

AFRICAN AMERICAN CHAMBER BLACK BUSINESS HALL OF FAME

"Lighting the Way!"

2018 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE



Calvin Buford

PARTNER / DINSMORE & SHOHL

Calvin is a partner in the Corporate Department of Dinsmore & Shohl, a national law firm headquartered in Cincinnati. His practice encompasses general corporate and business law matters, with particular emphasis on mergers, acquisitions, and other transactions. During his legal career, he has represented clients ranging from small entrepreneurs to Fortune 500 companies.

In 1992, Calvin became the first African American to be elected partner of a major Cincinnati law firm. In 2008, he was honored by the Association for Corporate Growth with its distinguished Deal Maker of the Year Award in the professional service provider category. He has also been consistently recognized as a Leading Business Lawyer, Corporate Mergers & Acquisitions, by Chambers USA and as a Cincy Leading Lawyer by Cincy Magazine.

Between June 2003 and December 2006, while maintaining his partnership at Dinsmore & Shohl, Calvin served as a loaned executive to the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber where he led the Chamber's regional economic inclusion initiatives as Vice President of Economic Inclusion and Director of the Minority Business Accelerator.

In the community, he has served on the boards of the Greater Cincinnati Foundation, Xavier University, Cincinnati Center City Development Corporation (3CDC), Catalytic Development Funding Corp. of Northern Kentucky, the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland Cincinnati Branch, Urban League of Greater Southwestern Ohio, and Riverside Academy. Calvin also served as Sire Archon of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, Alpha Delta Boule.

Calvin received a Juris Doctor from Harvard Law School and a Master of Public Policy from the Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government in 1985. He earned a Bachelor of Arts from Northwestern University in 1981.

Calvin was born and raised in Cincinnati and attended Walnut Hills High School. He and his wife, Helen, reside in Mt. Adams and have two adult children, Melanie and Adam.