

## **Sheila C. Johnson**

CEO, Salamander Hotels & Resorts, LLC



Sheila C. Johnson is a successful entrepreneur and impassioned philanthropist.

Ms. Johnson is Vice Chairman of Monumental Sports & Entertainment and President and Managing Partner of the WNBA's Washington Mystics. She is the only African-American woman to have ownership in three professional sports teams, including the NBA's Washington Wizards and the NHL's Washington Capitals.

As CEO of Salamander Hotels, a hospitality company she founded in 2005, Ms. Johnson oversees a growing portfolio of luxury properties. Grand Golf Resorts of Florida features three golf and family resorts reaching from the Gulf to the Atlantic—Innisbrook Resort near Tampa, Reunion Resort in Orlando, and Hammock Beach Resort in Palm Coast. Grand Resorts at Cap Cana in the Dominican Republic also features three luxury properties—the oceanfront Sanctuary, the marina-inspired Fishing Lodge, and the boutique-style Ocean Club. Ms. Johnson's portfolio also includes the Five Star Woodlands Inn near Charleston, South Carolina; and the ultra-luxurious Salamander Resort & Spa, currently being constructed in Middleburg, Virginia.

Ms. Johnson is a partner in ProJet Aviation, a comprehensive aviation service company specializing in aviation consulting, aircraft acquisitions, management, and charter services. She is also a partner in Mistral, the makers of fine bath, body and home products.

Ms. Johnson has also long been a powerful influence in the entertainment industry, starting with her work as founding partner of Black Entertainment Television. She has served as executive producer of four documentary films, including *Kicking It*, which premiered at the 2008 Sundance Film Festival; *A Powerful Noise*, which premiered at the 2008 Tribeca Film Festival; *She Is the Matador*; and *The Other City*, a critically acclaimed portrayal of the HIV/AIDS crisis in Washington, DC, which premiered at the 2010 Tribeca Film Festival.

In May 2011, Ms. Johnson joined the AOL Huffington Post Media Group as Strategic Advisor for Multicultural and African-American Initiatives

In 2006, Ms. Johnson was named global ambassador for CARE, a leading humanitarian organization that combats global poverty by empowering women. Since 2011, she has served as a member of Accordia Global Health Foundation's International Council, rallying support for the foundation's efforts to overcome the burden of infectious diseases in Africa. Ms. Johnson is also a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

A fervent supporter of education and the arts, Ms. Johnson was appointed by President Obama to the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities. She also serves as Chair of the Board of Governors of Parsons The New School for Design in New York, and a board member of the Sundance Institute, the Tiger Woods Foundation, the Jackie Robinson Foundation, ANNIKA Foundation, and the University of Illinois Foundation.

An accomplished violinist, Ms. Johnson received a Bachelor of Arts in music from the University of Illinois, as well as honorary degrees from numerous other institutions. She lives in Middleburg, VA, is married to the Honorable William T. Newman, Jr., and has two children.

### **Carla Harris**

*Managing Director, Head of Emerging Manager Program*

*Morgan Stanley Investment Management*

*Author, Expect to Win*



Carla Harris is a Managing Director and heads the Emerging Manager Platform at Morgan Stanley Investment Management, where she also provides investment advice to corporations, public pension plans, foundations and endowments. She formerly headed the equity capital markets effort for the consumer and retail industries and was responsible for Equity Private Placements. As a senior member of the equity syndicate desk she executed such transactions as initial public offerings for UPS,

Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia, Ariba, Redback, the General Motors sub-IPO of Delphi Automotive and the \$3.2 billion common stock transaction for Immunex Corporation, one of the largest biotechnology common stock transactions in U.S. history.

Ms. Harris began her career with Morgan Stanley in the Mergers & Acquisitions department in 1987. Prior to joining Morgan Stanley, she received from Harvard Business School an MBA, Second Year Honors, and an AB in Economics from Harvard University, *magna cum laude*. Ms. Harris has also received an Honorary Doctorate of Laws from Marymount Manhattan College.

Ms. Harris was recently named to *Fortune* magazine's list of "The 50 Most Powerful Black Executives in Corporate America," *Black Enterprise's* "75 Most Powerful Blacks on Wall Street," *U.S. Bankers' Top 25 Most Powerful Women in Non-Bank Finance (2009)*, *Black Enterprise's Top 75 Most Powerful Women in Business (2010)*, *Essence* magazine's list of "The 50 Women Who are Shaping the World," and *Ebony's* list of "15 Corporate Women at the Top," and also was named "Woman of the Year 2004" by the Harvard Business Men's Forum.

Carla Harris is actively involved in her community. She is the Chair of the Board of the Morgan Stanley Foundation and sits on the boards of several organizations including, the Food Bank for NYC, The Executive Leadership Council, Sponsors for Educational Opportunity (SEO), A Better Chance, Inc., The Apollo Theatre Foundation, Mt. Sinai Hospital, Xavier University and the Maya Angelou Research Center on Minority Health. Ms. Harris is a member of the National Social Action Commission of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.

In her other life, Carla is a singer, and has released her third CD, a gospel album entitled *Unceasing Praise*. She is also the author of the newly released book, *Expect to Win* (Hudson Press).