

# LCLD Fellows Program Leadership Lunch: *Cummins, Inc. and Quarles & Brady LLP*

Friday, January 12, 2018

12:00 pm ET

Quarles & Brady LLP

Indianapolis, IN

## Speakers:

Sharon Barner, Vice President and General Counsel, Cummins, Inc.  
Kimberly Leach Johnson, Partner and Firm Chair, Quarles & Brady LLP

## Agenda:

12:00 - 12:30 pm	Fellows Networking
12:30 - 12:45 pm	Introductions
12:45 - 2:00 pm	Discussion and Q&A



**SHARON BARNER** is Vice President and General Counsel for Cummins Inc., where she is responsible for worldwide legal matters and oversees a team of lawyers, paralegals, and other professionals.

With more than 30 years of experience in the legal profession, Barner primarily specializes in intellectual property law. Prior to joining Cummins, she served as deputy under secretary of commerce for intellectual property and deputy director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). During the two years she spent in that role, Barner led 15 foreign missions to meet with government representatives, as well as leaders in academia and industry to raise awareness about the impact of intellectual property on business and innovation.

She has spent the majority of her career in private practice, most recently at the law firm of Foley & Lardner in Chicago, where she led the firm's Intellectual Property Department, a team of more than 200 intellectual property lawyers.

Barner received the 2013 American Inns of Court Professionalism award for the 7th Circuit and the 2011 Women of Vision award from the Women's Bar Association of Illinois. She was named one of the 50 Most Influential Minority Lawyers in America by the *National Law Journal* in 2008 and an Illinois "Super Lawyer" by Law & Politics Media Inc. (2005-2011) for her intellectual property litigation work.

She is a graduate of Syracuse University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in psychology and went on to receive a law degree from the University of Michigan Law School.



**KIMBERLY JOHNSON** is Firm Chair of Quarles & Brady and presides over the firm’s executive committee. As an attorney, she has been practicing trusts & estates law for more than 30 years. She built her practice from the ground up by developing personal and professional relationships. Her stellar work and reputation have earned her an impressive client base and a robust network of referral sources.

From post-mortem tax-mitigation techniques, comprehensive estate planning, which includes understanding the client’s wishes and explaining and reducing the tax impact, to carrying out the estate plan after a client’s death, Johnson guides her clients and their families through the processes of defining final wishes and seeing them through with confidence, confidentiality, and competence.

Johnson’s clients include individuals and institutions alike. Her command of the tax code, coupled with her comprehensive knowledge of both the laws and the personal considerations that affect the transfer of wealth, make her a reliable source of advice and legal representation for high-net-worth persons and families, including those owning private companies.

It takes a long time and a lot of clients to achieve Johnson’s level of experience, but the real secret of her success is something much simpler and perhaps rarer: She genuinely cares, and it genuinely shows. She’s not just preparing wills, tax returns, and trust documents, she’s taking personal care of people who are trying to do what’s best for their families and organizations.

Johnson took the helm as Quarles & Brady’s Firm Chair in 2013, but unlike most large law firm chairpersons, she declined to give up her practice or her clients — she cares too much to let them go.

Johnson currently serves on the Best Lawyers® Advisory Board, the Anderson University (Indiana) Board of Trustees, and the Board of Directors of the Florida Gulf Coast University Foundation and the Bogy Creek Camp for Seriously Ill Children. She is also the Chair of the Florida Bar Tax Section Committee. Johnson is also a member of the Collier County Bar Association, the American Bar Association Taxation Section, and the Quarles & Brady Diversity Committee. Additionally, she is an Emeritus Trustee of the University of Florida, Levin College of Law, Law Center Association.

Johnson has also received numerous professional recognitions. She was named one of the “2017 Women of Initiative” by the Women’s Foundation of Collier County. She also received the FCSW Florida Achievement Award from the Florida Commission on the Status of Women (2015) and was named one of the “Top 50 Women Florida Super Lawyers” for 2011, 2012, and 2013. She is also Martindale-Hubbell AV® Peer Review Rated and a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation. Additionally, Johnson was awarded “Lawyer of the Year” by the Collier County Women’s Bar Association for 2011; named to the *Miami Herald* South Florida’s Top Lawyers for 2010, 2011, and 2016; and named to the *Gulfshore Life* Southwest Florida’s Top Lawyers for 2012. Johnson has also been selected for inclusion in the 2007–2016 Florida Super Lawyers® lists (Estate Planning & Probate) and was named a FIVE STAR: Best in Client Satisfaction Wealth Manager from 2007–2011. In 2014, she was named to WGCU Public Media’s MAKERS: Women Who Make Southwest Florida list, and from 2010–2015, she was named one of *Florida Trend*’s “Florida Legal Elite.” She has also been listed in The Best Lawyers in America® since 2008 for Trusts and Estates.

Johnson earned her LL.M. degree from University of Miami, J.D. from University of Florida Levin College of Law, and a B.S. from Anderson University.