

Legal Diversity Org Names Crowell & Moring Atty As Chair

By Emma Cueto

Law360 (November 26, 2019, 9:27 PM EST) -- The Leadership Council on Legal Diversity has appointed a Crowell & Moring LLP employment partner as the new chair of its board, replacing the term-limited outgoing chair, the organization announced Tuesday.

Ellen Dwyer will take over as chair on Jan. 1. The group on Tuesday also named the chief legal officer of HP Inc., Kim Rivera, as chair-elect and announced that four new board members are joining the organization.

LCLD President Robert Grey told Law360 that the decision to choose Dwyer was unanimous.

"Ellen is somebody who talks the talk, walks the walk, has great respect from her peers," he said. "Ellen inspires people with the way she handles matters, the way she researches matters. Like everything, showing up is half the battle, and she shows up all the time."

Dwyer, who is based in Washington, D.C., is also a member of the executive committee and the managing board at Crowell & Moring. An employer-side labor and employment attorney, Dwyer also has experience investigating sexual harassment claims, advising companies on ways to avoid such claims and conducting employee training on the topic, according to her firm biography.

"It is an honor to serve as chair of LCLD, and I look forward to partnering with in-house counsel and other law firm leaders who share my passion to create environments where women and diverse lawyers can thrive, gain sponsorship, and make enduring positive changes in the profession for the next generation," Dwyer said in a statement. "This is an important moment in society, especially for diverse talent, to be visible, to be heard, and to have the agency and opportunities to succeed."

Grey said that LCLD is also excited to welcome its four new board members, who he says have all worked with the organization in the past and shown a commitment to its mission through their actions.

The four new members are Deneen Donnley, incoming general counsel at Consolidated Edison of New York Inc.; Maryanne Lavan, general counsel at Lockheed Martin Corp.; Thomas O'Neill, general counsel at Exelon Corp.; and Mitchell Zuklie, chairman and CEO of Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP.

LCLD, founded in 2009, works to promote diversity and inclusion within the legal profession. It works

with more than 300 leaders, including in-house counsel and law firm leadership, and has multiple programs to mentor law students and develop diverse legal talent.

--Editing by Michael Watanabe.

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