

PEOPLE



John K. Johnson
Chief Innovation Officer;
Chief DEI Officer

Contact

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Responsible for driving the firm’s innovation priorities and initiatives, which encompasses identifying and evaluating promising new ideas and ways of working together and serving clients.

John collaborates with lawyers and business professionals across the firm to develop, lead and execute on the firm’s innovation strategy. He has more than 15 years of legal industry experience from the vantage points of external counsel, member of a corporate compliance monitorship team, senior in-house leader and corporate affairs executive. A key area of his focus has been leveraging data and programmatic thinking to drive results.

John brings a globally informed perspective. He has on-the-ground experience advancing corporate initiatives and managing complex assessments throughout the Americas, Europe and Asia. He was based in India for over two years, serving as the Vice President of Legal and Corporate Affairs for AB InBev’s South Asia subsidiary.

He is also a longstanding champion of DEI initiatives, previously serving as the founding board chair of Pipeline to Practice and on the board of the George Crawford Black Bar Association.

Most recently, he served as the Global Head of Compliance at Spotify. Before that, he worked as Global Director of Compliance at AB InBev, SA, where he played a key role in launching its award-winning BrewRight platform, using machine learning to identify risky business partners and transactions.

Bar Admissions

New York

Court Admissions

US District Court, Southern District of New York

US District Court, Eastern District of New York

Clerkships

Hon. Vanessa L. Bryant, US District Court, District of Connecticut

Education

Columbia Law School, J.D.

- Editorial Board, *Columbia Journal of Asian Law*
- Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar
- Samuel I. Rosenman Graduation Prize – Academic Excellence and Leadership

Yale College, B.A.

Memberships

- Board of Directors, Manhattan Chamber of Commerce

Distinctions

- The National Black Lawyers – named one of the “Top 100 Black Lawyers” in New York State, 2023
- Legal Aid Society Pro Bono Publico Award, 2016

Prior Experience

- Spotify AB/Spotify USA
- Anheuser-Busch InBev India Limited (AB InBev-South Asia)
- Anheuser-Busch InBev SA/NV
- Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer US
- Dewey & LeBoeuf