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2024 Women in CRE: Lydia Chesnick, Bernkopf Goodman LLP

September 27, 2024 - Spotlights



Lydia Chesnick
Partner
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What recent project, transaction, or accomplishment are you most proud of? Professionally, I have had the honor of working with a number of multi-generational families transitioning their businesses to the next generation. I feel incredibly proud of the results I see from the strategic planning with the

founding family members, with the next generation of talented, creative thinkers at the helm. Another significant source of pride is serving on the Real Estate and Timberland Advisory Committee for the Massachusetts Pension Reserve Investment Management (PRIM) Board. I am honored to serve with an extraordinary group of people in CRE and to see the positive impact of our recommendations - measurable increases in earnings for the state pension funds.

What advice do you have for young women aspiring to enter commercial real estate? This question resonates with me and was the subject of an open letter I sent to the women of CRE on LinkedIn. Growing up, my father's message was that nothing was beyond my reach. However, when I began my legal career in commercial real estate, with only a handful of women practicing in an area dominated by men, I found myself in an industry unaccustomed to and uncomfortable with women at the table. My advice to myself then and to young women now is "disregard perceived barriers and forge ahead." While obstacles remain, it is key for women to support each other through mentoring and networking since we are well on our way to building an industry that values what actually matters: talent, accomplishments and experience.

Why should this nominee be recognized in our Women in Commercial Real Estate Spotlight?

"Lydia Chesnick's multidimensional approach to real estate makes her an invaluable asset to not only her clients but to her colleagues. Recognized for her expertise in complex problem-solving and her skills at building and sustaining strong relationships, Lydia is a trusted advisor who contributes to state policy and to various communities. Her holistic approach to law merits recognition in Women in Commercial Real Estate." - Megan Pluviose, Chief Operating Officer at Bernkopf Goodman LLP.

New England Real Estate Journal - 17 Accord Park Drive #207, Norwell MA 02061 - (781) 878-4540