

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

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U.S. Bank,
Senior Vice President, Business Security Solutions



WHF Member Spotlight – June 2019

Senior Vice President, Business Security Solutions

U.S. Bank

Hometown

Allendale, NJ

Fun Fact

I'm preparing to run my first Ragnar Relay, from Toronto to Niagara Falls.

Employer and Position

U.S. Bank. Senior Vice President, Business Security Solutions.

Walk me through your journey in the financial services industry and how your career has evolved to your current position.

This is my first job in the financial industry, though I've now been here almost 5 years. I started out of graduate school with degrees in Russian Civilization and International Relations, and got a job in DC in International Development. I didn't like that and moved to a company that did systems development and integration, largely as a contractor to the federal government. I got my first tastes of cybersecurity working on some of those programs, and after 9/11, I was asked to take a position at the new Department of Homeland Security (DHS). I spent 9 years leading cybersecurity efforts ranging from policy to incident response at DHS. I did a lot of work with financial institutions in that role, which led to me being recruited by U.S. Bank.

What do you love most about what you do?

It is never a dull moment! Technology in our industry is constantly changing, and unfortunately the bad guys are also constantly raising their game. Every day is a challenge and keeps me learning and on my toes.

Hobby

Running

How long have you been a member of WHF?

4 years

Please describe your involvement with WHF.

I've gone to a variety of events and spoken at a few. I most enjoy doing the Change purse volunteer activities though. It is such a great experience interacting with those women.

What have you gained from being a member?

Insight into financial regulators, connections with other women in our industry, opportunity to participate in rewarding volunteer activities.

How do you make the best use of your day? (think techniques to enhance productivity, time management, time out, meditation/prayer, etc.)

I think I get my best creative ideas while walking my dog on the W&OD trail in the morning. He's also my "executive assistant," since I work from home when I'm not travelling!

Who or what inspires you?

New challenges and change.

What is the best advice you have ever received?

Probably to take a job in cybersecurity, that is was a field that was really going to take off. I confess I had no burning interest in the topic when I took my first cybersecurity job at Homeland Security, I applied for the position because it was a short walk from my daughter's daycare!

Who do you look up to the most and why?

I've been thinking about how to answer this last question for a while, and I can't seem to narrow down to one person. I've been very fortunate throughout my life to have a number of great mentors and role models.