

# WOMEN LEAD NC

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**Leslie Lillard Walden**  
**Vice President, Regional Public Affairs**  
**Fidelity Investments**



Leslie Lillard Walden is Vice President, Regional Public Affairs for Fidelity Investments, one of the world's largest financial services providers. She leads government relations, civic engagement, community efforts on behalf of more than 15,000 Fidelity associates in the Southeast.

After joining Fidelity in the marketing communications department in Boston to launch new products and services, Leslie later established Fidelity's public affairs and community relations function in North Carolina and continues to serve on the regional leadership team that has supported the company's efforts to grow its headcount five-fold in the state. She now oversees Fidelity's public affairs function from Virginia to Florida.

Prior to Fidelity, Leslie spent more than decade in public service in local, state and federal government and agencies, as a White House appointee to the U.S. Department of Transportation, congressional press secretary and communications director for NC Crime Control and Public Safety. Drawing from experience from her first ever part-time job in radio, she has also developed a side hustle in sports announcing and voiceovers.

In her current role, Leslie has served Fidelity regional associates as a founding member for the Women's Leadership Group, sponsor of the Aspire Network for Black and Hispanic associates, and regional executive to the Fidelity Young Professionals Network. She is mentor to a Fidelity Scholar for the Invest in My Education college success and scholarship program.

In her community, Leslie was chair of the Research Triangle Park Charitable Fund, the Governor's Business Committee for Education and the Local Innovation Committee of NC Works. She serves on her state chamber's advisory board for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and recently joined the regional advisory board for the Chatham Y. She fuels her passion for educator professional development in financial education on the executive committee for the Council for Economic Education. Leslie is a Triangle Business Journal Women in Business honoree, a Leadership Triangle Goodmon Fellow and class speaker for Leadership North Carolina Class XVII.

Leslie and her husband, realtor husband Jay Walden, live in Chatham County NC - also home to two UNC Charlotte Niners as well as an occasional foster dog. In her spare time, you'll hear her singing Broadway show tunes or see her paddle boarding on the lake or catch her binging Real Housewives of Practically Any City.