



# Ava Lias-Booker a Panelist at Baker Tilly’s ‘Diversity Well Beyond the Theory’ Event

January 21, 2020



Panelists, from left: Williams & Connolly’s Natasha Zech, Freddie Mac’s Jacqueline Welch, Baker Tilly’s James Munuhe, McGuireWoods’ Ava Lias-Booker and Baker Tilly’s Todd Stokes

McGuireWoods Baltimore partner [Ava Lias-Booker](#) participated in a Jan. 14, 2020, panel discussion in Tysons, Virginia, titled “Diversity well beyond the theory: The ‘how’ in recruitment, retention and inclusion.”

Hosted by advisory, tax and assurance firm Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, the discussion focused on what Washington, D.C., businesses, including McGuireWoods, are doing to drive change in their own organizations. Panelists also examined diversity recruitment practices, retention of diverse personnel and how companies can establish an inclusive internal culture that nurtures diversity and inclusion. More than 70 people attended, including McGuireWoods D.C. office managing partner [Todd Mullins](#).

Lias-Booker’s leadership roles include chairing the firm’s [Diversity & Inclusion Committee](#) and sitting on its Diversity Action Council and Associates Committee. A seasoned trial and appellate lawyer, she leads McGuireWoods’ Baltimore litigation practice with three decades of first-chair trial experience representing businesses in complex commercial litigation. She is dedicated to mentoring new lawyers and serving legal and civic communities in Baltimore and nationwide. She is a member of the boards of visitors of Duke University School of Law and the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law and the board of directors of the Baltimore Open Society Institute.

Among her numerous honors, last year Savoy magazine named Lias-Booker to its “[Most Influential Women in Corporate America](#)” list honoring African-American business leaders and executives across industries.

The McGuireWoods website provides information of general interest to the public. The website does not offer legal advice about specific situations or problems. You should consult a McGuireWoods lawyer if you have legal issues requiring attention. Nothing on this site creates an express or implied contract. McGuireWoods does not intend to create an attorney-client relationship by inviting you to contact us. Unless and until we and you agree that we will represent you, we will not have any duties to you, including any duty to keep what you send us confidential or any duty to protect your interests. This means that nothing you send us will be kept confidential, unless we mutually agree that we will keep it confidential. Past legal successes described on this website are not indicators of future results. The outcome of particular legal matters is dependent upon the facts and law applicable to the matters.