Meet CLBB's New Advisory Board Members!
Introducing Ms. Polly Klane and Dr. Bernard Franklin

The MGH Center for Law, Brain & Behavior is excited to introduce our newest Advisory Board members: Ms. Polly Klane and Dr. Bernard Franklin.

Ms. Polly Klane is the Chief Legal Officer and General Counsel of Citizens Financial Group. She joined Citizens in this role in April of 2022 and serves on the Executive Committee. She is responsible for leading the Legal Department, which includes corporate governance, litigation, client advisory services, regulatory relations and government relations.

Klane has over 25 years of experience in the legal profession. She has managed legal teams responsible for areas including corporate transactions, corporate governance, securities, commercial banking, capital markets, intellectual property, treasury, cybersecurity, technology, and data privacy.

Klane joined Citizens from Capital One, where she served for six years as Senior Vice President and Chief Counsel of governance, commercial bank and enterprise services. She previously spent time in private practice and served as Deputy General Counsel at Fannie Mae during the global financial crisis of the late 2000s. She also took five years off to live with her husband and two young children in South Korea. She is a graduate of Duke University and Harvard Law School.

“I’m thrilled and honored to be joining the Advisory Board to support the essential and cutting-edge work CLBB is doing to bring neuroscience to the courtroom, where it can have a meaningful and practical impact on the lives of some of the most vulnerable members of our communities. I’m looking forward to seeing more closely all the ways that CLBB’s incredibly talented and dedicated team are leveraging their deep expertise to lead the thinking in this important arena.”

Dr. Bernard Franklin is a nationally recognized thought leader on issues confronting urban trauma and violence, mental health, resilience, boys and men’s development, and K-12 and higher education issues. His 40-year career includes leadership at five higher education institutions and a Kansas
City philanthropy. In 2022 Franklin completed a Fellowship with Harvard's Advanced Leadership Initiative focused on urban mental health research, specifically violent and marginalized urban individuals. Franklin is Managing Director of Uncornered, a Boston-based organization transforming urban communities into violence-free neighborhoods.

Franklin earned an MS in Counseling and Behavioral Studies from the University of South Alabama, and a PhD in Counseling and Higher Education Administration, with an outside emphasis in family studies from Kansas State University. He also earned a Master's Professional Training Certificate focused on the trauma/resilience theory model of Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI) from Texas Christian University. He served as Chaplin and member of the NFL Kansas City Chiefs professional counseling team.

Franklin was twice honored among the 100 Most Influential African Americans in Kansas City. The Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce honored him with its Distinguished Leadership Award for contributions to urban education, and the Kansas City Downtown Council awarded him "Urban Hero" for his urban public education work. In addition, the Morehouse College Research Institute presented him with the Vision Award for "pioneering work in the area of educating men on the importance of fatherhood."

"I am excited to join the CLBB Advisory Board. Their work on the impact of complex trauma and how young people who come from hard places can grow and change is critical to reforming the legal system for the young people we serve."