

Bios

Ewa M. Abrams

Ms. Abrams is Associate General Counsel & Chief Privacy Officer of Tiffany & Co. in New York. Her work at Tiffany has spanned a variety of practice areas including corporate intellectual property management, unfair competition, anti-counterfeiting, data privacy / security and compliance matters. For over ten years, Ms. Abrams has been responsible for all aspects of the management of Tiffany's worldwide intellectual property matters. Ms. Abrams specializes in trademark prosecution and enforcement, with an emphasis on internet-related issues, including advertising and social media. In her role as Chief Privacy Officer, she is responsible for worldwide privacy compliance for the company. Ms. Abrams received her JD from Brooklyn Law School in New York and her BA from Bucknell University in Pennsylvania.

Michael A. Akkaoui

Mr. Akkaoui attended Providence College, graduating in 1980 with a BA. He later attended New England School of Law in Boston, graduating with a JD, and is a

member of the Rhode Island and Federal Bar. In 1995, he became Chief Executive Officer at Tanury Industries, a leader in metal finishing technology. Mr. Akkaoui has authored many technical articles for the metal finishing industry and has given seminars on electroplating and PVD coatings for many trade groups. He is a member of the Environmental Law Committee for the Rhode Island Bar Association and a Government Official Appointee by Governor Almond to the Rhode Island OSHA Commission. He is also a past Chairman of Manufacturers, Jewelers and Suppliers of America (MJSA).

David A. Bouffard

Mr. Bouffard is the Vice President, Corporate Affairs of Signet Jewelers Ltd., the parent company of Kay Jewelers, Jared the Galleria of Jewelry, and other regional brands in the U.S., as well as H. Samuel and Ernest Jones in the U.K. Over his 32-year career with Signet, Mr. Bouffard has held roles which include: Director of Sales, Merchandising, and Advertising; estate jewelry general marketing manager; Marketing Director of Corporate Store Promotions; Marketing Director of Public

Relations and Promotions; and Vice President of Public Relations. Mr. Bouffard is actively involved in Jewelers of America (JA), the Jewelry Information Center (JIC, consumer education arm of JA), and Responsible Jewelry Council. Mr. Bouffard received his undergraduate degree from Widener University, his MBA from Case Western Reserve University, and his Graduate Gemologist accreditation from the Gemological Institute of America (GIA).

Lisa Brooks-Pike

Ms. Brooks-Pike is the Founder and former President of Jewelers Ethics Association (JEA). JEA is a trade organization dedicated to promoting ethical practices and full disclosure within the gemstone and jewelry trade. JEA also serves to educate and assist consumers. Ms. Brooks-Pike is currently Vice President of Sales for Sapphires of Montana.

Brian G. Clapprood

Mr. Clapprood is the Vice President of Engineering at the LeachGarner Company in Attleboro, Massachusetts. Mr. Clapprood began his career in the precious metals industry in 1995. Throughout his career, Mr. Clapprood has been responsible for product development, operations management, quality assurance, as well as engineering and technical services. Mr. Clapprood's experience with precious metals manufacturing spans the areas of raw materials and finished goods product and process design. Mr.

Clapprood received a BS in Industrial Engineering from the New England Institute of Technology.

Valerie J. Falen

Ms. Falen is the Director of Corporate Manufacturing and Sourcing of Sterling Jewelers, Inc., the largest specialty retail jeweler in the U.S., including Kay Jewelers and Jared the Galleria of Jewelry. Ms. Falen began her career with Sterling Jewelers, Jared division in 1999. She has since served as the Jared Diamond Fashion Buyer, Sterling Diamond Fashion Buyer, Sterling Sr. Buyer Diamond Fashion, and Director of Jared Diamond Fashion, Color and Gold before assuming her current position in March 2012. As Director of Corporate Manufacturing and Sourcing, Ms. Falen focuses on manufacturing for core products, diamond melee pricing for vendors, and also oversees the scrap budget and policies and procedures for previously owned merchandise. Ms. Falen received her BSBA from The Ohio State University in Columbus, and certifications for Certified Purchasing Manager (CPM) and Accredited Purchasing Practitioner (APP) from the Institute for Supply Management.

Suzan Flamm

Suzan Flamm is Senior Counsel at the Jewelers Vigilance Committee, a non-profit trade association that promotes legal compliance in the jewelry industry.

She prepares compliance and educational materials for jewelers, conducts seminars on current legal issues, and writes articles on those matters for the jewelry trade press. Additionally, she prepares submissions for government agencies with regulatory authority over the trade, such as the Federal Trade Commission and the Security and Exchange Commission, to present relevant facts and industry practices. Ms. Flamm's legal experience includes work as a prosecutor with the New York County District Attorney's Office, and as the Attorney in Charge of a regional office for the New York State Attorney General's Office. She has also worked as a litigation consultant, and as a teacher of Courtroom Communication and Investigative Interviewing at John Jay College in New York. Ms. Flamm received her BA and JD from the University of California at Los Angeles.

Mark Hanna

Mr. Hanna is the Chief Marketing Officer of Richline Group, Inc., a Berkshire Hathaway Company. During Mr. Hanna's 42 years in the jewelry industry, he has had experience in all facets of management, manufacturing, marketing, and sales. Prior to this position, from 1996 to 2004, he served as the EVP of Sales and Marketing for Michael Anthony Jewelers. From 1990 to 1995, Mr. Hanna was President of Leach & Garner International. A patent inventor of Reverse Hardenable Karat Gold, in 2012, Mr. Hannah was honored as one the U.S.'s top 200 CMOs. Mr. Hanna's

additional activities include Board Member of Special Olympics and active membership and contribution to the Responsible Jewellery Council, the Manufacturing Jewelers Association, the Jewelers Vigilance Committee, the CMO Club, and the American Marketing Association. Mr. Hanna received a BS in mathematics from Manhattan College and an MBA in marketing from NYU Stern.

Robert Herskovits

Mr. Herskovits is the Vice-President of Sales for Brilliant Jewelers/MJJ Inc., headquartered in New York. Brilliant Jewelers / MJJ Inc. is one of the leading international jewelry manufacturer and wholesale distribution companies. Throughout Mr. Herskovits career, he has been responsible for product development and design, including copyright and trademark applications and approval. In addition, his involvement with the marketing and sales of "Yellora," a mixture of 24K gold, palladium, and sterling silver, has made him a key member of Brilliant Jewelers. Mr. Herskovits is actively involved in industry associations in conjunction with Brilliant Jewelers. He is a member of the Jewelers Vigilance Committee, Jewelers Ethics Association, and The Plumb Club.

Susan M. Kelly

Ms. Kelly is a Product Quality Engineer for Corporate Jewelry Quality Assurance at QVC U.S. In that role, she is responsible for providing technical support to corporate

quality assurance processes, investigating customer experience and product ratings, and supporting the Product Compliance Manager. In addition, Ms. Kelly is an appraiser of fine jewelry for Guild Retail Stores and is a member of the National Association of Jewelry Appraisers. As the Director of the Leased division Estate Jewelry Program, Ms. Kelly evaluated and acquired period and estate jewelry. She also has been a designer for the American Gem Society Retailer and a bench jeweler. Ms. Kelly has a Graduate Gemologist Diploma from the Gemological Institute of America Inc. (GIA).

Stuart Lee

Mr. Lee is the Senior Vice President and General Merchandising Manager for Sterling Jewelers Inc., headquartered in Akron, Ohio. Sterling Jewelers has approximately 1350 fine jewelry retail outlets within the U.S., operating under the brands of Kay Jewelers, Jared the Galleria of Jewelry, Ultra Jewelers, JB Robinson Jewelers, and other regional brands. Sterling is part of the Signet brand, which also operates approximately 560 fine jewelry outlets within the U.K., operating under the brands of H. Samuel and Ernest Jones. Combined, they comprise the world's largest diamond and fine jewelry retailer. Mr. Lee's duties encompass the Merchandising/Buying departments and the companies' Impact (analysis/planning), Special Order, and E-commerce initiatives. Mr. Lee began his jewelry career in 1975 with the DeVon's

Jewelry retail chain in Sacramento, California. Over a 20-year span, he advanced from store sales to store management to buying. From 1996 to 2006, Mr. Lee was the Merchandising Director for the Jared division. In 2006, he was promoted to Vice President of Corporate Merchandising. Mr. Lee is an active participant in the jewelry industry, currently serving on the Board of the M.J.S.A. (Manufacturing Jewelers and Suppliers of America), as well as being a member of the Jewelers for Children fundraising committee, the jewelry industries largest charitable organization.

Dee Marino

Ms. Marino is the Chief Operating Officer at Roman & Sunstone. Over her 13 years with Roman & Sunstone, she also has been Vice President of Operations and President. Prior to her work in the jewelry industry, Ms. Marino held several positions at Edison Brothers Stores, Inc., with a primary focus on Logistics and Operations. Ms. Marino also worked for Laventhol & Horwath CPA firm as a staff auditor and then senior auditor. Ms. Marino graduated magna cum laude from the University of Missouri St. Louis. Ms. Marino is a board member of the Fashion Jewelry & Accessory Trade Association and has active membership in the Manufacturing Jewelers and Suppliers of America, Jewelers Board of Trade and the ASTM International organizations.

Ajit Menon

Mr. Menon is the Director of Technology at United Precious Metal Refining, Inc., a global supplier of master alloys for the manufacturing of gold, silver, platinum, and palladium jewelry. Mr. Menon has earned both a BS and MS in Metallurgical Engineering and a MBA in Business Administration. He also has spoken on a variety of topics at the Santa Fe Symposium, receiving awards for the best speaker, technical paper, and ambassador. In addition, Mr. Menon has given technical seminars in numerous countries worldwide. He is the author of several articles related to jewelry technology and metallurgy, the science that deals with procedures used in extracting metals from their ores, purifying and alloying metals, and creating useful objects from metals. In addition to his extensive education, he has acquired vast knowledge and technical expertise through his 25 years of manufacturing experience.

Pamela S. Mortensen

Ms. Mortensen is Senior VP and General Merchandise Manager of Jewelry, Watches and Fashion Accessories at jcpenny. Prior to joining jcpenny in 2009, Ms. Mortensen was the VP and Divisional Merchandise Manager for the Fine Jewelry and Watch Division at Wal-Mart and VP and Divisional Merchandise Manager for Service Merchandise. Ms. Mortensen began her jewelry career

at Zale Corporation in Dallas and began her retail career at Federated Department stores. Ms. Mortensen has been integral in implementing innovative initiatives to help establish jcpenny as a style authority and drive sales growth for the company. With a focus on making jcpenny a key destination for bridal customers, Ms. Mortensen led the launch of the company's Modern Bride® initiative, as well as the recent launch of the new Bijoux Bar @JCP, which features designer fashion jewelry. During her tenure at Wal-Mart Stores Inc., the largest jewelry retailer in the United States, Ms. Mortensen was instrumental in developing Wal-Mart's standards and criteria for responsible jewelry sourcing and developing the Love, Earth® jewelry collection, which gave customers the ability to trace the path of their jewelry from mine to market. Ms. Mortensen presently serves on the Jewelers Vigilance Committee board of directors. She also serves on the board of Jewelers for Children, a non-profit organization donating over \$40 million since its inception to programs benefiting children in need. Ms. Mortensen earned a BS from the University of Arkansas.

Charles A. Wagner, III

Since 2003, Mr. Wagner has served as Vice Chairman and General Counsel of Multimedia Commerce Group, Inc., parent company of Jewelry Television. In his

position at Jewelry Television, he oversees the company's compliance programs. Mr. Wagner is a graduate of The University of Tennessee College of Business Administration and The University of Tennessee College of Law. After practicing in Chattanooga, Mr. Wagner joined the Tennessee Valley Authority as Senior Trial Attorney. He then served as Assistant General Counsel, and finally as Associate General Counsel for Litigation. Mr. Wagner practiced in Knoxville with Gentry & Wagner, then Wagner, Myers and Sanger, where he is currently Of Counsel. The principal focus of Mr. Wagner's practice has been contract, commercial and regulatory litigation.