismatic, results-driven problem solver who understands how to navigate government at every level.

Prior to founding Gianni Legal and Consulting Services, Pasquale served as Staff Counsel and Director of Government Affairs for Teamsters Joint Council 25, a labor organization representing more than 100,000 members across Illinois and Northwest Indiana across crafts such as transportation, construction, health care, warehousing, and cannabis industries, to name a few.

He has extensive experience in political and election law, collective bargaining negotiations, National Labor Relations Board and Illinois Labor Relations Board proceedings, jurisdictional dispute hearings, as well as Mediations and Arbitrations.

Pasquale currently serves on Mayor Brandon Johnson’s Financial Future Task Force, where he contributes to shaping responsible fiscal policy for the City of Chicago. In October 2025, he was appointed as one of five Commissioners to the Chicago Zoning Board of Appeals, where he hears and decides variance and special use applications.

He is President and co-founder of the Avanti Group of Young Italian-Americans and serves on the Executive Board of the Joint Civic Committee of Italian-Americans. Pasquale has continued a family tradition of public leadership and civic engagement. He is master of ceremonies for the JCCIA’s Dante Awards and hosts the Chicago Columbus Day Parade each year on ABC7.



Jacqueline Gomez

Hispanic American Construction Industry Association (HACIA)

Executive Director

Jacqueline (Jackie) Gomez is the Executive Director of the Hispanic American Construction Industry Association (HACIA) a construction advocacy, membership and training organization working to ensure the equitable participation of construction industry professionals. In this role, Jackie and her team advocate tirelessly for transformative and impactful policy and legislation that breaks down barriers of entry into the construction industry, promote the growth of the organization’s members and provide free small business and workforce development training to diversify the future of the construction industry.

A thought leader on diversity and inclusion in the trades with decades of experience, Jackie stands committed to creating a more diverse construction community – one that is reflective of the communities we live in and serve. Under Jackie’s leadership, HACIA is a recognized champion and industry leader for the growing and thriving minority construction community.

Jackie brings over fifteen years of experience within the business development and supplier diversity industry. She has experience in all levels of government including local, state and federal sectors and specializes in contract compliance, diverse business certification, small business development programs and access to capital for small businesses. In her work, she has assisted hundreds of small businesses meet their business objectives in various areas including financing, marketing, and business development.

Prior to joining HACIA, Jackie served as the Director of Supplier and Workforce Diversity for the Obama Foundation, where she was responsible for managing their diversity, equity and inclusion programming and ensuring the Foundation achieved transformative initiatives related to the construction of the Obama Presidential Center. Before joining the Obama Foundation, Jackie served as the Director of Cook County's Office of Contract Compliance, where she was responsible for the administration, implementation and development of the County's M/WBE Program and oversaw its M/W/VBE certification process and ensured the equitable participation on County contracts. As Program Director, during her early years at HACIA, Jackie was responsible for outreach efforts covering the Great Lakes Region on behalf of the U.S. Department of Transportation. She provided technical assistance and business development training to over 1,000 small businesses. Prior to this position, she worked for the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority (MPEA) in the Business and Workforce Diversity Department.

Jackie holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance from the University of Illinois-Chicago and a master's in business administration from National Louis University.

Jackie currently serves as a board member for the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority and as a Commissioner for the City of Chicago's Department of Community Development. She has served on a number of volunteer boards and committees such as on the UCAN; a Member of the Finance Committee for El Valor; and Certification Committee Member for the Women's Business Development Center. Jackie, her husband and two children reside in Chicago's Irving Park community.



Jeffrey Howard

Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 73
Executive Vice President

Howard serves as Executive Vice President of SEIU Local 73, representing over 38,000 public workers throughout Illinois, bringing more than 30 years of union leadership experience. A seasoned advocate for working people, Howard has served on numerous boards and committees, offering deep expertise in financial oversight, strategic planning, and organizational accountability. Their work includes collaboration with political, business, and community leaders across the nation. A United States Air Force veteran, Howard is a graduate of George Meany Labor College and the IBEW Local 357 NJATC Electrical Apprenticeship program, and a proud father of four.

Howard looks forward to serving on the committee, committed to transparency, equity, and responsible stewardship in achieving its goals.



Jill Jaworski

Navy Pier Inc.

Chief Financial and Administrative Officer

Jill Jaworski is the Chief Financial and Administrative Officer at Navy Pier Inc. Most recently, Jill served as Chief Financial Officer for the City of Chicago. Previously, Jill served as Managing Director and Partner at PFM Financial Advisors LLC, running the firm's Chicago office and advising Chicago area governments and Transit and Transportation sector governments nationally.



Andrea Kluger

Chicago Federation of Labor (CFL)

Chief of Staff

Andrea Kluger is Chief of Staff for the Chicago Federation of Labor. In this role, Andrea oversees the daily operations and programming initiatives of the CFL team. Andrea also leads the CFL's legislative and lobbying efforts at the City of Chicago, Cook County and the State of Illinois, where she works with labor organizations and elected leaders to develop and pass legislation that supports working people.

Previously, Andrea served as the Director of Labor Partnerships for United Way of Metro Chicago, where she developed and launched Access United (Now HIRE360), a workforce development program that seeks to increase the number of individuals entering union construction careers from underrepresented populations. Prior to that, Andrea lived in New York City, where she organized hotel and casino workers and worked for the New York City Council. Andrea has a Master's degree in public policy & administration from Northwestern and a bachelor's degree in political science from Vanderbilt.

Andrea was a 2019 Edgar Fellow, served on the Rules Committee of the Democratic National Committee for the 2020 Convention, was named one of Crain's Chicago Business' 40 Under 40 in 2023. Andrea grew up and attended high school in Islamorada, Florida.



Jimmy Lee

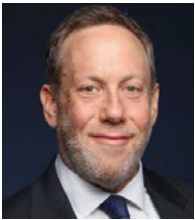
Chicago Chinatown Chamber of Commerce

President

Jimmy Lee is a seasoned real estate developer and business leader with over 20 years of experience in construction materials, general contracting, and community development. He has demonstrated proven leadership in public-private partnerships, investment promotion, and organizational growth. Since 2008, Jimmy has been actively involved with the Chicago Chinatown Chamber of Commerce, where he advanced through roles from Member to President, showcasing his long-term commitment and leadership. During his tenure, he led initiatives to promote Chinatown as a premier tourist and business destination, organized trade missions, investment forums, and cross-sector collaborations, and worked with all levels of government to advocate for small businesses and infrastructure growth. Additionally, since 2015, he has contributed to urban planning and neighborhood development in

Chicago's Near South area as a Board Member of the Near South Planning Board. Since 2019, he has served as Vice President of the Chicago Chinatown Security Foundation, overseeing safety initiatives and community engagement programs.

As President of 21st Century US Sino Services, Inc. since 2000, Jimmy operates as a licensed general contractor and material distributor, leading projects in real estate development, interior build-outs, and commercial construction, including the establishment of a Chicago-based window shade production facility and the development of multiple condo projects. Jimmy holds a B.A. in International Finance from Sun Yat-sen University, earned between 1991 and 1995.



Dan Lurie

**Metropolitan Planning Council
President & Chief Executive Officer**

Dan Lurie is the President and CEO at the Metropolitan Planning Council a Chicago-based, regionally focused think tank. Dan is a nationally recognized policy leader who has crafted and implemented innovative inclusive economic growth and social safety net programs at the highest levels of government and civil society. An attorney, he is a veteran of Chicago's City Hall, the Obama-Biden White House, the National Endowment for the Arts, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Washington, D.C. think tank New America, and the Chicago Transit Authority. Before becoming CEO at MPC, Dan founded the Municipal Governance Initiative that is addressing the state capacity crisis threatening local governments' ability to solve critical social problems. Prior to MGI, Dan was the City of Chicago's Chief of Policy where he oversaw the City's policy design and program implementation, from democracy reform to housing to transportation and land use to environment to the care economy, including former Mayor Lightfoot's whole-of-government project to reduce racialized intergenerational poverty and economic insecurity while strengthening the social safety net.

Dan is known for fostering partnerships that advance bold policies confronting race and gender inequities, and for reaching new consensus that, as he likes to say, "expands the aperture of the possible".

He is a graduate of the University of Michigan (B.A. and JD) and lives with his family on Chicago's Northwest Side



Ralph Martire

**Center for Tax and Budget Accountability (CTBA)
Executive Director**

Ralph Martire is executive director of the Center for Tax and Budget Accountability (CTBA), a bipartisan think tank promoting equitable workforce, education, fiscal, and economic policies, and the Arthur Rubloff Endowed Professor of Public Policy at Roosevelt University. At CTBA, he has driven legislative successes, including the 2018 Evidence-Based Model of Education Funding, a state Earned Income Tax Credit, and corporate accountability laws. He has taught fiscal policy and education finance at various universities and the International Fulbright Scholar Program.

Martire serves on the Illinois Board of Higher Education's Commission on Equitable Public University Funding (2021) and the Professional Review Panel for Illinois' school funding formula (2018). He was part of the federal Equity and Excellence in Education Commission (2011-2013), co-authoring the "For Each and Every Child" report. His political roles include deputy issues director for Dawn Clark Netsch's gubernatorial campaign and issues director for David Wilhelm's Senate run.

An elected school board member for Oak Park River Forest High School District 200 since 2019 and former president of River Forest District 90's board, Martire has received the 2007 Champion of Freedom Award from the Rainbow PUSH Coalition and the Adlai Stevenson Award for Public Service. He is a frequent media commentator on tax policy for WTTW and WPWR and a columnist.



Kevyn Orr

Jones Day

Partner

Kevyn Orr is a Partner at Jones Day and provides strategic crisis management advice, identifying creative approaches to novel or first impression situations with an eye toward developing practical business-oriented solutions. He has practiced in the areas of business restructuring, distressed M&A, corporate governance and decision-making in distressed environments, and complex commercial litigation and settlement negotiations for more than three decades. He is experienced in all aspects of complex and precedent-setting matters, and The National Law Journal recognized him as a "Crisis Trailblazer" in 2021.

Kevyn's recent representation includes counsel for the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors in the Toys "R" Us Property Company I chapter 11 cases. Prior to rejoining Jones Day, Kevyn served as Emergency Manager of the City of Detroit and was charged with restructuring the city's finances and operations. During his tenure, he oversaw the largest and most complicated municipal bankruptcy proceeding in the nation's history, and the city successfully restructured \$18 billion in debt, reduced overall debt by \$7 billion, developed and implemented a multiyear \$1.7 billion revitalization plan for city services and operations, streamlined key city operations, helped improve public safety, put the city's art in a perpetual public trust, and avoided drastic cuts to pension and related retiree benefits. Kevyn received Turnaround Management Association's Mega Transaction of the Year Award for the City of Detroit, Michigan in October 2015.

At Jones Day, Kevyn has advised Chrysler on its bankruptcy, National Century Financial Enterprises in its bankruptcy and asserting its claims in the health care provider bankruptcies of PhyAmerica Corporation and DCHC/Greater Southeast Hospital, and Laidlaw Corporation in its defense of a \$1 billion claim by the purchaser of its environmental cleanup division.

Kevyn is a member of the American Bar Association and the American Bankruptcy Institute and a Fellow of American College of Bankruptcy.



Chasse Rehwinkel

**Devon Bank
President**

Chasse Rehwinkel is the President of Devon Bank. Devon Bank is an 80-year-old community bank on Chicago's Northside, focusing on financing a diverse footprint of communities. Before joining Devon, Mr. Rehwinkel served as the Comptroller for the City of Chicago under Mayor Brandon Johnson. In this role, Mr. Rehwinkel oversaw 500 staff at the City of Chicago's Department of Finance, managing the City's cash flow, benefits, revenue collection and enforcement. Previous to his appointment, Mr. Rehwinkel served as the Illinois Director of Banking for four years—appointed by Governor JB Pritzker in June 2019. As Director of Banking, Mr. Rehwinkel focused on major reforms to improve equity in banking and consumer protection. In 2020, Mr. Rehwinkel issued wide ranging guidance and policy relief to help vulnerable Illinoisans during the COVID-19 Global Pandemic, including forming a multistate agreement with student loan servicers to provide financial relief options on private student loans and a partnership with seven large retail banks to provide free check cashing services on stimulus check for unbanked Illinoisans.

Prior to his role as Illinois Director of Banking, Mr. Rehwinkel served in both Illinois state fiscal office—first as the Director of Policy for the Illinois State Treasurer and then as the Chief Economist and Director of the Bond Division for the Illinois Office of Comptroller. Mr. Rehwinkel received his Master in Public Policy with a focus in municipal finance from the University of Chicago's Harris School of Public Policy and his Bachelor's Degree from Gettysburg College. Mr. Rehwinkel has served as a board member of the Municipal Employees' Annuity & Benefit Fund of Chicago, the Laborers' & Retirement Board Employees' Annuity & Benefit Fund, the Chicago Firemen's Annuity & Benefit Fund, and the Illinois Bank On Commission Advisory Board. Mr. Rehwinkel also currently is a lecturer in banking regulation and management at the University of Chicago.



Andrea Sáenz

**Chicago Community Trust
President & CEO**

Andrea Sáenz is President & CEO of The Chicago Community Trust, one of the nation's oldest and largest community foundations. Since taking the helm in 2022, she has led the team guiding the Trust to \$7.1 billion in assets and nearly \$1.5 billion in annual grantmaking, grounded in a conviction that the most effective solutions come from people closest to the issues.

Under her leadership, the Trust directs its resources toward the levers most likely to increase economic opportunity for Chicagoans — homeownership, income and asset building, and neighborhood development. This work includes funding community-led real estate development on Chicago's South and West sides, supporting homeowners in gentrifying neighborhoods to stay in place, helping nonprofits redesign how they deliver essential services in a shifting landscape, and strengthening the independent local news ecosystem that healthy civic life depends on.

Sáenz brings to her role a career spanning public systems, government, and community-based organizations – from reimagining how an 80-branch public library system serves community wellbeing, to advancing education equity at Chicago Public Schools and the U.S. Department of Education, to expanding Latine access to professional careers. That firsthand experience navigating the complexity of delivering social impact within interrelated systems informs how the Trust deploys resources, builds partnerships, and measures change.

Named to Crain's Chicago Business' "Who's Who in Chicago" and "Women of Note" lists in 2023, she serves on the boards of the Economic Club of Chicago, National Louis University, the Chicago Public Education Fund, and the Chicago Public Library Foundation. She holds honorary doctorates from Dominican University and Lake Forest College, and degrees from the University of Pennsylvania and Scripps College.



Mary Wagoner

Civic Committee of the Commercial Club of Chicago
Senior Director, State and Local Finance

Mary Wagoner is the Director, State and Local Finance at the Civic Committee of the Commercial Club of Chicago. In this role, her work focuses on budgets, tax policy, and pensions for the State of Illinois and City of Chicago.

Since joining the Civic Committee in 2015, Mary has been the staff lead for the Tax Policy Task Force and State Finance Task Force. Her research and analysis on State budget, tax policies, and pensions has underpinned three published reports: *Bringing Illinois Back: A Framework for our Future* (2017), *Restore Illinois: A Foundation for Growth* (2019; lead author), and *Securing Illinois' Future: Stabilizing State Finances to Promote Long-Term Growth* (2023; lead author).

Before joining the Civic Committee, Mary worked for the Greater Chicago Food Depository, Illinois Partners for Human Service, and the Arlington County Treasurer's Office in Arlington, Virginia.

Mary has a master's degree in public policy from the Harris School of Public Policy at the University of Chicago and a BA in Political Science from the University of Mary Washington. She is also an alumna of the University of Virginia's Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership's Emerging Leaders Program. Mary is an associate member of the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) and is a member of Women in Public Finance.