Corinne Ball
PARTNER AT JONES DAY

Corinne Ball is always twenty steps ahead—in her thought process, her ability to see markets developing, her advancement of legal arguments, her deal-making ability, her generosity and her accomplishments.

BY HEATHER LENNOX AND COLLEEN LADUZINSKI

Corinne’s brilliant legal mind, business foresight and deep understanding of the financial markets have enabled her career as a preeminent bankruptcy and restructuring lawyer for four decades. To work on a case or deal with her is to witness a strategic mastermind in action. Corinne leads clients, restructuring professionals, counterparties and her own Jones Day teams of lawyers down the always-novel-and-often-replicated path she’s worked out to a successful restructuring or deal or winning argument in court, while providing them the autonomy to get there. She achieves unprecedented results, through tenacity and hard work, and she elicits the same from those around her.

Corinne’s professional accomplishments are legion and well known—from her historic representation of Drexel Burnham Lambert to leading the pioneering representation of Chrysler LLC during the Great Recession to striking the key derivatives deal in the City of Detroit bankruptcy that cemented the consensual plan of arrangement. She has coordinated multinational insolvency proceedings and has led out-of-court reorganizations in Europe. She has received numerous awards and recognitions and has held many directorships and prominent positions. Few have achieved—or will be fortunate enough to achieve in their lifetimes—Corinne’s pinnacle of professional success.

That success is evident to the world. Her strategic brilliance is evident to the world. Her ability to command the most complex and fraught problems for her clients and resolve them creatively is evident to the world. What may be less evident to those not fortunate enough to have worked closely with Corinne over the years is her commitment to nurturing and sponsoring young lawyers to achieve their potential; her devotion to the thoughtful and ethical practice and development of the law domestically and internationally; and her unflagging work for the betterment of her community. And, we might add, her steadfast promotion of women in the profession.

She gives young lawyers opportunities—she trusts that they are equipped to do anything and she lets them run with it, while providing them a platform, feedback and leadership. And Corinne is deeply committed to serving those in need in New York City, through her role as a trustee of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of New York and her launching of Catholic Renewal, an organization that has grown to more than 1500 restructuring professionals funding millions to carry out the mission of “feeding our neighbors” in New York.

We are witnesses to these virtues. We are the beneficiaries of her knowledge, her tutelage and her mentorship. We know the sacrifices she has made on her road to success and in her quest to raise up the generations that have come after her. We’ve seen her courage in the face of skeptics and hostile adversaries. We are infinitely better lawyers for having her as our partner. We are infinitely richer people for having Corinne as a friend.

No-one is more deserving of this recognition. And, after her cherished family, no two persons are prouder of Corinne as she accepts this honor.

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