



## Doneene Keemer Damon

### Director, President

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Doneene Damon is the president of Richards Layton, co-chair of the firm's Business Department, and chair of the Corporate Trust and Agency Services Group. She focuses her practice primarily on formation and operational issues relating to Delaware statutory and common law trusts in all types of commercial and business transactions, representing issuers, underwriters, investors, and trustees. Doneene also represents banks and trust companies in connection with their trust and agency services under Delaware and New York law in various commercial transactions, including their roles as trustee, collateral agent, custodian, master servicer, depository agent, and exchange agent.

Doneene's varied corporate trust transactional practice includes asset-backed securities, including auto loans and leases, credit cards, student loans, residential mortgages, home equity loans, equipment leases, litigation settlements, insurance policies, and intellectual property; royalty trusts; liquidation trusts; and voting trusts. Doneene is also experienced in capital securities and hybrid capital securities; mutual funds, exchange traded funds, and private equity funds; and collateralized loan obligations, cross-border leasing transactions, project finance transactions, and defeasance transactions. In addition, Doneene represents health-care clients in all types of commercial and transactional matters, including the purchase and servicing of health-care receivables and the issuance of tax-exempt bonds.

*Chambers USA* reported that Doneene is "terrific," noting that clients praise her as "experienced, careful, smart and very personable." She was recently featured in an article in [Super Lawyers](#) and was honored as one of *Savoy* magazine's [Most Influential Black Lawyers](#).

### Experience

- Asset-backed securities, including auto loans and leases, credit cards, student loans, residential mortgages, home equity loans, equipment leases, litigation settlements, insurance policies and intellectual property

- Capital securities
- Hybrid capital securities
- Collateralized loan obligations
- Cross-border leasing transactions
- Mutual funds and exchange traded funds
- Health care receivables
- Liquidation trusts
- Voting trusts
- Independent director and independent manager
- Private equity funds
- Defeasance transactions

#### **Publications**

- "A Conversation with the First Women to Lead Two of Delaware's Largest Firms," *ABA*, February 20, 2020
- "Delaware's Chancery Court: An Internationally Respected Part of The Delaware Brand," *Delaware Business*, January/February 2020
- "The Alphabet Soup of the Federal Crisis Programs," *Bloomberg Law Reports*, July 2009
- "The Role of the Trustee," Practising Law Institute

#### **Awards**

- American College of Commercial Finance Lawyers Fellow
- American Bar Foundation Fellow
- *Chambers USA*
- *The Best Lawyers in America*
- *Super Lawyers*
- National Association of Professional Women, VIP Woman of the Year Circle, 2015-2016
- Jean Allard Glass Cutter Award, American Bar Association, 2015
- National Diversity Council, Leadership Excellence in the Law Award, 2014
- Pennsylvania Diversity Council, Leadership in Law, 2014
- Temple University Beasley School of Law, Gallery of Success, 2014
- The International Women's Review Board for Excellence in Law
- YWCA Trailblazer Award

#### **Leadership**

In addition to her role as the firm's president, Doneene holds leadership positions in many organizations, including:

- American Bar Association, Business Law Section
  - *The Business Lawyer*, Editorial Board
  - Committee on Trust Indentures and Indenture Trustees, Former Chair
  - Committee on Corporate Director Diversity, Former Co-Chair
  - Banking Law Committee
  - Diversity Committee, Lawyers of Color Subcommittee, Chair
  - Section Sponsorship Task Force, Chair
  - Securitization and Structured Finance Committee, Vice Chair and Director for Diversity
  - UCC Committee
  - Committee on Partnerships and Unincorporated Business Organizations, Membership and Diversity Co-Chair
- Structured Finance Industry Group
  - Trustee Subforum
  - Outside Counsel Subforum
  - Women in Securitization, Mentor Subcommittee, Co-Chair
- American Law Institute
- Carpenter-Walsh Delaware Pro Bono Inn of Court
- Christiana Care Health System, Inc. and Health Services, Inc., Chair of the Board of Directors
- Delaware Prosperity Partnership, Board Member
- Temple University Beasley School of Law, Board of Visitors

#### **Education**

- J.D., *cum laude*, Temple University School of Law, 1992
- B.S., Accounting, *cum laude*, St. Joseph's University, 1989

#### **Admitted to Practice**

- Delaware, 1992
- District of Columbia, 1994
- New York, 2012

#### **Practices**

- Corporate Trust and Agency Services

