

PLAYBILL

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ACAMS NEW
YORK CHAPTER

20th

ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION

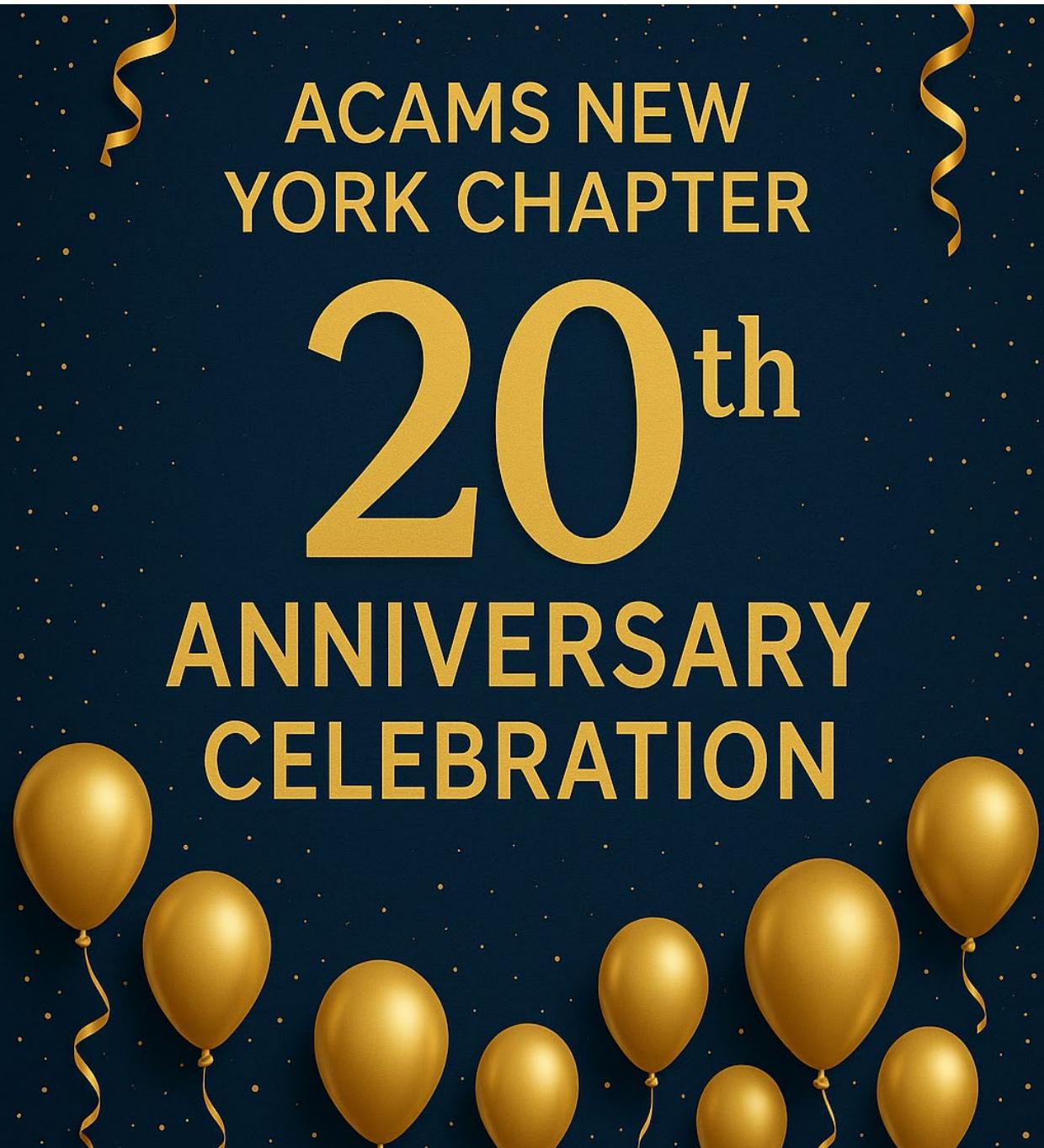


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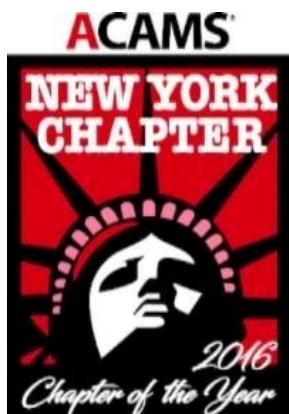
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Welcome from the ACAMS New York Chapter

Founded in November 2005, the New York Chapter was established by an Executive Board of industry experts and law enforcement professionals specializing in anti-money laundering (AML) and counter-terrorist financing. Our chapter is dedicated to advancing the overall mission of ACAMS: enhancing the professional knowledge, skills, and experience of those committed to preventing, detecting, and reporting international money laundering.

As a community, we are passionate about fostering professional development, supporting career growth, and nurturing meaningful connections among our members. We proudly promote ACAMS as a platform for both education and career advancement, as well as for robust professional networking. Through regular events and meetings—featuring speakers from the private sector, regulatory bodies, and law enforcement, we keep our members informed and engaged on issues of both local and global significance.

Our goal is to be a valuable resource for financial institutions and related organizations throughout the region. We are committed to upholding the highest standards of compliance and integrity, and we warmly welcome your active participation in the vibrant ACAMS New York Chapter community.



2025 ACAMS New York Chapter Board



From left to right:

Nishi K. Gupta, Kelly Cooper, Nirvana Patel, Pawneet Abramowski, Meryl Lutsky, Keith Harding, Susan White, Gurran P. Kane, Drew Bach, Slav Shcherbakov

Greetings from ACAMS

The ACAMS Team

“On behalf of everyone at ACAMS, congratulations to the ACAMS New York Chapter on reaching your 20th Anniversary.

As the very first ACAMS Chapter, you’ve led the way for our 67 Chapters globally by setting a strong example of excellence. Your steadfast commitment to education, collaboration, and innovation has elevated the standards across our global community. Through impactful events and an engaged network of professionals, your influence has reached far beyond New York, leaving a lasting legacy of impact.

We are deeply grateful to every Board member who has generously volunteered their time and expertise to build this legacy. Your dedication has strengthened the ACAMS mission and inspired countless professionals to join the effort to protect people, communities and institutions from financial crime.

As we celebrate this milestone, we applaud the New York Chapter for your hard work and outstanding achievements. Thank you for your unwavering support and commitment to our shared mission. Here’s to two decades of excellence—and many more to come!”



Host Sponsor's Note:

Presented by
McDermott Will & Schulte



Leading organizations turn to global law firm McDermott Will & Schulte for a better way to address legal challenges, connect with those at the forefront, and drive stronger outcomes. Working across more than 20 offices globally, our 1,750+ lawyers act on data-driven insights, deep relationships, and unmatched industry experience to deliver on our commitment of Always Better.

Welcome from the Executive Board Co-Chairs: Meryl Lutsky and Susan White

**Message on behalf of Meryl Lutsky,
Co-Chair, ACAMS New York Chapter**

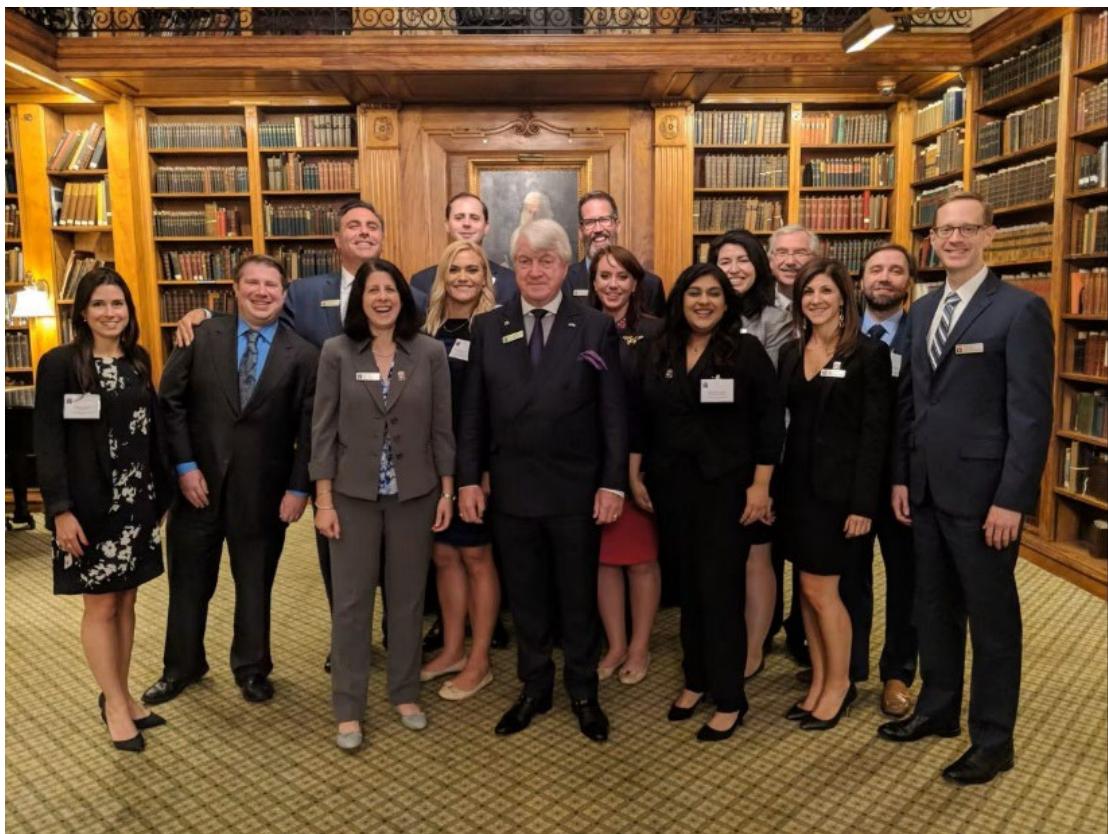
Welcome all to the celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the ACAMS New York Chapter. It is hard to believe that this first Chapter in the Worldwide ACAMS Anti-Money Laundering, Financial Crime, and Terrorist Financing universe has turned twenty. I have had the privilege of participating in this Chapter for almost all of those twenty years, first as a guest, then a member, Board Member, and now Co-Chair. In that time, I have had the opportunity to continuously witness the resolve, commitment, and collaboration of this community of financial crime professionals in the fight to keep our financial system safe and prevent bad actors from obtaining access to it.

I came to the New York Chapter as a financial crime prosecutor with little understanding of the sophisticated ways money moved through the banking system. I found a community willing to educate and answer my endless questions. The members of this Chapter undoubtedly helped mold me into the prosecutor who successfully chaired the Statewide Crime Proceeds Strike Force. I have watched the members of the New York Chapter help others in much the same way. And as the financial system has grown more complex, the members of this Chapter, our guest speakers, and sponsors, have responded.

It has also been my privilege to serve alongside many New York Chapter Board Members from all disciplines within our community, who have always volunteered their time to make our Chapter run smoothly. They have worked tirelessly behind the scenes to put together Chapter events and we would not be able to celebrate this milestone without their efforts through the years.

To the next 20!





From Newcomer to Co-Chair: Reflections on the Journey
By Susan White,
Co-Chair, ACAMS NY Chapter

“Joining the ACAMS NY Chapter in 2019, I never imagined how quickly it would become such a meaningful part of both my professional journey and personal growth. What started as an interest in financial crime and AML turned into a community, I’m incredibly proud to help lead today.

I was fortunate to join the board in 2021—a time when the world was still uncertain, and we were all navigating the shift from in-person events to webinars (and thankfully, back again). It was a journey filled with challenges, creativity, and resilience—and one we should all feel proud of.

To Peter Wild, who introduced me to the board and generously took me under his wing: thank you for opening the door. And to Howard Spieler, who—whether by fate or clever timing—stepped down just as I was ready to step up: your well-timed exit was my well-timed entry. (Talk about succession planning!) I’m grateful for the space you made and the legacy you have left behind.

It’s been an honor to serve alongside Meryl Lutsky, whose steady leadership and dedication continue to inspire. And of course, I’m thankful for every board member (past and present), the unwavering support of our sponsors, and especially the chapter members who keep this community strong, engaged, and thriving.

Here’s to 20 years of shared purpose—and to the many more ahead.”



Greetings from the Executive Board of the ACAMS New York Chapter

Pawneet Abramowski

CEO & Founder, PARC Solutions LLC

Executive Board Member, ACAMS NY Chapter

“Over the past 20 years, the ACAMS New York Chapter has grown into more than a professional network — it’s become a true community.

We’ve learned from remarkable experts, shared knowledge, and supported one another through a changing world.

Most importantly, we’ve built lasting connections — and yes, made some good friends along the way.

Congratulations!!!”



Drew Bach
Attorney at Law
Executive Board Member, ACAMS NY Chapter

"I have been a member of the ACAMS New York Chapter Board for over a decade, and it has been one of the most rewarding experiences in my career. I have watched the Chapter lead the way in financial crime education, providing valuable insight to both new and senior members of the community. The Chapter also offers invaluable networking opportunities that help further ACAMS's mission of combating the proliferation of financial crimes throughout the global economy. Being a part of this Chapter has not only allowed me to meet incredible industry leaders in this space but also to develop some fantastic friendships along the way. Congratulations to the Chapter on reaching another milestone and on its continued success in its future endeavors."



Kelly Cooper

Managing Director at K2 Integrity, Financial Crimes Risk Management

Executive Board Member, ACAMS NY Chapter

“The ACAMS NY Chapter has been such a reliable resource for bringing together anti-financial crimes professionals to learn and build relationships. ACAMS has been a really important part of my career journey and I’m so grateful to be part of this community.”



Nishi K. Gupta

Partner, McDermott Will & Schulte

Executive Board Member, ACAMS NY Chapter

“Founded in the years following September 11, the ACAMS New York Chapter's mission has been focused on developing and expanding its community's knowledge, skill, and experience to identify and report the ever-changing threats from money laundering and terrorism financing. In addition, over the last 20 years, the NY Chapter has continually evolved by adapting and refining its educational offerings, including new and emerging subject matters such as fintech, cryptocurrency, and artificial intelligence. The Chapter is an important resource for the NY financial crime compliance community, and I am grateful to be a part of it”



Keith Harding

Managing Director, Global Head of BSA/AML Regulatory Reporting, Insights & Integration at Citi

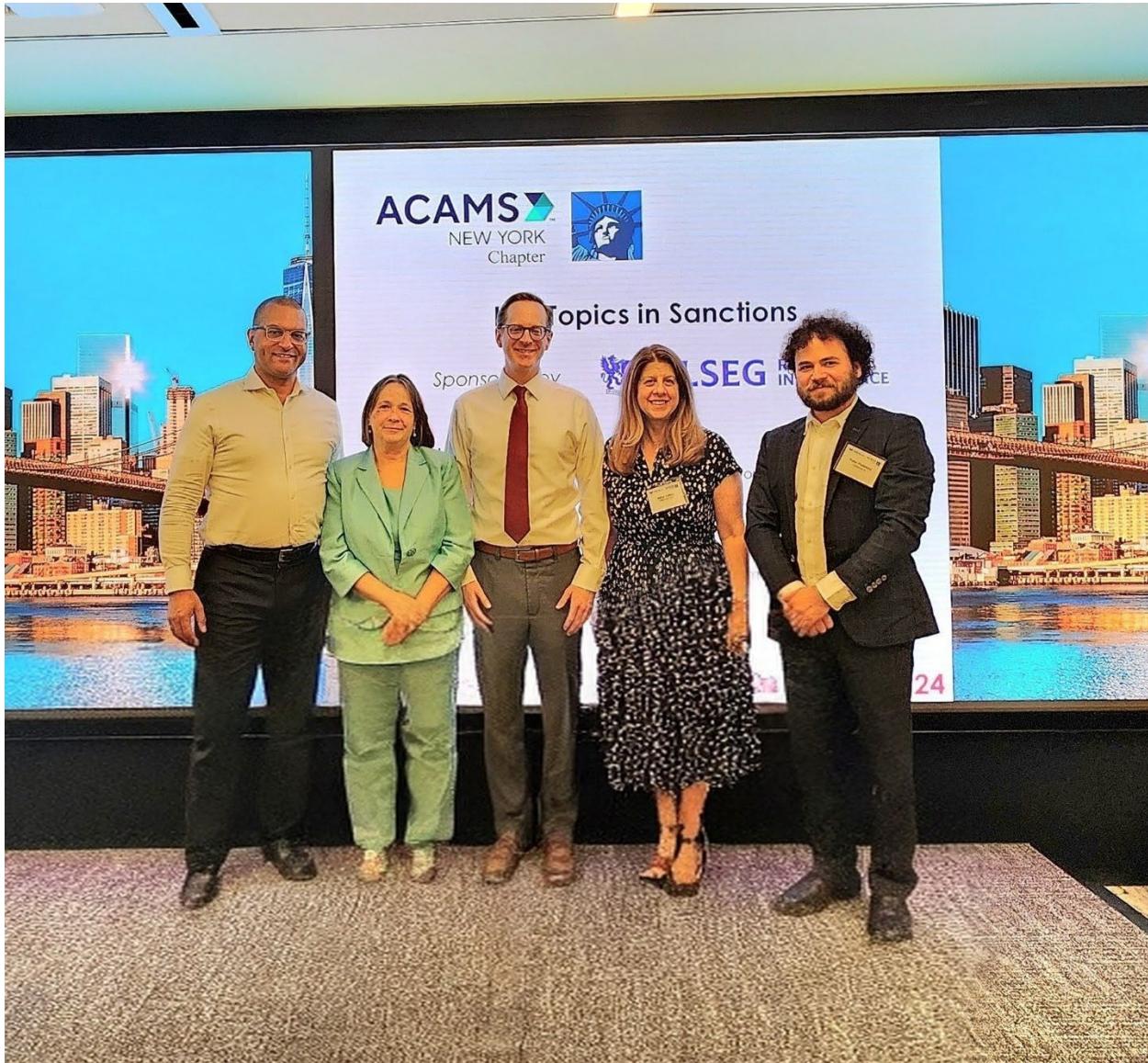
Executive Board Member, ACAMS NY Chapter

“While being the first and largest ACAMS chapter are important watermarks, one of the things that has always struck me the most about the New York Chapter is the dedication and passion of the volunteers, experts, sponsors, and members to enhancing financial crimes compliance objectives. This is evident in the quality, quantity, and relevance of the topics regularly raised at New York Chapter events, supported by consistent strong engagement from our members. The Chapter offers so much more than that though, both professionally and personally. To be a part of community of likeminded professionals committed to advancing our collective efforts has been invaluable to my career and introduced me to many colleagues and friends over the years. I am grateful to have been a small part of this history so far and look forward to the continuing journey.”



Gurran P. Kane, CAMS, PMP
Senior Compliance Officer, AIG US General Insurance
Executive Board Member, ACAMS NY Chapter

“I’m very grateful for the ACAMs community as it is here that I’ve found guidance in my career, continued education through learning events, and networking opportunities. Being a Board Member of this chapter has been extremely rewarding. I’m proud to contribute to such a wonderful community and hope to for years to come. Here’s to another 20 years! 😊”



Ossama Ayesh

Vice President, First Line of Defense Control Office at MUFG

Executive Board Member, ACAMS NY Chapter

"For years, ACAMS NY has served as a center for thought leadership across the NY metropolitan area. It's where experiences intersect, creating a space for thoughtful discussion on where the financial crime field is going and what we as professionals can do to effectuate better outcomes for all. The networking element has also been crucial in building connections across verticals, both public and private, and has personally contributed to my growth and ability to build relationships I would not have been able to have this chapter not existed."



Nirvana Patel

Head of Fintech Risk at MVB Bank
Executive Board member, ACAMS NY Chapter

“Twenty years. When I think about this chapter, I think about the people who make it extraordinary. From my earliest days as a member, to speaking and moderating panels, to now serving on the board, I have watched this community grow into something truly special. Seasoned experts who take time to mentor. Emerging leaders who bring fresh perspectives. Colleagues who become collaborators and friends.

We gather to share insights that change how we approach our work. We tackle complex challenges together, turning obstacles into opportunities. We celebrate each other’s wins and support one another through the tough days. The conversations that start at an event and continue long after, the familiar faces across a crowded room that feel like home—these are what define this chapter.

Across all our organizations and roles, we are united by a shared mission: protecting the integrity of the financial system and fighting financial crime together. This chapter has given me more than professional development or industry connections. It has given me a community where I belong, where every conversation matters and we lift each other up.

Here’s to 20 years of learning together, growing together, and building something that lasts. Here’s to all of you. This is ours, together.”



Slav Shcherbakov
Manager, Anti-Money Laundering Services, Deloitte
Executive Board Member, ACAMS NY Chapter

"I joined ACAMS in 2015 and have been a proud member of the Executive Board of the ACAMS New York Chapter since 2017. Over these years, I have witnessed truly remarkable growth within our Chapter. Our network has expanded significantly, our events have become more diverse and impactful, and we have welcomed an impressive roster of speakers who continually elevate the quality of our discussions. The range of topics we address has deepened, reflecting the changing landscape of our industry.

It has been an honor to work alongside such dedicated and inspiring individuals. I am especially proud that Deloitte is such an outstanding partner to ACAMS, and I am sincerely grateful for the opportunity to contribute to this thriving community and support the important work we do together.

My deepest congratulations to the ACAMS New York Chapter. Wishing you continued success and many more years of achievement! I am proud to be part of this community and the meaningful cause we serve. Congratulations!"



Sponsor's Message:

Presented by PwC



PwC proudly congratulates the ACAMS New York Chapter on its 20th anniversary and celebrates our enduring partnership in advancing integrity and trust in the fight against financial crime.

Greetings from Former Executive Board Members ACAMS New York Chapter

Vasilios Chrisos

Partner, PwC, Former Co-Chair and Board Member, ACAMS New York Chapter

“As the ACAMS New York Chapter celebrates its 20th anniversary, I’m filled with pride and gratitude for all that this community has achieved. What began in the wake of September 11th as a small group of professionals united in purpose has evolved into one of the most dynamic and respected chapters in the ACAMS network — a true hub for learning, collaboration, and integrity in the fight against financial crime.

Having had the privilege to serve on the Board for over a decade, including six years as Co-Chair, I witnessed firsthand the dedication and energy that defines this Chapter. From early gatherings focused on sharing best practices to large-scale programs that bring together voices from across the industry, our growth has always been powered by a shared commitment to excellence and to one another.

My involvement with the Chapter has also been deeply personal. The relationships, challenges, and experiences I gained through ACAMS not only enriched my understanding of the financial crimes compliance field but also accelerated my professional development. The Chapter provided a platform to collaborate with exceptional peers, learn from diverse perspectives, and contribute to initiatives that continue to shape our industry.

As we mark this milestone, I’m grateful to everyone who has contributed to our success and inspired by the next generation of anti-financial crime professionals who will build on the foundation we’ve created and carry our mission forward, ensuring that the ACAMS New York Chapter continues to lead with purpose and integrity for decades to come.”



John MacKessy

Global Head of AML Compliance

Former Executive Board Member, ACAMS New York Chapter

“As the ACAMS New York Chapter celebrates its 20th anniversary, I’m filled with gratitude for the incredible journey we’ve shared. From my earliest days as a member to my time serving on the Chapter board, I’ve been fortunate to learn alongside—and build lasting relationships with—some of the most dedicated professionals in our field. The learning events were always a highlight, but it was the spirited conversations during pre-panel meetings and post-event gatherings that truly shaped my experience. I especially cherish the panels I participated in, where we tackled the pressing challenges of AML compliance with candor, collaboration, and a shared commitment to progress. Many of those challenges persist, but so does the strength of this community. ACAMS NY has been more than a professional network—it’s been a source of inspiration, connection, and enduring friendship.”



Tina M. Rampino

VP | Head of FCRM Training, Communications, and Employee Engagement

TD Bank Group

Former Executive Board Member, ACAMS New York Chapter

“Congratulations to the ACAMS New York Chapter on its 20th anniversary! My time on the ACAMS NY Chapter Executive Board truly helped me to grow as a financial crime professional. It has been a pleasure to learn from all the bright and talented professionals who share their knowledge and partnership to help make the Chapter great.

Thank you for building a true community of financial crimes professionals that shares knowledge generously, learns from each other, and collaborates to strengthen the work we do every day to protect the financial system.

Your volunteers, Board, and partners set the bar for impactful programming, peer connection, and professional excellence. Here’s to the continued learning, collaboration, and community that defines this Chapter. I look forward to the collective impact we’ll continue to make in the years ahead.”



Jack Sonnenschein

Former Executive Board Member, ACAMS New York Chapter

“For two decades, the ACAMS New York Chapter has served as a cornerstone for advancing awareness and understanding of money laundering risks, regulatory developments, and emerging best practices in financial crime prevention. Through hundreds of events, panels, and roundtables, the chapter has created a vibrant forum for knowledge-sharing and collaboration among compliance professionals, regulators, and law enforcement. These gatherings have not only deepened expertise across the industry but also provided invaluable opportunities to connect, network, and exchange ideas with colleagues who share a common purpose.

We extend our sincere gratitude to the many hosts and sponsors who have generously supported our programs over the years, as well as to the dedicated professionals who have presented, moderated, and participated in our sessions, often filling rooms to capacity. As a prior board member and moderator, I can personally attest that the chapter’s enduring success and reputation as one of the best in the world would not have been possible without the extraordinary leadership, energy, and dedication of Meryl Lutsky, whose tireless volunteer efforts continue to inspire all of us who have had the privilege to serve alongside her.

Best wishes for the next 20!”



Howard Spieler

Sanctions Risk Officer at Citi

Former Co-Chair and Board Member, ACAMS New York Chapter

“Celebrating 20 Years of the ACAMS New York Chapter

As ACAMS’ oldest and largest chapter marks its 20th anniversary, I’ve been reflecting on what an incredible journey it has been. One of my greatest professional privileges was serving on the Executive Board of the ACAMS New York Chapter from 2018 to 2024, including several years as Chapter Co-Chair.

During that time, we were honored to be named ACAMS Chapter of the Year, hosted countless sold-out events, and managed to keep our community connected through the challenges of the COVID-19 shutdown. But what I value most from those years are the friendships and connections made along the way—among fellow board members, speakers, sponsors, and members who share a common purpose.

Fighting financial crime has always been more than a professional duty—it’s a shared mission to protect the integrity of the global financial system and keep illicit funds out of the hands of dangerous actors, making the world just a little bit safer.

I’ll always look back on my years with the ACAMS New York Chapter with deep pride and gratitude—and look forward to reconnecting with old friends and continuing to meet new ones as our community keeps growing.”



Peter D Wild FCA, CAMS Audit
Wild AML Solutions LLC
AML Consulting in Operations, Audit & Training
Former Co-Chair and Board Member, ACAMS New York Chapter

Many Congratulations to the Chapter!

I had the privilege of organizing the Chapter's first One Day AML Conference, which took place at the Union League Club on January 30th, 2018. The event welcomed over 100 attendees and featured many internationally recognized speakers.

In 2019, I also coordinated a half-day joint session on AML with the NY Chapter of ISACA.

Additionally, I am honored to be a recipient of the ACAMS Volunteer of the Year Award.



With Gratitude to Past Sponsors

ACAMS New York Chapter

The ACAMS New York Chapter cannot express enough our heartfelt gratitude to our past, present, and future sponsors. Our 20-year journey of success would not have been possible without your unwavering support. We deeply appreciate your partnership and steadfast presence by our side. Thank you for being an essential part of our story—we truly cherish the friendships and collaborations we have built together through the years.

American Express	Exiger	McKinsey & Co
AML Partners	Fenergo	MJ Boyd Consulting
ARC-Serve	Financial Integrity Network	Moody's
BAE Systems	Fordham University	Morgan Stanley
Bloomberg	GQR Global Markets	MUFG
BNP Paribas	Hawk AI	Napier AI
Case Western Reserve University Law School's Financial Integrity Institute	HSBC	Nisos
	Hummingbird	Pegasystems
Castellum.Ai	Hunton and Williams	Protiviti
Chainalysis	IBM	PwC
Citi	Infinity Consulting Solutions, Inc.	Rabobank
CSI	K2 Intelligence	Sayari
Deloitte.	Kaufman Rossin	SSI People
Dixon Hughes Goodman LLP	LSEG (London Stock Exchange Group)	Standard Chartered
Dow Jones	Matrix	TD Bank
Encompass	Matrix-IFS	Thomson Reuters/Refinitiv/TRSS
Enigma	McDermott Will & Schulte	Quantifind
Ernst & Young		

Sponsor's Note:

Presented by Deloitte

Deloitte.

On behalf of Deloitte, we extend our heartfelt congratulations to the ACAMS New York Chapter on the remarkable occasion of your 20th anniversary. We are truly honored to have been with you in the ongoing fight against financial crime over the past two decades. The impact of your dedication and spirit of collaboration continues to inspire us, and we look forward to many more years of shared efforts toward a safer, more resilient future for the industry and global community.

Greetings from ACAMS Chapters

On behalf of the **ACAMS Greater Buffalo Chapter** Board:

Congratulations to the ACAMS New York Chapter!

**Matthew S. Haslinger,
Executive Vice President
Chief BSA/AML & Sanctions Compliance Officer, M&T Bank**

**Chris Nowak,
Founder & CEO, Augmenta Prime**

On behalf of the **ACAMS South Florida Chapter** Board:

Congratulations to the ACAMS New York Chapter on your 20th anniversary!

Reaching this milestone is a remarkable achievement and a reflection of your dedication to building and sustaining a strong financial crime compliance community. As fellow board members, we can truly relate to the effort it takes to run a chapter while balancing our full-time roles. It requires passion, commitment, and a genuine love for what we do for ACAMS and the broader profession.

We celebrate this incredible accomplishment with you and applaud your continued leadership, collaboration, and impact across the ACAMS network. Here's to the next 20 years of success and shared purpose.

**Warm regards,
The ACAMS South Florida Chapter Board**

Greetings from ACAMS Chapters

On behalf of the **ACAMS Greater Philadelphia Chapter** Board:

Congratulations to the NY chapter, this is indeed a great milestone worth celebrating!"

**Arpita McGrath,
Chief Compliance Officer, Sporttrade
Co-Chair, Greater Philadelphia Chapter**

On behalf of the **ACAMS New Jersey Chapter** Board:

Congratulations to ACAMS New York, the chapter that never sleeps! For twenty years, you have nurtured and educated AML professionals, demonstrating leadership that all chapters can aspire to.

The New Jersey Chapter applauds you!

**Laura H. Goldzung,
President & CEO, AML Audit Services, LLC**

**Todd Brungard,
Crowe LLP**

Salutes from Friends and Sponsors

Linda Agnew
MBA Administrative Manager,
Gabelli School of Business, Fordham University

“Huge congratulations to ACAMS on 20 years! It’s been a personal pleasure to collaborate with you and to host your sessions at Fordham. Thank you for welcoming our students to sit in and learn—they’ve gained so much. Cheers to the next chapter together. er.”



Annalisa Camarillo,
EVP and CMO, Quantifind

“Congratulations to ACAMS New York on 20 years of leadership, community, and impact in the fight against financial crime. Here’s to two decades of elevating the profession — and to the progress still ahead.”

Saskia Rietbroek, CSS
Executive Director and Founder
Association of Certified Sanctions Specialists (ACSS)

“I have such fond memories of the launch of the ACAMS NY chapter 20 years ago. At the time, I spearheaded ACAMS as its Founding Executive Director and the NY chapter was the first chapter we launched worldwide. Congrats on your continued success and your anniversary.”

David Jacobs**Head of Membership and Chapter Experience**

“I joined ACAMS with no knowledge of the AML industry. I decided to drive up to New York City to attend the “Making your SARs Stars” event in March 2023. Having only been at ACAMS for a couple weeks, crossing my fingers nobody would ask me anything specific about the BSA or even what BSA stands for, and didn’t know what to expect. The event was impressive, held in PwC’s auditorium, and any intimidation I felt about meeting the Board members vanished after talking with Meryl, Howard, and others. Did they corner me and share some NY-style direct feedback? Yes...and I knew I was dealing with my kind of people who cared a lot about having a great Chapter. It was a big reason my wife and I decided to live in Brooklyn for 3 months that summer, attending every Chapter event held.

The NY Chapter has had a positive impact larger than any Chapter. I often hear from Chapters and members about how they initially got involved with ACAMS, with the NY Chapter serving as a common denominator in many of these stories. Thank you to Meryl, Susan, and the rest of the current and previous Board members that have played a role in ACAMS’ success. I appreciate your patience and support working with the Chapters team and kindness to me. Congratulations and looking forward to many more years to come!”



Annemarie McAvoy
CEO of Clovis Quantum Solutions, LLC

“Congratulations to the ACAMS NY Chapter on its 20th anniversary! Thank you to the amazing volunteers who work so hard to run the group. The events are always informative and interesting, giving people working in the AML field the chance to get to know each other and many have become friends over the years thanks to the NY Chapter.”



Miriam Ratkovicova
Managing Director, Deloitte

“It is my great pleasure to congratulate the ACAMS New York Chapter on your 20th anniversary. This milestone is a testament to your unwavering commitment to advancing the fight against financial crime and fostering a strong, collaborative community. Reflecting on my own journey alongside you—as a frequent moderator at ACAMS meetings and proud host of many events at Deloitte’s facilities, I am grateful for the meaningful partnerships and friendships we have built over the years. Being a part of this organization and movement has been, and continues to be, both an honor and an inspiration. I look forward to many more years of shared success, growth, and impact together.”



Sponsor's Message:

**Presented by Peter Piatetsky and the
Castellum.AI Team**

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Castellum.AI

On behalf of everyone at Castellum.AI, congrats to ACAMS New York on its 20th Anniversary!

Members in New York sit at the nexus of international finance, and on a daily basis we're charged with identifying and preventing sanctions evasion and international (and local) money laundering. ACAMS New York has for two decades provided the guidance, education and networking that strengthens our collective effort to fight financial crime and foster the next generation of compliance leaders.

We're proud to support this community, and we're looking forward to the next 20 years!

Best,
Peter Piatetsky and the Castellum.AI team

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Castellum.AI

ACAMS NY Chapter Memories





Tribute

The ACAMS New York Chapter honors and remembers the many friends and members who have made lasting contributions to our profession. Though we cannot name them all, we carry their impact with us—and we miss them deeply.

Tribute to Salvatore (Sal) Scotto, CAMS from the ACAMS New York Chapter Board



Sal will be remembered as a warm, generous, and truly good-hearted man. A respected Financial Crimes expert, he dedicated his career to strengthening compliance standards, supporting his colleagues, and elevating the industry with integrity and professionalism. As a long-time supporter of the ACAMS New York Chapter, Sal was always willing to share his insight, lend a hand, and contribute to the community he cared so deeply about.

Beyond his expertise, Sal brought kindness, humor, and connection to every room. He made people feel welcome, valued, and included—whether they were seasoned professionals or new to the field. His legacy lives through the colleagues he mentored, the friendships he built, and the positive mark he leaves on our chapter and industry.

He will be deeply missed and always remembered by the ACAMS NY Chapter Board.

