



Podcast Transcript

Technology from the Top: AI, Data and the Future of Business with Today's CIOs

Date: August 30, 2024

Guest: Janine Anthony Bowen, **Host:** Amy Kattman

Run Time: 6:23

For questions and comments contact:



Janine Anthony Bowen

Partner

Atlanta

T: +1.404.946.9816 | jbowen@bakerlaw.com

Kattman: With a rapidly evolving technological landscape and an increase in data value, organizations now more than ever depend on their leaders to guide them through uncharted territory. Janine Anthony Bowen, co-leader of both the Privacy Governance and Technology Transactions team and the Digital Transformation and Data Economy team at BakerHostetler, gets an inside look at how Chief Information Officers across industries are tackling trends and planning for the future. Janine sits down one-on-one with current CIOs in the new series, Technology from the Top: AI, Data, and the Future of Business with Today's CIOs. I'm Amy Kattman, and you're listening to BakerHosts.

On today's episode, Janine previews her upcoming series and breaks down how this series came to fruition and what listeners can expect from these exclusive interviews. Janine, welcome to the show.

Bowen: Thank you. I am excited to be here and talking with you.

Kattman: Janine, how did this idea for the podcast series come about, and what are you trying to bring to your listeners?

Bowen: So, Amy, as you know, my practice is technology-centered. I have a couple degrees in engineering, in addition to my law degree, and I spent almost a decade working in technology companies before entering into private practice. So, technology is the core of my education and my professional life. And though I

focus my work on helping clients negotiate enterprise-level technology transactions, I actually love the technology itself.

You know, technology is constantly changing and constantly disrupting industries. What has become fascinating to me is the way that this disruptor, artificial intelligence, has fallen squarely into the lap of the CIO. Artificial intelligence didn't disrupt an industry, it disrupted an entire marketplace. Every company has been affected. And so, that CIO seat at the table seemed to become even more important overnight. And I wanted to know more about how technology leaders were dealing with the issues presented with artificial intelligence and data.

And so, after a couple of one-off conversations and a panel that I moderated earlier this year, the concept was born. And I want listeners to walk away with the understanding of just how critical technology leaders are to the success of the business, at both the tactical and the strategic levels. And these podcasts put more meat on the bone of that aphorism that every company is a technology company.

Kattman: So, I understand you're going to ask each guest the same set of questions. Which question is your favorite?

Bowen: Well, we ask about pop culture and artificial intelligence. We talk about the fear factor. We talk about the role of data and how that has helped to evolve the role of the CIO. But my favorite question is the one that pushes aside artificial intelligence and data to inquire about what else is going on. You know that, in addition to AI being a disruptor, it is also a distractor from basic blocking and tackling in already-existing initiatives. So, I wanted to know what else these leaders were considering as they were continuing to move the business forward. So that is my favorite question, what else is going on out there?

Kattman: I think that would be mine, too. Janine, will you provide us with a sneak peek of the guests we expect to hear from throughout the series?

Bowen: Yes. Our lineup is top tier and industry diverse, and I'm very excited about our guests. So, out the gate, in alphabetical order, we've got six folks up. Let's talk about each of them. Gary Brantley. Gary is the Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer with the National Football League. Everyone is going to be excited to see what innovations they bring to the table, looking forward to talking with him.

Also, Sharay Erskine. Sharay is the Chief Information Officer with the Atlanta Community Food Bank. It is one of the largest food banks in the country. DeWayne Griffin. DeWayne is the Chief Digital and Information Officer at Insight Global. Insight Global is a publicly traded international staffing company. It is the fifth largest in the United States.

Shannon Johnston. When we talked with Shannon, she was Chief Information Officer and Senior Executive Vice President at Global Payments, a well-known

international provider of payment technology. However, she recently announced that she will be joining Invesco as their Chief Information and Operations Officer.

We also have Amir Kazmi. Amir is the Global Chief Information and Digital Officer at WestRock, a Fortune 200 Company in the packaging and machinery automation solution space. And, of course, we have our own Katherine Lowry. Katherine is Chief Information Officer and Head of IncuBaker here at BakerHostetler, an Am Law 100 law firm. So that is our lineup so far, but there is going to be more to come after this.

Kattman: Well, that sure sounds like an impressive lineup. I can't wait to give it a listen. Thanks so much for joining us today, Janine.

Bowen: Thank you, Amy.

Kattman: If you have any questions for Janine Anthony Bowen, her contact information is in the show notes. As always, thanks for listening to BakerHosts.

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