

*Recipient of the AAUW of New Jersey
2017
Woman as Agent of Change Award*

CANDACE L. STRAIGHT



Candace Straight is a private investor and investment-banking consultant specializing in the insurance industry. Throughout her successful career, she has worked for numerous corporations including, Merck & Co. Inc., headquartered in Whitehouse Station, New Jersey, and Bankers Trust Company. Straight has also served as a principal of Head and Partners and as an Advisory Director of Securitas Capital, L.L.C., a global private equity investment firm specializing in insurance and financial services related industries.

Straight is a director of Neuberger and Berman's mutual funds which have assets of approximately \$45 billion. She is also an Executive Producer of EQUITY, an independent film starring two time Emmy winner (Breaking Bad) Anna Gunn. EQUITY is the first female-driven Wall Street film with Gunn playing a senior investment banker threatened by financial scandal.

From 2004 to 2008, Straight served as a director National Atlantic Holdings Corporation and its subsidiary Proformance Insurance, a New Jersey based personal and commercial lines insurance company, and, from 2006 to August 2015, Straight served as a director of Montpelier Re, a Bermuda based property and casualty reinsurer which was sold to Endurance Specialty.

From 1987 to 1997, Straight was a principal of Head and Partners, a merchant banking firm specializing in the insurance industry. The Head Group acquired numerous companies including Integon Corporation, Sphere Drake, Marketing One, and Ango American. Straight was President of Integon Corporation from 1990 to 1992 and served as a director until 1995. Straight also served as a Director of Integon Life, Marketing One, and Drake Holdings.

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In 1982, Straight was appointed by Governor Thomas Kean to be a Trustee of the Public Employees Retirement System of the State of New Jersey, serving until 1988. Straight was Co-Chair of Governor Christine Todd Whitman's Budget Advisory Committee and served on Mayor Rudy Giuliani's Budget Transition Team.

Straight was a member of Governor Chris Christie's Treasury Transition Team and appointed by Governor Chris Christie to the Board of Governors of Rutgers University.

In 1994 Straight was appointed by Governor Whitman to the Board of the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority ("NJSEA"), serving until 2003. Straight was Vice Chairman of the NJSEA from 1996 to January 2002. She also served on Mayor Giuliani and Mayor Michael Bloomberg's Private/Public Initiatives Council and is a former trustee of the New Jersey Network Foundation and a past President of the Financial Women's Association of New York. From 1982 to 1990, Straight was a Trustee of Wilson College, and Chairman of the College's Investment Committee. Straight was named trustee emeritus in 2006.

Straight is a graduate of Bloomfield High School. She received her B.A. from Wilson College and her M.B.A. from New York University. In June 1994, Wilson College awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters to Straight.