

MEMPHIS BUSINESS JOURNAL

SUPER WOMEN



CAREN NICHOL

EVANS PETREE, *President*

As the president of the law firm, Nichol manages Evans Petree's 82 employees and five offices while working closely with the board of directors to handle budgeting, compensation, marketing, IT, client development and day-to-day management.

Number of years with Evans Petree: 21

How did you gain your super power, communication? My father and my husband have been models for my blunt and honest demeanor. I don't have time to beat around the bush. My mother gave me a fascination with people.

First job: Lord & Taylor

Hometown: I'm from all over — California, Michigan, Texas — but Memphis is home.

What advice do you wish someone had given you when you started your career? Don't let anything distract you from what you want to do.

Biggest mentor: My father, who put himself through college and medical school. He transitioned from medical research to hospital management and biotech. He never stops learning. He's the perfect combination of tough and charming.

What professional achievement are you most proud of? The people I have helped bring to Evans Petree. When I see them do well, find their place in the team and thrive, I feel I have truly accomplished something.

What is your next big professional goal? At law firms, you do not have the luxury of just managing the business, you actually have to practice law, too. I recently switched my areas of practice, joining the Property Tax Group, and I am looking forward to being a productive member of that team.

What super power would best equip someone entering into your profession today? Being able to read minds. I would do anything for a magic lasso of truth. People are either too scared or too uncomfortable to speak up and be honest.

