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# MFDF: Dina Tantra Elected to Serve as Board Chair Beginning in 2026

*Tantra will succeed Andrew J. “Buddy” Donohue upon his retirement following a highly successful tenure Chairing the MFDF Board through a range of industry developments, brand enhancement and more*

Washington, D.C. (March 14, 2025) – MFDF ([www.mfdf.org](http://www.mfdf.org)), the independent membership organization for fund independent directors, today announced that its Board of Directors has elected Dina Tantra as Chair-elect, with her term as Board Chair slated to begin at the start of 2026 following the retirement of current Chair Andrew J. “Buddy” Donohue.

Ms. Tantra has been a member of the MFDF Board since early 2024 and brings a wealth of experience to her new role. Currently, she serves as Board Chair for Heartland Funds, focused on value investing. She also serves as an Independent Board Trustee and Chair of Nominating & Governance Committee for both Thornburg Income Builder Opportunities Fund and Boston Trust Walden mutual funds.

Previous roles include CEO and an interested director of Advisers Investment Trust, a series trust fund company. Additionally, as Co-CEO, she built Global Rhino, LLC a strategic advisory firm helping asset managers to bridge the gap between managing money and managing the business of asset management. Across her career, she has held key roles leading business, legal and compliance teams at several asset managers and fund administrators, experience which will play a key role in informing her efforts as the incoming MFDF Board Chair.

“I wish to thank my colleagues on the Board for their vote of confidence in me. It is an illustrious group and I am thrilled at the prospect of taking on the role of Chair,” said Ms. Tantra. “At the same time, I am eternally grateful for the stewardship that Buddy has provided during his tenure as Chair. Working closely with him on MFDF efforts has been a true joy, and I am eager for that collaboration to continue as we navigate the rest of 2025 together.”

Earlier this year, MFDF unveiled a new name and look, changes designed to mark the ways in which the organization is continuing to grow and evolve much like the investment management industry itself. This was the first “brand refresh” since the organization’s founding more than 20 years ago.

“I join my colleagues in applauding the Board’s election of Dina to be our next Chair and I share her respect and admiration for all that Buddy has accomplished, not only during his tenure with MFDF but across his 40 years in the investment management industry,” added Carolyn McPhillips, President of MFDF. “His insights, leadership and openmindedness were crucial as we considered the evolving role that our organization plays and the wave of change facing fund independent directors.”

“I am thrilled that Dina and I will have the opportunity to spend the remainder of 2025 collaborating on all of the major topics and projects under the purview of the MFDF Board,” added Mr. Donohue, who among his many high-profile roles held the position of Director of the SEC’s Division of Investment Management from 2006 to 2010. “In much the same way engaged fund boards play a critical role for the end investor, the MFDF Board is well positioned to be a strong voice for the needs and responsibilities facing our community of fund board members. Those efforts will be in great hands.”

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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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