

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

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## **WHF Member Spotlight – August 2020**

**Partner, Barnett Sivon & Natter, P.C. and Of Counsel, Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP.**

### **Hometown**

Coral Gables, FL by way of Winnetka, IL.

### **Fun Fact**

A few years back, my husband and I biked 100 miles in Vermont to raise \$20,000 for JDRF. Although these days, I spend more time driving my hybrid minivan than biking!

### **Describe your journey in the financial services industry and how your career has evolved to your current position.**

My journey started at The Financial Services Roundtable (now Bank Policy Institute) as the first employee of the Housing Policy Council. I set up a new trade association focused on housing and mortgage policy and had the unusual experience of helping hire my boss (Secretary Dalton). While working at HPC, I attended GWU law school's evening program and graduated amid the financial crisis. My time at HPC included working on foreclosure prevention efforts with the Hope Now Alliance and helping mortgage lenders and servicers on policy, legislation, and regulation. I then moved to Barnett Sivon & Natter, P.C., a boutique firm that continues to serve as counsel to HPC, as well as other trade associations, banks, insurance companies, and fintech companies. In addition to housing and mortgage, my work has expanded to include other areas of consumer finance, banking, and financial services. I assist clients on policy matters, the impact of proposed legislation and regulation on their businesses, as well as compliance challenges and regulatory applications.

### **What do you love most about what you do?**

I love the problem-solving nature of policy work – identifying issues, inconsistencies, or gaps in current law and regulation, analyzing possible solutions, and then crafting advocacy pieces with a legal foundation for the solution.

### **How long have you been a member of WHF?**

15 years.

### **What have you gained from being a member?**

I am continually impressed with the programs that WHF puts together that are topical, timely, and relevant to so many members. WHF programs have also provided great opportunities to interact with others focusing on the same policy issues and created a collegial environment.

**How do you make the best use of your day?**

Lots of lists – one that focuses on what must be accomplished that day, one that covers the week, and one that covers longer term projects. I like lists- crossing off a task is a great feeling! I try to be realistic about what goes on my daily list, knowing that a request from a client can pop up and need to be a priority over the other items. Also, I try to start most days with exercise, whether that is a (virtual) barre class or running (usually while pushing the jogging stroller), and that activity helps me get focused for the day ahead.

**What is the best advice you have ever received?**

Listen first and then think about how you want to respond in a constructive way.