

JOHN F. LEVY, CPA

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**Public Company Director • Audit Committee Chair • CFO • Governance Expert
Corporate Governance • Compliance • Ethics • Financial Reporting • Strategic Financial Planning**

EXECUTIVE PROFILE

Public company director, audit committee chair, CFO, and governance expert with more than 45 years of experience in corporate governance, SEC reporting, financial oversight, internal controls, risk management, shareholder engagement, and strategic financial leadership.

Served on 15 public company boards, including leadership roles as Chair, Vice Chair, Audit Committee Chair, Governance Chair, Compensation Chair, Lead Director, and Special Committee Chair. Former CFO of public and private companies and CPA with national accounting firm experience at Ernst & Young, Laventhol & Horwath, and Grant Thornton.

Frequent speaker, educator, consultant, published author, and expert witness on governance, ethics, compliance, financial reporting, mergers & acquisitions, and board effectiveness.

PUBLIC COMPANY BOARD LEADERSHIP

Served on 15 public company boards from 2004 to present, including leadership roles as Chair, Vice Chair, Audit Committee Chair, Governance Chair, Compensation Chair, Lead Director, and Special Committee Chair.

MediaBay, Inc. — Vice Chair (2004–2005)

Take-Two Interactive Software, Inc. — Chair, Audit Committee (2006–2010)

Gilman Ciozia, Inc. — Lead Director, Chair, Audit Committee (2006–2013)

Applied Natural Gas Fuels, Inc. — Director (2008–2010)

Applied Minerals, Inc. — Vice Chair, Chair, Governance Committee (2008–2022)

Applied Energetics, Inc. — Chair, Governance Committee (2009–2016)

Brightpoint, Inc. — Director (2010–2012)

China Commercial Credit, Inc. — Chair, Audit Committee (2013–2016)

Washington Prime Group, Inc. — Chair, Audit Committee (2016–2021)

Takung Art Co., Ltd. — Chair, Governance Committee (2016–2019)

Paranovus Entertainment Technology Ltd. — Chair, Audit Committee (2019–2024)

Singularity Future Technology Ltd. — Chair, Compensation Committee (2021–2023)

Shengfeng Development Limited — Chair, Audit Committee (2023–2024)

Capitalworks Emerging Markets Acquisition Corp. — Chair, Audit Committee (2024–2025)

Cartica Acquisition Corp. — Chair, Audit Committee (Current)

SELECTED GOVERNANCE, FINANCIAL & LEADERSHIP ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Governance, Compliance & Board Leadership

- Chaired audit, governance, compensation, and special committees across 15 public companies
- Oversaw SEC reporting, internal controls, risk management, executive compensation, fiduciary responsibilities, and shareholder matters
- Drafted and coordinated SEC filings, including Forms 10-K and 10-Q, and led governance compliance as CFO
- Frequent speaker and educator on governance, ethics, director responsibilities, compliance, and board effectiveness
- Authored and taught continuing professional education programs on governance, ethics, compliance, financial reporting, M&A, risk management, leadership, and decision-making

Special Investigations & Expert Witness Experience

- Chaired independent special litigation committees and investigations involving accounting, governance, fiduciary, and compliance matters
- Conducted internal investigations and prepared reports adopted by the Delaware Chancery Court
- Served as expert witness in corporate governance and financial oversight matters, including recent federal litigation in which qualifications and testimony were substantially upheld following challenge

Finance, Capital Markets & Shareholder Engagement

- Served as CFO for six mergers and acquisitions totaling approximately \$65 million
- Raised more than \$120 million through preferred equity, convertible debt, private equity, and bank facilities
- Led a \$30 million public follow-on offering and participated in pricing committees involving more than \$1 billion in public debt issuances
- Directed investor relations efforts and delivered more than 100 shareholder and investor presentations
- Appeared in national business media, including CNBC and CNNfn
- Designed strategic plans, financial projections, budgeting systems, and long-range forecasts
- Reduced audit fees by 80% over two years through operational and process improvements

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Board Advisory, Westfield, NJ — CEO & Principal Consultant (2005–Present)

Provides corporate governance, compliance, ethics, financial reporting, and strategic financial planning services to public and private companies.

Sticky Fingers Restaurants, LLC, Charleston, SC — Chief Executive Officer (2019–2020)

Universal Food & Beverage Company, IL — Interim Chief Financial Officer (2005–2006)

MediaBay, Inc., NJ — Executive Vice President & Chief Financial Officer (1997–2005)

Tamarix Capital Corporation, NY — Senior Vice President (1995–1997)

Swid Powell Design, Inc., NY — Chief Operating Officer (1995)

Continuum Group, Inc., NJ — Executive Vice President & Chief Financial Officer (1994)

JFL Consulting, NY — President (1991–1993)

Cinecom Entertainment Group, NY — Executive Vice President & Chief Financial Officer (1986–1991)

Public Accounting Experience

Grant Thornton — Audit Manager & Head of Audit Department

Laventhol & Horwath — Supervisor, Chicago Office & National Accounting Department

Ernst & Young — Staff Accountant

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP & NOT-FOR-PROFIT BOARD SERVICE

NACD New Jersey Chapter — Program Chair (2007–2011)

Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity, University of Pennsylvania Chapter — Trustee (2010–2018)

Temple Emanu-El — Trustee & Officer (2016–2020)

Jewish Community Housing Corporation — Trustee & Treasurer (2016–2025)

Healing the Children New Jersey — Trustee & Treasurer

Westfield Public Arts Commission — Town Historian (2022–2023)

CERTIFICATIONS & EDUCATION

Certified Public Accountant, Illinois (Since 1978)

Former **NACD Board Leadership Fellow**

Member: **AICPA** | **Illinois CPA Society**

The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania — BS, Economics (Accounting)

Saint Joseph's University — MBA, Finance

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- *The Ins and Outs of Board Special Investigation Committees* — Directors & Boards (2025)
- *Accounting Fast and Slow* — Executive Education (2018)
- *Heartfelt Leadership* — Executive Education (2017)
- *Predicting the Future* — Executive Education (2017)
- *Resuscitating and Reengaging Directors* — Directors & Boards (2016)
- *Finance and Innovation* — Executive Education (2012)
- *Ethics and Sustainability* — Executive Education (2012)
- *Acquisitions to Grow the Business* — Executive Education (2010)
- *21st Century Director* — Executive Education (2011)
- Co-Author, *Cashin's Handbook for Auditors* — McGraw-Hill (1986)