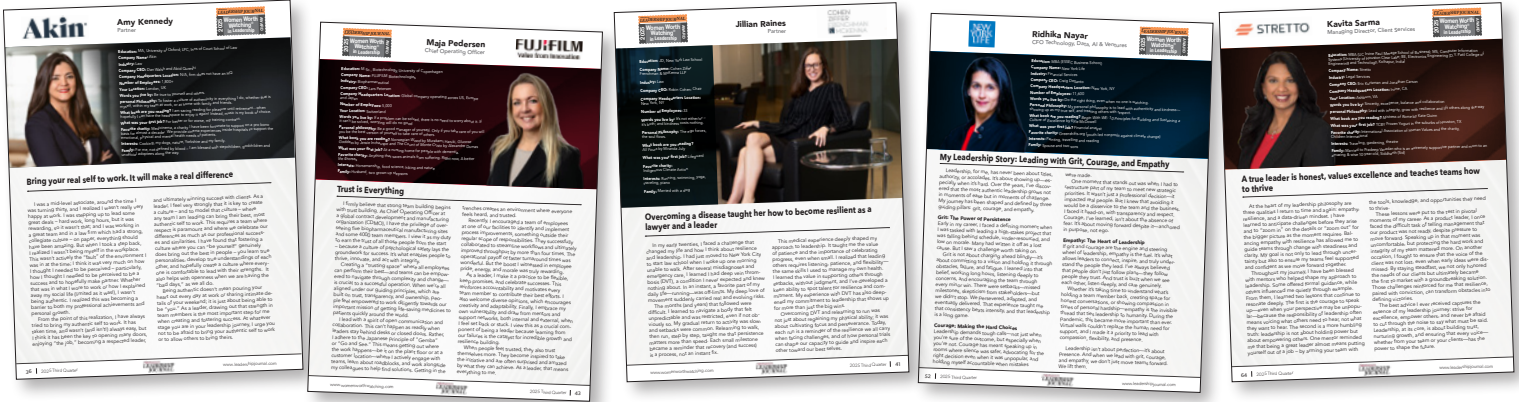


25TH WOMEN WORTH WATCHING® IN LEADERSHIP AWARD

* Nomination investment will be returned if your candidate is not selected.



Award page layout samples

Celebrating Exceptional Women Who Propel Creativity and Management

Profiles in Leadership Journal™ cordially invites you to participate in our **25th annual Women Worth Watching® in Leadership Awards**. This is an opportunity to honor the exceptional women within your organization who leverage their talents and influence to enhance the workplace and contribute to a better world. Nominated by their employers or colleagues, these trailblazers are visionary, confident, and forward-thinking leaders who drive innovation and create lasting value within their organizations and industries. Beyond their high performance, these individuals are purpose-driven change-makers who inspire others—mentoring the next generation, challenging conventional ideas, and contributing to a better world for all.

Since its inception, Profiles in Leadership Journal has recognized thousands of outstanding individuals from around the globe who make significant impacts in their organizations and communities. The Women Worth Watching in Leadership Award aims to showcase and celebrate today's leading female professionals while also highlighting the organizations that encourage, empower, and support their success. Through this nomination process, we honor extraordinary women and the organizations that champion their achievements.

Honorees will be featured in the Mid-Year 2026 issue with a full-page profile. This prestigious recognition enhances the visibility and reputation of both the recipients and the companies that support their advancement.

**Deadline for Nominations:
April 17, 2026**





25TH WOMEN WORTH WATCHING[®] IN LEADERSHIP AWARD

Complete Your Nomination in 4 Simple Steps

1. Provide important nomination information on pages 3 & 4 of this document.

Nominations will be reviewed and judged based on the brief bio you provide, which should include contributions and achievements in at least 3 of the following 5 areas:

- Leadership
- Executive Responsibility
- Professional Achievement
- Innovation
- Mentorship

2. Complete the Nomination Processing Form on Page 5

There is a \$495 processing investment per nomination which must be received by the nomination deadline. *If your nominee is not selected, your nomination investment will be refunded.*

3. Upload* Your Completed Nomination Form by April 17, 2026 at <https://leadershipjournal.com/www-nomination-upload/>.

* Nomination forms must be submitted/uploaded via PLJ's secure online portal.
Email submissions will not be accepted!

4. Recognize Your Leaders with Confidence

We understand that today's communications require care and consideration. That's why *Profiles in Leadership Journal* offers all nominating organizations the opportunity to review and approve their award winner's profile prior to publication.

Your organization remains in full control of how your leadership is portrayed — we're your partner in celebrating excellence, not a source of concern.

It's that Easy

If your nominee is selected as a 2026 Woman Worth Watching in Leadership award winner, we will notify your successful nominee, and the individual who nominated them. We'll also send your nominee a Question & Answer Form. They will be asked to answer a few questions, write a brief essay on a topic of their choosing, and provide two high-resolution photographs, as well as a digital version of your organization's logo. Her photograph, essay, and professional information will appear on a dedicated full-page in our Mid-Year issue. Just complete the nomination form on pages 3 and 4. Then upload this completed PDF and submit your entry payment. Links for upload and payment are on page 5.

Deadline for Nominations:
April 17, 2026



25TH WOMEN WORTH WATCHING[®] IN LEADERSHIP AWARD

*(Please fill in all form fields and **be sure to save this file** when completed)*

Before You Begin

As part of our collaborative process, your organization will have the chance to review and approve the final profile of your award winner before publication. This ensures alignment with your internal messaging and gives your team full confidence to nominate with peace of mind.

A. Nominee Information

Nominee's Name: Ms., Mrs., Dr. _____
(as it should appear in print and please check prefix that applies)

Job Title: _____

Organization Name: _____

Full Corporate Mailing Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Contact info for Nominee's Administrative Assistant:

B. Nominated by:

Note: The nominator must be the primary point of contact for all editorial communications. Using a company executive as the nominator will not increase a nominee's chances of selection. He or she will be evaluated on merit alone. Please ensure that the person whose information is entered below is available to manage all communications related to the nomination and award process.

Nominator's Name: _____

Job Title: _____

Organization Name: _____

Corporate Mailing Address: _____

Office Phone Number: _____

Mobile Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Secondary Contact Name & Email: _____



25TH WOMEN WORTH WATCHING[®] IN LEADERSHIP AWARD

(Please fill in all form fields and **be sure to save this file** when completed)

C. Tell Us Why You Chose this Nominee

Briefly explain why your nominee should be recognized as a 2026 Woman Worth Watching in Leadership award winner. (100-200 words max.)

Provide a brief bio including special achievements and examples of Executive Responsibility, Leadership, Professional Achievement, Innovation, and Mentorship. (300-400 words max.)

D. Final Profile Approval

Please confirm your preference regarding the final profile approval process:

- Yes**, we would like to review and approve the final profile before publication.
 No, we trust the editorial process and do not require a final review.

Note: If "Yes" is selected, publication will not proceed without your organization's approval.



25TH WOMEN WORTH WATCHING[®] IN LEADERSHIP AWARD

E. Nomination Processing

NOMINATION INVESTMENT: \$495:

After uploading your Nomination form, please be sure to go to our secure payment portal where you can submit your entry payment. If your nominee is not selected, *PLJ* will refund your nomination investment.



Please upload this document at: *(do not email)*
<https://leadershipjournal.com/www-nomination-upload/>



Submit \$495 application payment at:
<https://buy.stripe.com/00gdTG8hdggjduo7ss>

If you need an invoice for payment, please email
James Rector: publisher@leadershipjournal.com

Submitted nomination and fee must be received by April 17, 2026.
Emailed submissions will not be accepted!

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Will our organization have the opportunity to review the award winner's profile before publication?

Yes. We offer every nominating organization the chance to review and approve the final profile of their award winner before publication. We understand the importance of alignment with internal communications and public messaging. Your team remains in full control of what is shared publicly.

1. Will the nomination investment be refunded if our candidate is not selected?

Yes.

2. Can my organization nominate more than one Women Worth Watching[®] in Leadership candidate?

Yes. Each organization may nominate up to four (4) women for this award.

3. Is my organization allowed to nominate a candidate who has been named a Woman Worth Watching[®] in Leadership in the past?

Your nominees may include a female candidate or candidates who have previously won any of our awards.

4. How will my organization be notified of our nominee's acceptance?

Confirmation that your organization's nominee has been accepted will be sent to the nominator and the award winner along with the Question & Answer Form.

5. Is purchasing an advertisement in the 2026 Mid-Year issue of *PLJ* required if our nominee is accepted?

No advertising purchase is required.

6. Will we be able to receive PDFs of our nominee's profile layout?

Yes. If you wish to receive a **FREE PDF** of your nominees layout from the Mid-Year magazine, please email a request to stevetoth@leadershipjournal.com after the issue has been launched.



Christine Fernandez Owen
Co-Head of Projects Real Estate,
United States



Education: JD, The George Washington Law School; BS, Environmental Engineering and Policy, University of Michigan

Company Name: Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP

Industry: Legal

Company CEO: Jeff Cody, Global Managing Partner and US Managing Partner

Company Headquarters Location: New York; Houston; London

Number of Employees: 7,600

Your Location: Chicago, IL

Personal Philosophy: Always eat dessert

What book are you reading? *Atomic Habits* by James Clear

What was your first job? Working at a frozen yogurt shop

Favorite charity: Human Rights Watch

Interests: Traveling, cooking, and University of Michigan football

Family: Husband, Brad, son, Atlas; Milo and Mabel, fur babies



Relationships with people and the law drive this lawyer's career

Nearly every turn in my career has been driven by curiosity and my relationships with people. The law firm path that many take, generally working in the same practice their entire career, was never of interest to me. Law firms are a great place to practice and a wonderful training ground, but I quickly desired to know more. More about my practice – and other practice areas- and particularly more about the businesses we supported. In my time as a young associate at the law firm, I had a hard time pinpointing exactly what I wanted out of my career, except that I wanted to have a varied practice and work with a lot of people. The days of sitting alone in my office reviewing documents (there were some, but not a ton) had made me miserable, and made me realize that was not for me, and that I needed people interaction. My relationships with other trusted attorneys enabled me to feel comfortable in taking a nearly 50% pay cut to move to an in-house development position at an energy company.

Working as a non-lawyer was eye-opening and a wonderful experience, but it made me realize how much I valued my legal training, and how I really desired to get back into practicing law.

The positions in which I have thrived the most are ones where I had supportive and friendly people surrounding me, and work that I felt was meaningful and of practical value. Working in-house in a legal position enabled me to feel that I was making a difference.

Becoming a manager of people is interesting, because no one teaches you how it's "supposed to" be done. I drew on the behavior of my most important mentors, which were mostly the people who hired me for each position – from the partner I worked for at my first firm to the VP of development at the energy company – each had qualities that I really admired as a leader, mentor, and teacher. They made me feel smart and valued, but also helped me learn things I needed to learn. In co-managing my team now, I try to listen to and support the lawyers and paralegals with whom I work. I also stress the importance of continual learning and growing, and support many internal and external training programs. While it's important to deliver high quality legal work to our clients, what motivates me the most is the relationships I develop along the way.