Melissa Stapleton Barnes

Senior Vice President, Enterprise Risk Management, and Chief Ethics and Compliance Officer

Eli Lilly and Company

Melissa Stapleton Barnes is senior vice president, enterprise risk management, and chief ethics and compliance officer for Eli Lilly and Company. She leads Lilly's global Ethics and Compliance function.

Melissa joined Lilly in 1994 and took her current role in 2013. She has held a variety of business and legal roles including general counsel for Lilly Diabetes and Lilly Oncology. Prior to her current role, she was deputy general counsel, responsible for overseeing all global litigation and investigations as well as managing the corporate secretary's office and specialty legal functions. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree with highest distinction from Purdue University and a law degree from Harvard Law School. In 2016, Purdue University honored Melissa with the College of Liberal Arts Distinguished Alumni Award, and she currently serves on the Purdue Liberal Arts Dean's Advisory Council.

The Ethisphere Institute recognized Melissa as an Attorney Who Matters in 2015 and 2016. The Healthcare Businesswomen's Association named her a Rising Star in 2012, and the Indianapolis Business Journal honored her as a Woman of Influence in 2017. In 2018, the Ethics and Compliance Initiative gave Melissa the Carol R. Marshall Award for innovation in corporate ethics.

She serves on the board of directors for Algonquin Power and Utilities Corporation, headquartered in Toronto, and is the immediate past chair of the Ethics and Business Integrity Committee for the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers & Associations. Locally, Melissa volunteers as chair of the board of The Center for the Performing Arts and serves as a board member for the Great American Songbook Foundation. Nationally, she is a member of the Ethics Research Council's board of directors, the Corporate Ethics Leadership Council and the Healthcare Businesswomen's Association. Melissa is a fellow with the Ethics and Compliance Initiative.