Global Smart Cities & Connected Communities Think Tank

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Cybersecurity in a Turbulent World

April 7, 2022 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. EDT



Rob Schwartz,President and CEO,
Anterix

Rob joined Anterix's board in September 2020 and has served as President & CEO of Anterix since July 2020. He joined the company in 2015 as Chief Strategy and Development Officer and was named President and COO in 2018.

Prior to Anterix, Rob was the CEO of STI Brasil, LLC, where he focused on developing shared fiber infrastructure for wireless operations in Brazil. As a Managing Director of Unison Site Management, Rob led key strategic initiatives to help build and then sell one of Unison's site portfolios to American Tower. Prior to Unison, Rob served as EVP of IDT Telecom, where he led corporate development, product management, and the wireless division. Rob has also held a senior management role at The Associated Group, where he helped launch Teligent, and led functions including strategy, capital markets, and investor relations through the sale of the company to Liberty Media.

Rob got his start in telecommunications as Director of Corporate Development at Nextel, where he worked with Anterix Executive Chairman Morgan O'Brien. In addition, Rob serves as a member of the Keystone Energy Board whose mission is to foster critical thinking in interplay between energy, environmental, and economic policies. A native of Philadelphia, Rob holds an MBA in Finance from The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from The George Washington University's School of Government & Business Administration.

Source: Anterix website



Shanna Ramirez, Chief Legal & Ethics Officer, General Counsel, & Board Secretary, CPS Energy

Shanna Ramirez oversees CPS Energy's Legal, Audit, Compliance, Ethics and Integrated Security functions. She also provides leadership to Board Relations and serves as Secretary to the Board of Trustees. Shanna is responsible for driving strategic initiatives to advance the interests of our customers and community, including environmental, social and governance (ESG) goals.

In her previous role, Shanna oversaw the cyber, physical and data security, incident response, and business continuity.

Shanna joined CPS Energy in 2015 as Director & Senior Counsel and has extensive experience providing business and legal advice. She practiced employment litigation at Haynes and Boone, LLP, and was Vice President & Deputy General Counsel for Fiesta Restaurant Group, Inc., supervising Legal Services, Safety & Risk, Claims, and Licensing & Compliance.

Shanna earned her Bachelor of Arts in History and Political Science from Trinity University and a Juris Doctor from the University of Maryland School of Law. She is also a graduate of the Executive Education, Accelerated Development Program at Rice University.

Source: CPS Energy website

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Francis Bradley, President & CEO, Electricity Canada

Francis Bradley is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Electricity Canada. Electricity Canada is the National Voice of Electricity and serves its electricity industry members through the work of expert professionals led by Francis and directed by a Board of Directors made up of member CEOs. Francis is the co-chair of the National Cross-Sector Forum, overseeing Canada's Action Plan for Critical Infrastructure. He also sits on the Steering Committee for the Electricity Sub-Sector Coordinating Council (ESCC), the Board for the Energy Council of Canada (ECC), the Positive Energy Advisory Council, and is a founding Board member of the Canadian Transportation Alliance. At the North American Electric Reliability Corporation's (NERC) Member Representatives Committee and Board of Trustees' meetings, Francis represents Electricity Canada and advocates strongly for its members in their activities related to the Electric Reliability Organization Enterprise, and its role in ensuring the reliability and security of the North American bulk power system.

Prior to being named CEO in June 2019, Francis managed Electricity Canada's day-to-day activities as Chief Operating Officer since 2014. During that time, he also acted as a member of the National Advisory Committee of Canada's Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and was a co-chair with the Standards Council of Canada of the Smart Grid Standards Advisory Committee.

In 2019 Francis created and continues to host "The Flux Capacitor" podcast, featuring discussions about the future of electricity with CEOs, regulators, political figures, and leaders from civil society.

Source: Electricity Canada



Allison J. Bender,
Partner, Dentons
Venture Technology
Group and former US
Department of
Homeland Security

Allison's practice focuses on risks associated with data and technology. She advises companies and boards on cybersecurity, data governance, privacy compliance, product counselling, cyber preparedness, incident response, crisis management, and public policy. With nearly a decade of prior government experience at the US Department of Homeland Security before joining private practice, clients benefit from Allison's insights on data, technology, and regulation from a cybersecurity and national security perspective, including on cutting-edge issues like artificial intelligence, big data, the blockchain and cryptocurrency, and biometrics. She leads the privacy and cybersecurity team for Dentons' Venture Technology and Emerging Growth Companies practice.

Allison helps companies build effective data governance and compliance programs. For start-ups and emerging growth companies, she helps establish a strong foundation of policies, procedures, plans and training based on prioritized risk, tailored to each client, industry, and growth stage. For mature and complex global enterprises, she helps clients align, streamline, and enhance effective management- and board-level oversight of privacy, cybersecurity, data protection, and technology risks.

Allison negotiates privacy and cybersecurity provisions of complex commercial and technology transactions and advises on supply chain security and cross-border data transfers, including supplemental security measures, data transfer impact assessments, and the applicability of U.S. legal authorities like the CLOUD Act and FISA. She also provides advice regarding privacy, cybersecurity, and data protection risk in M&A due diligence and deal work, for buy- and sell-side transactions.

Allison directs complex forensic investigations, engages with law enforcement and government officials, prepares individual and regulatory notifications, guides crisis communications, and advises clients on investigations by state Attorneys General, federal regulators including the SEC, HHS/OCR, and the FTC as well as international data protection authorities.

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Allison is a noted public speaker, including at Mandiant CyberDefense Summit 2019 and 2021, BlackHat USA 2018, and the International Association of Privacy Professionals 2018 Global Privacy Summit. Allison received numerous awards for distinguished government service. After government service, before joining Dentons, she worked at a major US and international law firm and a technology law boutique. Since 2018, Allison has served an adjunct professor at Georgetown University Law Center, where she continues to teach upper-level JD and LLM students in two courses, cybersecurity law and national security regulation.

Source: Dentons website