



Women's History Month Attorney Spotlight: Patricia Russo-Owen

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Patricia E. Russo-Owen is a partner in the firm's Banking and Financial Services department. She represents institutional lenders in commercial lending transactions, primarily loans secured by multi-family and commercial real estate in New York, New Jersey, and other states. She also provides representation in unsecured financing transactions. Learn more about Patricia Russo-Owen through our Women's History Month Spotlight:

Who/What has inspired you the most in your career?

My mother has been a true inspiration to me my entire life. She was extremely hard-working, strong-willed and driven despite the many adversities she faced in life. I have also had amazing mentors at the firm who have inspired me to continuously grow in my career while at the same time encouraging me to mentor younger lawyers.

What is the most important advice you've been given?

The most important advice that I've ever been given is to never give up on your dreams. My dream of becoming a lawyer began at a very young age. My parents always encouraged higher education and because of that, I was one of the first in my family to attend college. Their philosophy was that dreams are attainable when you put in the time and work to the best of your abilities.

What has been your greatest achievement(s)?

My greatest achievement in my personal life has been the wonderful life that my husband and I have created with our two children. On a professional level, becoming a member of this incredible firm alongside my mentors has certainly been the highlight of my career.

What does Women's History Month mean to you?

Women's History Month is an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of women both past and present who have created opportunities for myself and so many others. It is important to recognize the contributions of women in our world today and to admire them for the obstacles they overcame to achieve their dreams.

Why do you think diversity in the workplace is so important?

A diverse workplace brings people of different backgrounds and perspectives together which contributes to a greater and more productive exchange of ideas. For any company, this can translate into obtaining better results and maximizing productivity and creativity.

What progress have you seen in gender equality in your life and work?

I have seen tremendous success on the issue of gender equality in my life and work. Women have seen greater access to healthcare and paid leave for childcare. I've seen women rise to decision-making positions which have traditionally been held by men.

What qualities about you as a woman have contributed the most to a successful career?

I think my determination and my ability to work and interact well with others have helped contribute to my successful career.

What advice do you have for any women starting off in their career?

The biggest piece of advice that I would give women starting off in their career is to work hard and to be confident in your abilities. If you want to inspire others, believing in yourself is the first step.

Attorneys

- Patricia E. Russo-Owen