

CASSANDRA M. PULLEY

Cassandra M. Pulley is a senior executive with domestic and international experience in the private, public and social sectors.

Most recently, Pulley was senior vice president, public responsibility, Sara Lee Corporation and president, Sara Lee Foundation. In her 10 years at Sara Lee, Pulley served in several capacities and was responsible for developing or redesigning several programs and functions, including internal communications and corporate giving. She also actively participated in initial efforts to change the corporation's business model and capture cost savings, with responsibility for consolidating corporate travel and global real estate.



Pulley was elected a corporate officer in 2000 and became president of the Sara Lee Foundation in 2005. She served on several executive committees of the corporation, including the Global Business Practices Committee and the Diversity Advisory Council.

Before joining Sara Lee, Pulley was deputy administrator and chief operating officer of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), where she was responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations of the U.S. government agency charged with ensuring the growth and development of small businesses.

Prior to the SBA, Pulley was president of Business Strategies International, Inc., a consulting firm she established to assist small firms in developing business in international markets. She was a vice president at American International Group (AIG) in the export insurance and trade finance areas and managed the Exporters Insurance Program and the Direct Loan Program at the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC). Pulley began her business career in commercial banking at Mellon Bank in Pittsburgh, PA.

Pulley is a member of the board of directors of Chicago Public Radio, the Steppenwolf Theatre Company and Jobs for Youth Chicago.

She holds a Master in Management degree from the Kellogg School of Management and is a magna cum laude graduate of Kean University.