

Member Spotlight: Kim Wolf Price, Chair-Elect of WILS

By Linda Redlisky

Kim Wolf Price, a member of the Executive Committee of NYSBA's Women in Law Section and currently WILS' Alternate to NYSBA's House of Delegates, will serve as Chair-Elect of WILS starting June 1, 2021 and become Chair of the Section on June 1, 2023.

Q: How did your career in law begin?

A: Throughout my 17-year career as an attorney, I have always been guided by the idea of staying open to new opportunities. I began my legal career as a litigation and dispute resolution associate at the New York City office of Clifford Chance. After a few years in practice, and the birth of my oldest child, my husband Fred received an opportunity at a firm outside of New York City. We decided to take the opportunity and move closer to family. In Syracuse, I began working for a small environmental law firm where they encouraged me to become more active in the New York State Bar Association, an opportunity I happily took. Commercial and Federal Litigation was the first Section I was part of, attending events and Annual Meeting, including the luncheon.

Q: How did you start your career in higher education?

A: After a year at the firm, another opportunity arose during a phone call with a mentor and friend from Syracuse University College of Law. They were looking for someone to join the professional development office to work with law students. One of my friends and former office mates at Clifford Chance used to say I should charge the other associates for the career advice I would give them. It seemed like an interesting transition, so I made the move.

During my time at Syracuse Law, I served in several roles, including the assistant dean for professional and career development. My last role at Syracuse Law was director of externship programs. In that role I taught lawyering seminars, worked closely with students on research papers, advised the Pro Bono Fellow, taught the Pro Bono Scholars Seminar and created the full semester in New York City externship program.



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Q: You returned to the private sector in January 2020 at Bond, Schoeneck & King. What prompted that change and what's your role there?

A: My role with Bond is a new role for the firm. I am serving as the attorney professional development and diversity officer. Bond and I started talking about the opportunity in June 2019 and I joined at the start of 2020. The role fits my passion for making our profession more inclusive. There is a great deal of work to be done. This move, even during 2020, has been challenging, but incredibly rewarding. It was absolutely the right move.

Q: It's no surprise you are a member of NYSBA's Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) Committee. Did your job at Bond drive your interest in the committee or did your interest in D&I influence your job choice?

A: The need for equity and access in the legal profession and beyond has always been important to me. My involvement with the D&I Committee all starts with the Lawyers in Transition Committee. I became an active member of NYSBA by volunteering to review resumes at the Career Development Conference at Annual Meeting. Within a year, I was organizing panels and presentations. Not long after, I was deputy chair and then chair of the Lawyers in Transition Committee. I was part of the team planning Annual Meeting's Career Development Conference. We were planning with the Diversity and Inclusion Committee. The D&I team was fantastic. Sandy Buchanan and I worked really well together. I knew she was in line to be chair, so I asked her if I could be appointed to NYSBA's D&I Committee, and then she asked the NYSBA president and made it happen. I've also been part of planning and moderating the Constance Baker Motley Symposium in past years, I currently chair the Youth Law Day Subcommittee, and I'm assisting the D&I Committee Chairs on other programming.

Q: How did you come to WILS? What committees or activities are you involved in for WILS?

A: I will say that former NYSBA presidents Glenn Lau Kee, David Miranda and Claire Gutekunst were all instrumental in keeping me engaged and helping me find places within NYSBA where I could be of service. When I mentioned my interest in the then Committee on Women in the Law, much like with Lawyers in Transition and Di-

iversity & Inclusion, I received tremendous support. So, as for the Women in Law Section, I was part of the group under our then Chair and leader, Susan Harper, who helped in the transition from Committee to Section. I would be remiss if I didn't mention that it was my work on the Women on the Move (WOM) planning committee that really brought me into the group. I volunteered to join and found Linda Redlisky and Debra Hamilton, then Chairs of WOM and current WILS Executive Committee (EC) members, to be creative, smart, welcoming and supportive. I ended up co-chairing WOM with Morghan Richardson (also a WILS EC member) after Linda and Deb. Those programs—and planning them—were inspiring and truly helped me build my network within WILS and NYSBA. I currently serve as the Alternate to the House of Delegates, working with WILS Delegate Susan Harper to monitor activities that impact the Section and the Bar, and I will become Section Chair in June 2023.

Being an active member of the Women in Law Section gives you access to talented, smart and creative women attorneys—people making a difference to their clients and our profession every day. I am grateful for this opportunity to continue to learn and grow in our profession and to work with others to make it more inclusive, equitable and accessible.

Q: As you take on the role of Chair-Elect of WILS, what are the issues you plan to focus on in the upcoming year?

A: First and foremost is to continue the excellent work of our current Chair, Terri Mazur, and current Chair-Elect, Sheryl Galler. They are doing amazing work and I am grateful for their leadership. I am looking forward to working with Laura Sulem (Executive Committee member, WILS member at large and Co-Chair of the Programming Committee) on programming and I hope to focus on continuing our efforts to make sure the Section is diverse and inclusive, in both membership and leadership.



WILS launched a networking series in 2020. These interactive programs focused on speed networking, supercharging networking skills and how to open and close networking conversations, as well as the next steps people should take.

