



2022 Women in Professional Services: Jothy Narendran, Esq., Jaspan Schlesinger LLP

October 25, 2022 - Spotlights (<https://nyrej.com/section/SP>)



Jothy Narendran, Esq.
Co-Managing Partner
Jaspan Schlesinger LLP

In the last 12 months, what was your TOP career highlight? I was recently appointed as chair of the Touro Law Center Board of Governors. I have been an active member of the Board for several years and have donated to the school for scholarships and other initiatives. I look forward to help make a difference for all the students and various constituents of Touro Law.

In the last 12 months, what ONE award were you most proud to receive? To celebrate the firm's 75th anniversary, the firm designed a program to donate to 75 local not-for-profit organizations and called it Jaspan Schlesinger LLP's Heart of Community award. These financial awards were given to organizations with a proven commitment to improving New York. I was proud to accept the Philanthropy Law Firm of the Year award on behalf of the firm for our Heart of the Community year-long campaign.

Jothy Narendran is chair of the firm's banking and financial services practice group. She represents institutional and private lenders in a variety of commercial real estate financing transactions.

These include acquisition and construction loans, equipment financing, leasehold financing, multi-lender participation/syndicated financing, real estate investment trust and interest rate swap transactions, revolving credit facilities, letters of credit, industrial development agency

transactions, Section 1031 exchanges and reverse exchange loans, mezzanine and structured financing and defeasances.

Jothy has worked on a variety of properties, ranging from multifamily properties to assemblages of entire city blocks for the development of multi-use projects, including residential, retail, and office components. She has also negotiated regulatory agreements, leases, and subordination agreements with various municipal agencies. Jothy also acts as counsel to lenders in connection with negotiating intercreditor agreements, triparty agreements, and note sales and purchases.

Jothy is a member of the firm's management committee and co-managing partner of Jaspan Schlesinger LLP.

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2022 Women in Professional Services: Sophia Perna-Plank, Esq., Jaspan Schlesinger LLP

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Sophia Perna-Plank, Esq.

Associate

Jaspan Schlesinger LLP

In the last 12 months, what was your TOP career highlight? I received a call from a prospective commercial landlord client, who found me while reading various blogs on the internet. She came across one I wrote that resonated with her situation. She was impressed with the content and called me. It was exciting to receive the call due to my business development efforts. As a younger attorney, I am always working toward establishing my book of business.

In the last 12 months, what ONE award were you most proud to receive? Tie between 'Ones to Watch', from the *New York Real Estate Journal*, and Super Lawyers New York Metro Rising Stars (*Business Litigation*). Both were unexpected. It's always an honor to be recognized for your work and dedication to the profession.

What advice would you give the next generation of women in your industry? A female colleague recently told me to keep perspective; it will make the practice of law (and life) manageable. Also, be persistent and vocalize what you need to get the job done. Don't be afraid to challenge ideas. You can't grow without challenge.

Sophia Perna-Plank focuses her practice on commercial litigation and bankruptcy matters, where she represents both corporate and private clients in a wide variety of legal matters in state and federal court.



2022 Women in Professional Services: Maria Girardi, Esq., Jaspan Schlesinger LLP

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Maria Girardi, Esq.

Associate

Jaspan Schlesinger LLP

In the last 12 months, what was your TOP career highlight? Leading and successfully closing a package of thirteen loans over the span of two days while experiencing a power-outage.

In the last 12 months, what ONE award were you most proud to receive? Receiving the Top Lawyer Rising Star award from the Herald Community Newspapers.

What advice would you give the next generation of women in your industry? To be assertive, ask questions and don't be afraid to challenge yourself.

Maria Girardi is an associate attorney in the firm's banking and financial services practice group representing lenders with respect to commercial transactions. She is a member of the Nassau County Bar Association, Nassau County Women's Bar Association and is a member of the board of directors of the Nassau County Women's Bar Foundation, the charitable arm of the Woman's Bar Association.