
Seize the Future: Meet our General Counsel

From Grand Sire Archon Loren R. Douglass <communications@boulejournal.org>

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To Loren Douglass <loren.douglass@outlook.com>

Archons,

Modernizing the Boulé requires addressing the exciting new complexities of a technologically driven, globalized world. Securing the right advice and counsel is essential to protecting the Fraternity's interests as we navigate this evolving landscape. By selecting the right team of advisors, we position the Fraternity to maximize the value of its vast array of talents and assets as we seize the future.

To help us navigate this new environment, I am pleased to introduce our new General Counsel and the global firm representing us and our interests.

Archon Ceasar C. Mitchell (Kappa Boulé) has been appointed as General Counsel of the Fraternity following an extensive nationwide search. He succeeds Archon Andrew Patterson, also of Kappa Boulé, who decided to retire after having served the Fraternity with distinction for many years. The national search committee was composed of prominent Archon attorneys from all five regions. The Office of the Grand Boulé coordinated an RFP process to select a new General Counsel. The process encouraged participation from Archons across the legal spectrum, ranging from solo practitioners to partners at major law firms. Finalists were selected from the pool of applicants through a systematic evaluation process that considered reputation, costs, services offered, geographical presence, the number of Partner Archons, and noted specialties. The final candidates were then interviewed by a distinguished panel comprising:

- **Past Grand Sire Archon Wes Coleman (Xi, Chairman of the Council of Past Grand Sire Archons),**
- **Past Grand Sire Archon Anthony Hall (Nu, Chairman of the Boulé Foundation and a licensed attorney),**
- **Immediate Past Grand Sire Archon Antoine Garibaldi (Iota),**
- **Southeast Region Sire Archon Jim Welch (Delta Upsilon), and**
- **Grand Sire Archon–Elect Loren Douglass (Zeta).**

The finalist proposals were rank ordered after a series of exceptional interviews. Based on their proposal, final presentation, and feedback from the interview panel, Archon Mitchell and Dentons were selected as the Fraternity's new counsel.

Archon Mitchell, an Atlanta native and partner at Dentons US LLP, is a distinguished attorney specializing in real estate, finance, and public policy, and leads the firm's Local Government Solutions group. A two-term President of the Atlanta City Council, he has been a transformative civic leader, championing initiatives in economic development, education, and public safety. His Back to Business Conference connected thousands of small businesses with major organizations, while his College Prep Series empowered over 8,000 students with college admissions and test preparation resources. Archon Mitchell was a key legislative sponsor of the Atlanta Beltline project, advocating for community benefits and economic revitalization. Recognized as one of Atlanta's most influential leaders, he is a Henry Crown Fellow and serves on numerous civic boards, including Points of Light and the Georgia Municipal Association. A graduate of Morehouse College and the University of Georgia School of Law, Archon Mitchell resides in Atlanta's Historic West End with his Archousa, Dr. Tiffany Mitchell, and their three children, continuing his legacy of service and leadership. He is a longtime member of 100 Black Men of Atlanta, St. James Lodge #4, and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. Archon Mitchell is a dedicated servant to Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity as he complements his national service as Grammateus of Kappa Boulé, in Atlanta.

Dentons is known for its commitment to diversity and inclusion in the legal profession. Dentons currently has five Archon Partners all in areas that are relevant to our present and future. In fact, their stellar backgrounds and reputations have been instrumental in expediting resolution of some early start up challenges. Below are those Archons who are part of the Archon Mitchell's team. (Click the link for their professional backgrounds.)

Archon Thurbert Baker (Delta Upsilon Boulé)

- Co-lead Dentons' US State Attorney General practice
- Past member, Dentons U.S. Board serving as Global Vice Chair
- Former Georgia Attorney General

<https://www.dentons.com/en/thurbert-baker>

Archon Matthew Cutts (Epsilon Boulé)

- Head of U.S. Policy and Government Relations - Public Policy group
- Executive Committee Member, D.C. Federal City Council

<https://www.dentons.com/en/matthew-cutts>

Archon Claude Montgomery (Beta Tau Boulé)

- Senior Counsel, Restructuring, Insolvency and Bankruptcy group
- Past managing partner of Dentons' New York office

<https://www.dentons.com/en/claude-montgomery>

Archon David Tandy (Psi Boulé)

- Member of the firm's Economic Development group
- Former President of Louisville, KY Metro City Council

<https://www.dentons.com/en/david-tandy>

Archon Ceasar Mitchell (Kappa Boulé)

- Member of firm's Public Policy group
- Leads interdisciplinary Local Government Solutions group
- Former President of Atlanta City Council

<https://www.dentons.com/en/ceasar-mitchell>

Dentons, the largest law firm in the world by number of lawyers, boasts a significant global presence. Established in 2013 through a merger of international firms, Dentons operates as a polycentric organization, with no single global headquarters, allowing each regional branch to maintain autonomy while sharing resources and expertise. The firm spans **over 80 countries** with offices in **more than 200 cities**, making it uniquely equipped to handle cross-border legal matters and multinational clients—an ideal fit for our interests, given our member boudés in London, the Bahamas, and potential future locations such as Africa.

Dentons provides highly ranked services across virtually every area of law, including corporate and commercial law, real estate, finance, public policy, government affairs, litigation, intellectual property, energy, and infrastructure—all crucial for a forward-looking organization such as Sigma Pi Phi. Serving a diverse range of clients, from Fortune 500 companies and governments to startups and non-profits, Dentons is also renowned for its commitment to leveraging technology and innovation, aligning perfectly with the attributes you've expressed as priorities for the Fraternity.

We pay for legal services in the same way we pay for other services to the Fraternity; however, we often receive significant discounts and pro bono services, when possible, as a courtesy from our Archons. Archon Mitchell and his partners have provided Sigma Pi Phi extensive pro bono services since becoming the attorneys for the Fraternity. We deeply appreciate their generosity in providing these benefits. Our selecting Dentons and these Archon Partners reflects our commitment to economic empowerment by leveraging Black excellence through internal resources and their fostering investments back into the Fraternity whenever feasible.

Globalization, rapid technological change, and deregulation have caused disruptions to societies and organization of all types. We are extremely fortunate to have world class legal talent help us navigate these uncharted waters as we Seize the Future!

Fraternally,

Loren R. Douglass, Zeta Boulé
Grand Sire Archon

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