

Shirell A. Gross, Esq. has had a successful career as a Senior Executive in Fortune 500 companies. Most recently Shirell was Vice-President, Division Counsel and Head of Law for Bayer's Radiology business. In her role, she had numerous responsibilities including leading a team responsible for counseling the commercial Bayer Pharmaceutical Radiology business world-wide, Global and North America management teams and worldwide functions for Product Supply, Regulatory, Communications, Policy, Quality and its Informatics (software) Business. Before this role, she was Global Head of Law for Bayer's Diabetes Care business and counseled US Corporate Security.

Shirell also served on Advamed's (the medical device trade association) where she serves Board's Legal Committee and often spoke at legal conferences on Health Care law. Shirell is a board member for Executive Women of New Jersey whose mission is to advocate for greater gender diversity of senior leadership in Corporations. She is a member of Corporate Counsel Women of Color and is a frequent conference speaker.

Prior to Bayer, Shirell was Corporate Counsel at Quest Diagnostics where she initially was responsible for managing litigation, risk management and outside counsel. Shirell then later focused on commercial transactions, risk management, quality and compliance supporting Regional laboratories, the Chief Medical Officer, and Joint Ventures. Prior to Quest, she was an Associate at Aaronson, Rappaport Feinstein and Deutsch, representing physicians and hospitals who were sued for medical malpractice. She started her career as a Prosecutor in Bronx, NY. She received her B.S. from Northeastern University and her J.D. from Hofstra University.

Shirell's passion also centers on helping women and particularly women of color defy the odds and have a successful corporate career through mentoring, coaching, training, speaking on identifying both powerful and limiting beliefs, and advocating for greater diversity in the workplace. In this regard, Shirell is a sought-after speaker for many conferences addressing leadership and professional development and corporate diversity.

Shirell has been awarded numerous professional awards including being recognized as an honoree of YWCA of Bergen County Women of Influence Honoree, Black Doctors.org's Top Blacks in Healthcare and Hofstra University School of Law's Outstanding Women in Law. Shirell was also most recently recognized in Savoy Magazine as one of the Most Influential Black Lawyers in America and will be a featured Executive in the upcoming July 2019 issue of Profile Magazine.

As the daughter of a teenage Mother and the first to attend college in her family, Shirell understands the importance of sharing talent and resources. As such, she is involved in her community as the Vice-Chair (and the Immediate past Chair) of WNET (Channels 13 and 21), where she has spearheaded many community engagement programs, including recently working with Dr Henry Louis Gates on a film screening of his work "History of African Americans from Civil Rights to Present" which also included a talk back with 500 African American teenagers. She is an active member of Mount Olive Baptist church where she teaches Sunday school for Women and previously led the female mentor program and mock trial program.

She is also an active member of Jack and Jill of America Inc. Bergen Passaic Chapter previously serving as its President, and held other regional and national roles. She is a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. North Manhattan Chapter.

She is married to Jazz Musician and Educator Mark Gross Sir and they have 2 sons Mark Jr and Caleb. In her spare time, she enjoys hanging out with family and friends, photography, reading and learning Spanish.

Shirell recently decided to take a “pause” from Corporate America to complete a book detailing her upbringing, personal hardships and career while providing lessons she learned along the way. Her life experiences has led her to better appreciate the importance of truly understanding how beliefs about yourself, others and your environment fuel life’s decisions . She hopes her story will encourage and inspire Women to believe they can have both a satisfying and fulfilling career and life.