

From the Memphis Business Journal:

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# Sussan Harshbarger leaves private practice to become Chief Legal Officer with McNeill Investment Group

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Sussan Harshbarger  
Chief Legal Officer, McNeill  
Investment Group

Law school: University of Memphis

Areas of practice: Real estate; mergers and acquisitions; finance and banking; hospitality

A Mexico City native fluent in Spanish, Sussan Harshbarger has served as inhouse counsel for a bank/mortgage company. And in her recent role with Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs as an equity partner, she focused her practice on real estate, transactional, lending, and business law. She led the firm's Real Estate & Lending Service Team and

for years advised her client, McNeill LISA BUSER PHOTOGRAPHY

Investment Group, on matters related Sussan Harshbarger with McNeill Investment Group to financing, structuring, development, and real estate activities. Just this August, Harshbarger left private practice to become McNeill's chief legal officer. Now, as a formal member of the executive



leadership team, she counsels on all legal matters, including contract negotiation, transactions, business development, expansion, acquisitions, corporate governance, compliance and privacy, dispute resolution, and growth.

**Why did you decide to pursue a career in law?** I enjoy the ability to learn new things and constantly encounter new challenges.

**What are the most important skill sets or talents someone must possess to be successful in law?** Intelligence, flexibility, curiosity, and creativity

**What career advice would you give to someone considering the legal field?** **The law offers numerous varied opportunities.** Find something that you can get excited about, because it is hard work.

**What do people who aren't legal professionals most commonly get wrong or misunderstand the most about law?** Attorneys should be an integral part of the team. Attorneys have great training and can often offer not only a different perspective but also help to resolve issues before they arise. I have been practicing law for more than 30 years and have learned many things from my clients that are useful in other transactions and circumstances.

Greg Akers  
Editor-in-Chief  
Memphis Business Journal

