



KERRY IRIS AND ERIC KASSOFF

The Bender JCC is proud to present Kerry Iris and Eric Kassoff with the Benjamin Ourisman Memorial Award for Civic Achievement which recognizes individuals whose efforts and achievements have improved life in our community.

A shareholder at Wilkes Artis, Chartered, Eric has over 30 years of experience in the commercial real estate industry with a specialty in real estate tax litigation. He is a founding member of, and legal counsel to, the Suburban Maryland/DC Chapter of the National Association of Industrial and Office Properties.

Eric has served on the Montgomery County Executive's Office Market Working Group and has been a member of the Montgomery County Office of Economic Development's Subcommittee on Infrastructure and Finance. He is a former member of the board of directors for the Maryland-National Capital Building Industry Association.

Eric served as a board member of the Bender JCC from 1990-2005 and was General Counsel from 1995-2005. He is a past member of the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington's Board of Directors and, together with Kerry, co-chaired the 2019 Israel Your Way Mission. A Wexner Heritage program graduate, Eric currently serves as the Mid Atlantic Real Estate Group Chairman for AIPAC. In 2017, Eric received the AJC Washington Civic Achievement Award.

Kerry began her career as a transactional attorney in New York. She continued this work after moving to DC with a focus on acquisition, leasing and financing of commercial real estate transactions.

Since 2006, Kerry has served as chief executive officer of Dowel/KIK Investments where she manages all aspects of the company, is general counsel and maintains oversight of capital markets transactions.

Kerry is on the board of the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington and is the incoming Vice President for Women's Philanthropy and an incoming executive board member. She is a past chair of the Tikkun Olam Women's Foundation of Greater Washington, where she has served as the grant and development chair and is a member of the leadership board. Kerry co-chaired the Bender JCC Book Festival for several years.

Kerry served for almost 20 years as co-chair of the Community Services Committee for the DC Building Industry Association.

Together, Kerry and Eric have been active supporters of Children's Hospital. In 2016, they co-chaired the Children's Hospital Heroes gala and continue to actively support this event.

Kerry and Eric live in Chevy Chase, MD and are the parents of three adult children — Jared, Bergen and Raelle.