

Blank Rome Welcomes New Director of Diversity and Inclusion

Blank Rome LLP is pleased to announce that Krystal Studavent Ramsey has joined the Firm as Director of Diversity and Inclusion, further supporting the Firm's longstanding commitment to advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion ("DEI"). Ramsey brings 11 years of DEI experience in the legal industry and is based in Blank Rome's Houston office.

In her role at Blank Rome, Ramsey will work closely with the Diversity and Inclusion Committee, affinity groups, Firm management, and others to create, lead, and implement the Firm's strategic long-term and short-term DEI plans and to assess and refine plans as needed over time; to further foster an inclusive climate where everyone at Blank Rome experiences a sense of belonging and connectivity; to establish fair and equitable processes and policies that advance DEI; to coach on DEI; to serve as a DEI brand ambassador, internally and externally; to partner with and consult clients on DEI plans, initiatives, and programs; and to advocate for Blank Rome's diverse population.

Throughout her career, Ramsey has notably focused on DEI talent development and management, business development, and advancement initiatives, in addition to cultivating strong project management, corporate legal practice, and management consulting experience. Most recently, Ramsey served as a senior legal consultant at Axiom—the world's largest and leading contingent legal talent company with 2,000+ lawyers and 17 offices across three continents—where she advised general counsel across the country on workforce transformation and augmentation, talent management, diversity and inclusion, and cost containment. At Axiom, Ramsey co-founded and co-

chaired Blaxiom, a group of Black Axiom employees, leading the charge in creating a charter and structuring the group to develop the first Black Employee Resource Group in Axiom's history, working closely with the executive leadership team. She also served as director of strategy and operations for the Diverse Attorney Pipeline Program ("DAPP"), a national nonprofit committed to the development and placement of first-year, women of color law students. Prior to her roles at Axiom and DAPP, Ramsey served in senior-level DEI and business development roles for Norton Rose Fulbright, Bliss Lawyers, and Management Leadership for Tomorrow. She also served as general counsel and senior vice president of business affairs at Music World Entertainment.

Ramsey has been active in several professional organizations, including The Downtown Group, the Houston Association of Women Attorneys, the National Bar Association – Women Lawyers Section, and the State Bar of Texas African American Lawyers Section. She is also active in the community, working with organizations such as the American Heart Association and Habitat for Humanity. She is a proud member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated.

Ramsey received a B.S. in Social Justice, with a minor in English, from Texas Southern University, and a J.D. from Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law, ranked as one of the most diverse law schools in the country. She also recently received a Diversity and Inclusion Certificate from Cornell University.