



2023 Women in CRE: Leslie Donato, Real Estate Board of New York (REBNY)

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Leslie Donato
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Real Estate Board of New York (REBNY)

What recent project, transaction, or accomplishment are you most proud of? In my year at REBNY, I have been able to lead industry-defining events including the Retail Deal of the Year and Sales Deal of the Year, as well as facilitate regular networking events and committee meetings that are vital to connecting thousands of commercial brokers. Bringing together brokers in both celebration and in work has been a great experience especially during this time of CRE recovery.

Who inspires you most? What qualities do they possess that inspire you? Sandhya Espitia, COO of REBNY. I admire her independence, confidence, creativity, encouragement of her team and ability to connect with colleagues on a personal and business level.

Why should this nominee be recognized in our Women in Commercial Real Estate Spotlight? "Leslie's incredible energy, insights, and dedication have helped REBNY's commercial brokerage division to keep raising the bar for high-quality networking events, committee initiatives, and a wide array of other services provided to thousands of New York City commercial brokers throughout the REBNY membership." - Sandhya Espitia, COO at REBNY.

What are the most important factors women in your industry should consider when choosing a firm to build their career with? It is important to work within an organization that values women in leadership rolls when deserved and supports a strong work/life balance.

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