

Christianne F. Kerns

Chief Executive Officer and Managing Partner

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Christianne (Chris) Kerns is the Chief Executive Officer, Managing Partner and Chair of the Executive Committee of Hahn & Hahn LLP. The firm's first CEO and first female Managing Partner, Chris champions diversity in our workforce and an inclusive culture. She has led the firm to become one of the largest law firms in California certified as a majority Women Owned Business Enterprise. In her role, Chris leads strategic planning, human capital management, partnership matters, compensation, branding, business development, IT, finance, accounting, risk management, crisis management, and human resources, and has budget and P&L oversight.

In addition, Chris actively maintains her legal practice as a member of the firm's Business department, guiding corporate boards and C-Suite executives to drive growth. Clients appreciate her ability to assess the opportunity and risk landscape to align major business decisions with organizational goals, build boards and board committees, and implement strong governance practices. Her decades of industry experience provide her with in-depth knowledge of complex debt and capital strategies, inorganic growth strategies, strategic partnerships, complex financing acquisitions, commercial real estate, M&A activities, and other business transactions. She advises management teams to identify and proactively curb risk, achieve financial sustainability, manage legal and regulatory compliance, discreetly resolve sensitive internal challenges, and achieve high-level long-term solutions to benefits all stakeholders. She guides CEOs and boards on board recruiting, board committee structure, and development and implementation of board policies and procedures.

Chris also serves as a member of the Board of Trustees of SunAmerica Asset Management, Series Trust and Seasons Series Trust, an over \$50 billion mutual fund complex managed by SunAmerica, a subsidiary of Corebridge Financial (NYSE: CRBG). Additionally, Chris has served as a director of various nonprofit organizations for more than two decades, serving on Executive, Nominating, Governance, Finance and Audit Committees.

Related Capabilities

Business

Business Disputes and Partnership Realignment

Real Estate

HAHN & HAHN LLP

Experience

Speaking Engagements

Presenter, "Commercial Secured Financing Transactions," In-House MCLE, January 12, 2026

"Informational Sessions for Property Owners Affected by the Los Angeles Wildfires," Hahn & Hahn LLP | Wolf Wallenstein, PC, 2025

Chris has spoken on various panels regarding real estate matters and on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

Credentials

Admissions

California
U.S. District Court, Central District of California

Education

Harvard Business School, Women on Boards Program
University of Southern California Gould School of Law, J.D. (Law Journal: *Major Tax Planning & Computer Law Journal*, Editor in Chief)
California State University, Fullerton, B.A. (With Honors)

Honors & Awards

Nominated for "LA Executive Awards," L.A. Times B2B Publishing, 2026
Recipient of "Lawyers in Real Estate Awards," Connect CRE, 2025
Selected to "Top Attorneys," *Pasadena Magazine*, 2010, 2014–2016, 2021–2025
Recognized in "100 Managing Partners You Need to Know," Lawdragon, 2025–2026
Nominated for "Inspirational Women" awards, L.A. Times B2B Publishing, 2024–2025
Selected to "Commercial Real Estate Trends, Updates & Visionaries," issue, L.A. Times B2B Publishing, 2022–2025
Recognized in "Top 100 Lawyers," *Los Angeles Business Journal*, 2022–2024
Featured in "500 Leading Lawyers in America" list, Lawdragon, 2023
Selected to "Business of Law: Legal Visionaries," issue, L.A. Times B2B Publishing, 2022–2023
Finalist for "Inspirational Women" awards, L.A. Times B2B Publishing, 2022
Nominated for "Women's Leadership Award, CEO of the Year," *Los Angeles Business Journal*, 2021–2022
Featured in "Women of Influence" special issue, *Los Angeles Business Journal*, 2018–2022
Selected to "Women of Distinction," *Pasadena Magazine*, 2021
Nominated for "Leaders in Law" list, *Los Angeles Business Journal*, 2020
Recipient of "Lifetime Achievement Award," Five Acres, 2020
Recipient of "Excellence in Executive Leadership Award," Center for Leadership, California State University Fullerton, 2020

"My highest priority is to support my business clients and boards of directors as a dedicated professional, offering a wealth of experience and knowledge that I've accumulated throughout my career. My approach unites practical advice with a keen business perspective—a rare advantage in the legal community."

Christianne F. Kerns
Chief Executive Officer and Managing Partner

Community Involvement

Professional Organizations

American Bar Association

Member

American Bar Foundation

Fellow

The State Bar of California

Member

Los Angeles County Bar Association

Member

Pasadena Bar Association

Member

National Association for Corporate Directors (NACD)

Member

WomenExecs on Boards (WEoB)

Member

Extraordinary Women on Boards (EWOB)

Member

Exceptional Women Alliance (EWA)

Member

Corporate Directors Roundtable of Orange County (CDROC)

Member

Charitable Organizations

Five Acres

Member, Board of Directors

Member, Executive Committee

Former Chairman of the Board

Hastings Foundation

Vice President and Member, Board of Directors

Pepperdine University: Boone Center for the Family

Member, Advisory Board

University of Southern California: Gould School of Law Alumni

Member, First Generation Professionals Committee

Villa Esperanza Services

Former Member, Board of Directors

Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority

Former Commissioner