

## MFDF Welcomes Three New Members to its Board of Directors

*Fran Cashman, Jody Foster, and Julian Sluyters bring decades of collective experience  
as investment management industry executives and board members*

Washington, D.C. (September 30, 2025) – MFDF ([www.mfdf.org](http://www.mfdf.org)), the independent membership organization for fund independent directors, is today announcing the addition of three new members to its own board: Fran Cashman, Jody Foster, and Julian Sluyters.

Ms. Cashman is an experienced global CEO and board member who has led transformative initiatives in financial services, capital markets and information services for over 30 years. Her career has included senior roles with Euromoney PLC, Legg Mason, and Stifel Nicolaus. Ms. Cashman currently serves as an Independent Trustee for the Morgan Stanley Funds Board and as Director of Baltimore Equitable Insurance. She has also held advisory board roles with ClearBridge Investments, Royce Investment Partners and FLX Distribution.

Ms. Foster is a 30-year veteran of the financial services industry and has held executive positions in large multi-national asset managers as well as boutique public and private managers. As the CEO of Symphony Consulting, she has advised more than 300 traditional and alternative investment firm CEOs on everything from product strategy, finance and compliance to risk management, operational infrastructure and talent management. Ms. Foster currently serves as an Independent Trustee for the Voya Funds and Independent Trustee and Audit Committee Chair for the Diamond Hill Funds.

Mr. Sluyters spent 30 years in a variety of roles in asset management, including a decade in public accounting. His depth of experience includes stints as CEO of a mutual fund firm, CEO of a major European financial services company and COO roles with a range of asset managers. He also brings a wealth of board experience to his new role with MFDF, serving as CEO for more than 20 mutual fund boards in both the US and Europe, as well as serving as an interested Trustee for a number of US and EU boards. Mr. Sluyters serves as the lead independent trustee for the Venerable Variable Insurance Trust Funds and as an independent trustee for the Wilshire Funds.

“I could not be more excited about working closely with Fran, Jody, and Julian as they step into their new board roles with MFDF,” said MFDF President Carolyn McPhillips. “Their bios just scratch the surface of

all that they have each accomplished. Their experience and insights will be invaluable for myself and the MFDF staff as we continue our work in helping independent directors navigate today's shifting regulatory environment while they maintain their focus on stewarding the investments of millions of shareholders."

"I join Carolyn and my fellow MFDF board members in welcoming Fran, Jody and Julian at such a pivotal time in the fund industry," added Dina Tantra, whose term as MFDF Board Chair will begin in 2026. "Their guidance and input will add new depth to our Board discussions and I am excited to see what we all will accomplish together as we work to deliver on the MFDF mission."

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MFDF is a trusted guide for independent directors of registered investment companies. MFDF helps independent directors navigate an evolving regulatory environment and steward shareholders' investments. MFDF provides tailored educational resources and facilitates peer-to-peer networking, with offerings that include webinars, white papers, and interactive conferences. As an independent association, MFDF's membership includes a wide range of fund boards and represents a diverse community of directors. For more information, please visit [mfd.org](https://mfd.org).

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