



# Celebrating Women's History Month

Client Advisories

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In honor of Women's History Month, Archer proposed a series of questions related to the month's significance to the firm's female attorneys. The following responses represent the experiences and inspiration of career-driven women in fields of law. Join Archer as we celebrate the words and achievements of past and present female attorneys.

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**Throughout history, many people have impacted society and humanity in a variety of positive ways. What historical female figure has impacted your life with their legacy or message and why?**

**Debra Rosen:** "As a woman and as a lawyer, I would not be where I am today without the suffragists, including Alice Paul, who was born and lived in South Jersey. She was a leader in the suffragist movement who didn't stop upon passage of the 19th Amendment. Paul was jailed seven times to stop her work, but she persisted. She fought for the equality of rights under law which shall not be denied or abridged on account of sex—later to be known as the Equal Rights Amendment, which she co-wrote. I believe all women should recognize the debt we owe Alice Paul and the other suffragists and to continue their work in whatever way we can."

**Kerri Chewing:** "It is more of a duo: Helen Keller and Anne Sullivan. Keller's struggle in learning to communicate and Sullivan's perseverance in ensuring that she could do so is uplifting and encouraging. It taught me to never give up. It is also one of the purest examples of women helping other women and how we need each other to succeed. Helping other women attorneys can only make us better, and stronger. It gives all of us more of a voice and a more prominent spot at the table."

**Marie Lihotz:** "When I was 10, I watched *The Miracle Worker*, a film about the life of Helen Keller and the persistence of her teacher Annie Sullivan, who taught her to communicate. Despite the doubters, Sullivan's

patience enabled Keller to overcome her disabilities of being blind and deaf. She graduated from Radcliffe and became a prolific writer, lecturer, social justice (NAACP and ACLU), and disabilities advocate. Reinforced by Sullivan's belief in her, Keller refused to allow her disabilities to define what she could do. It was then that I realized I could control my life's path."

**Sarah Gribbin:** "Ruth Bader Ginsburg. She is a trailblazer in every sense of the word and led an impressive and accomplished life as a student, a lawyer, a Supreme Court Justice, and a mom. Repeatedly told she should not pursue a career in law, she persevered, and she succeeded. My three daughters love learning and reading about her. Our favorite RBG quote is 'Women belong in all places where decisions are being made.'"

**Jamie Slimm:** "The historical female figure who has most impacted my life with their legacy and message is Alice Paul. Alice was a native of Mt. Laurel, N.J., and a leader in the fight to pass the 19th Amendment in 1920—securing women the right to vote. Alice authored the Equal Rights Amendment when she was in her late 30s and spent the rest of her life fighting for its ratification to gain equality for women. Alice's life was impactful because it shows that one person can make a difference. As we celebrate Women's History Month, I think it is important to recognize those women who have made a difference in history and ask ourselves what we can do to continue their efforts."

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