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## Meta, Lincoln Financial Legal Chiefs Named To MCCA Board

By **Michele Gorman**

Law360 (April 28, 2022, 3:12 PM EDT) -- Meta's chief legal officer, a former Trump-nominated U.S. Department of State lawyer, is among three new board members at the Minority Corporate Counsel Association, the organization that champions diversity in the law profession said Wednesday.

Jennifer Newstead of Meta, along with Craig Beazer, executive vice president and general counsel at Lincoln Financial Group, and Laurence Midler, executive vice president, general counsel and chief risk officer at real estate heavyweight CBRE Group Inc., join 14 board members from other high-profile companies including Tyson Foods Inc. and Vanguard Group Inc.

MCCA President and CEO Jean Lee commended the three new members for advocating for racial justice and equity.

"They are guiding companies to know better, do better and lead better — to ultimately bring systemic change to the corporate landscape," Lee said in a statement. "We know their insight will strengthen our work to help corporations keep up the momentum towards making that change."

Since 2019, Newstead has been at the **helm of the legal department** at the company formerly known as Facebook. When she replaced Colin Stretch, the social media giant faced government scrutiny over a string of privacy breaches and misinformation being spread on the platform.

Before she joined the company, Newstead was the U.S. Department of State's **legal adviser**. Nominated by then-President Donald Trump, she was confirmed by the Senate in December 2017. Her career also includes serving in other senior roles in government, including as general counsel of the Office of Management and Budget, as a principal deputy assistant attorney general at the U.S. Department of Justice and as an associate White House counsel.

"As an engaged advocate of diversity, equity and inclusion in the legal profession, I am delighted to join MCCA's board of directors in service of this commitment," Newstead said in a statement. "We have much more work to do, and I look forward to diving in with my new colleagues to explore ideas and solutions to make the legal profession more inclusive."

Before Beazer started at Lincoln Financial in 2021, he was general counsel at KeyBank for three years, according to his LinkedIn profile. His résumé also includes in-house leadership positions at the Bank of New York Mellon Corp. and Bank of America Corp.

Midler is a longtime member of the in-house team at commercial real estate services and investment company CBRE. Since he began there in 2004, he has helped lead the company through its initial



Craig T. Beazer



Laurence Midler



Jennifer Newstead

public offering and several acquisitions, the MCCA said in its announcement. Previously, Midler was in house at MicroWarehouse and Serviscope Corp.

--Editing by JoVona Taylor.

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