

## **Ellen Swennes Kennedy**

### *Vice President and General Counsel for Resolutions Management*

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Joining United Educators (UE) on Nov. 1, 2019, Ellen (“Ellie”) Swennes Kennedy will bring 20 years of litigation experience to her role as Vice President and General Counsel for Resolutions Management. In leading the claims operation, Ellie’s focused expertise and success in litigation strategy will drive an effective and efficient claims resolutions process for UE members.

Ellie’s primary charge as VP of Resolutions Management will be to develop and lead claims strategies and initiatives intended to deliver optimum legal resolutions and a superior claims experience for members. She will have oversight for a 60-person claims resolutions team and ensure strong relationships with outside counsel working to defend UE members.

Currently a partner at Hogan Lovells in Washington, DC, the majority of Ellie’s career has been dedicated to commercial litigation, with a focus on complex commercial contracts and insurance and franchise law. She has substantial experience developing trial and mediation strategies, which she uses both to resolve cases on behalf of her clients and to work with defense counsel to successfully resolve claims on behalf of insureds. At Hogan Lovells, Ellie was also responsible for recruiting new talent. This expertise will be critical to maintaining the high quality of UE resolutions staff that have successfully represented UE members’ interests in thousands of claims.

According to Ellie, her new role at UE “provides an opportunity to engage deeply on the issues and risks facing educational institutions. I look forward to having a real impact at UE.”

Ellie earned a JD from the University of Virginia School of Law, Order of the Coif, where she was also a member of the Virginia Law Review. She earned a BA from Duke University, graduating magna cum laude and as a member of Phi Beta Kappa. An avid proponent of healthy lifestyles, Ellie likes to start each working day with a run through her neighborhood or a spin class at the local gym.

*Robb Jones, Sr. Vice President and General Counsel for Resolutions Management, will retire on Dec. 31 after 22 years of service to United Educators. Robb established UE’s claims function, building a strong and effective team of resolutions counsel and associates. He and Ellie will work together closely during this transition.*