



CLASS OF 2026 DIRECTORY



SAMANTHA AMATO

LOEBSACK & BROWNLEE
STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS
REGIONAL MANAGER

SamanthaA@loebsockbrownlee.com

Sam, originally from Beaufort, SC, and raised in Summerfield, NC, grew up in a household led by two Marines with over 25 years in the apartment industry. She began her multifamily career in 2014 as a Leasing Agent and quickly advanced to Assistant Manager, Community Manager, and Regional Marketing Support before moving to the supplier side. Sam currently serves as the Strategic Partnerships Regional Manager at Loebsock & Brownlee, PLLC, supporting and collaborating with 24 apartment associations across five states. She is also actively involved in industry leadership, serving as Vice Chair of the AANC NextGen Committee, leading the AANC 20 on the Rise Taskforce, and holding roles with PTAA's Suppliers Council and Membership Committee. Recognized as the "Visionary" in 2023 and recipient of the "Sunshine" Award in 2024, Sam is known for her energetic, people-focused leadership. Outside of work, she enjoys time with family, her pets, and being outdoors.



DIANA BRIONES

HAWTHORNE RESIDENTIAL PARTNERS
MULTI-SITE COMMUNITY MANAGER

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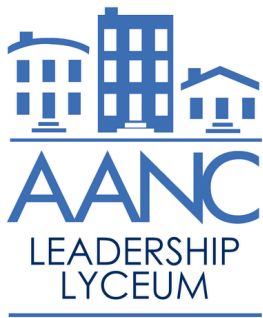
Diana has been in the property management industry for nearly nine years and has been part of Hawthorne Residential Partners since 2021. She is a Certified Apartment Manager (CAM) through the National Apartment Association and is passionate about creating positive experiences for residents and building strong, high-performing teams. Diana currently serves as Chair of the DE&I Committee and on the Board of Directors for the Greater Fayetteville Apartment Association, where she is an active advocate for the industry. A first-generation Filipino American, Diana is a proud military spouse and a busy mom of three children, two dogs, and two cats. Outside of work, she enjoys curling up with a good book and is always on the lookout for her next great read.



STEPHANIE COBLE

CORTLAND
SENIOR PROPERTY MANAGER
Stephanie.Coble@cortland.com

Stephanie is a Senior Multi-Site Community Manager for Cortland, overseeing communities in the Triangle market. With over 12 years in multifamily, she has held roles from Leasing Consultant to Community Manager with Bell Partners, First Communities, and Wilkinson Real Estate Advisors. Stephanie is a CAM-certified Notary Public and was selected for the 2024 TAA Leadership Lyceum and 2025 NAA Advocacy Academy. She has experience with Class A communities, lease-ups, mid-rise developments, distressed assets, and full property renovations. An active industry advocate, Stephanie serves on multiple committees with TAA and AANC and is currently President of the TAA PAC. Outside of work, she enjoys time with her daughter, being on the water, concerts, crocheting, and cheering on the Carolina Hurricanes.



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BERRY CRAVEN

GINKGO RESIDENTIAL
SERVICE TRAINING &
PERFORMANCE MANAGER
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Berry has been in the multifamily industry for over 25 years, beginning his career as a service technician and working his way up to Regional Service Manager. He currently serves as the Service Training and Performance Manager with Ginkgo Residential. Berry is deeply passionate about the service side of the industry and has been an active member of the CAMT Advisory Group with NAA since 2017. He has also been heavily involved with the Triangle Apartment Association, serving as Co-Chair of Membership before being elected President in 2024. Berry is a devoted father to his daughter, Kayla, and son, James, and a loving husband to his wife, Cristina. Outside of work, he enjoys spending time outdoors, whether working on their farm or hunting.



JANICE CUMBIE

GCI RESIDENTIAL
REGIONAL PROPERTY MANAGER
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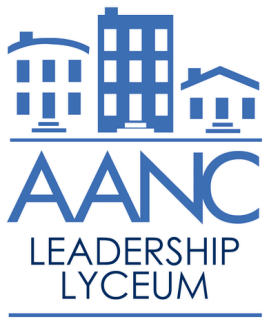
Janice has over 28 years of multifamily experience, beginning her career as a Leasing Consultant at 19 and rising through the ranks to become a passionate Regional Manager with GCI Residential. She has built a reputation for developing high-performing teams, delivering operational excellence, and creating a lasting impact across the communities she serves. Janice holds her CAPS designation and has been actively involved with GCAA and AANC committees, serving in roles that include mentoring, programming, and leadership development. She is a two-time GCAA Manager of the Year award winner, recognized for her outstanding leadership and community impact. Janice leads by example, with a leadership style grounded in integrity, empathy, and accountability, always focused on both performance and people.



SERECE DALTON

PHILLIPS MANAGEMENT GROUP
PROPERTY MANAGER
SereceD@phillipsmanagement.com

Serece is the Property Manager at Autumn Trace Apartments and a PMG Talent Team Trainer, recognized for her reliability, positive attitude, and dedication to supporting her colleagues. Known for balancing operational excellence with people-first leadership, she consistently delivers strong results while fostering trust and collaboration across her teams. Her achievements include PMG's Assistant Manager of the Year, the 2023 Diamond Award from the Piedmont Triad Apartment Association, selection to the Apartment Association of North Carolina's 20 in their 20s program, PMG's Property Manager of the Year in 2024, and national recognition as one of NAA's 20 on the Rise in 2025. Beyond her role, Serece serves on PTAA's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee and contributes to AANC's NextGen Committee, leading the Social Media Ambassadors program. Through mentorship, innovation, and advocacy, she continues to strengthen the multifamily industry and inspire those around her.



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SAVANTI DIGGS

HIGHMARK RESIDENTIAL
REGIONAL PROPERTY MANAGER
SDiggs@highmarkres.com

Savanti is a dedicated multifamily housing professional and Regional Manager with Highmark Residential, bringing over 13 years of industry experience. Known for leading with integrity, collaboration, and purpose, she has built her career around developing people, strengthening teams, and creating lasting community impact. A graduate of the GCAA Leadership Lyceum, Savanti serves on the GCAA Board and volunteers with the Apartment Association of North Carolina through the NextGen, DEI, and Government Affairs Committees. Her work focuses on promoting inclusive leadership and advancing the multifamily industry. Passionate about mentorship and professional growth, she is recognized for fostering positive team cultures and inspiring others to lead, believing that strong leadership begins with service.



BRIAN MCCARTHY

REAL FLOORS
ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
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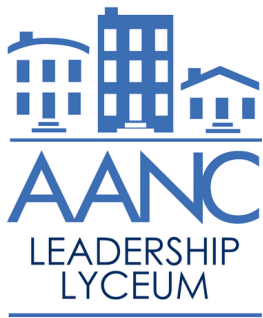
Brian is an Account Executive with Real Floors and brings nearly 20 years of experience in the multifamily and wholesale industries. He is skilled in sales, negotiation, customer relationship management (CRM), pricing strategy, and team building, and holds an MBA in Project Management from the University of North Alabama. Brian has previously held roles with HD Supply, GE Appliances, and Affinity Waste Solutions. He is actively involved in the industry, serving on the Board of Directors for AAWNC, as Vice Chair of Government Affairs for PTAA, and as a voting member of AANC's State Suppliers Council. Brian also participates on various committees across multiple affiliates in the Carolinas.



BETH MESSER

WILLOW BRIDGE PROPERTY COMPANY
BUSINESS MANAGER
thenorthsidemerrimonmgr@willowbridgepc.com

Beth is an experienced property manager with 6 years of experience in both tradition and student housing. She currently works for Willow Bridge Property Company as a Community Manager at The Northside at Merrimon. She got her start in property management at a student housing property while obtaining her degree. She started as a part-time leasing agent and quickly worked her way up to the leasing and marketing manager. Her passion is showcasing the beauty of vintage properties. She is an active member of her local association and plans to join the board to support her association further. Outside of work she enjoys spending time in nature, quality time with loved ones and supporting her wife's small business.



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RENEE PHILLIPS

ZUMPER
ENTERPRISE ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
Renee.Phillips@zumper.com

Renee, born and raised in North Carolina, began her multifamily career as a part-time Leasing Consultant while attending UNC Greensboro. She progressed through property management roles before joining Zumper as an Enterprise Account Executive, where she oversees multiple accounts and provides strategic marketing solutions for the multifamily industry. Renee is actively involved in the industry, serving on local apartment association committees, the NC State Suppliers Council, and having held past leadership roles including PTAA Programs Committee Chair and PTAA PSC President in 2024. She has been recognized with PTAA awards such as Rookie Supplier of the Year and Advertising Supplier of the Year. Outside of work, Renee enjoys time at the beach, collecting seashells, and spending time with her husband, three children, and two doodles.



MELISSA SPARKS

VAN METRE COMPANIES
REGIONAL MANAGER
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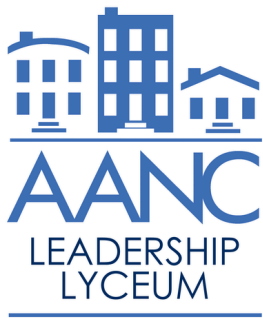
Melissa brings over 11 years of property management experience and currently serves as a Regional Manager with Van Metre Companies, overseeing communities in North Carolina. She has extensive expertise in lease-ups, large-scale renovations, and asset repositioning to drive performance and value. Melissa is passionate about fostering collaborative, authentic teams that promote growth and development, while also staying informed on legal updates and actively advocating for the multifamily industry. She holds a Master's in Clinical Social Work from Fayetteville State University and a Bachelor's in Social Work and Human Development from UNC Greensboro. Melissa has been an active member of the Greater Fayetteville Apartment Association since 2019.



ANGIE SUTTON

ATHENS REAL ESTATE GROUP
LEASING & MARKETING MANAGER
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Angie is a results-driven professional with over 19 years of experience in the multifamily housing industry, specializing in property management, administration, HR, marketing, financial management, and team development. A committed servant leader and certified Notary, she is recognized for building strategic plans, fostering strong partnerships, and achieving operational and profit goals—all while championing a people-first culture. Angie holds a degree in Business Administration with a focus in Human Resources and multiple industry certifications, including CAM, CAM-SH, and CAPS. Throughout her career, she has been honored as Community Manager of the Year (2017), received the Dynamic Team Award (2017), and was a 2024 Regional Manager of the Year Finalist. She also served as the 2025 Chair of the Piedmont Triad Apartment Association Tradeshow Committee, where she continues to inspire and mentor others in the multifamily profession.



CLASS OF 2026 DIRECTORY



BRANDI WOLOGO

WELLINGTON ADVISORS
COMMUNITY MANAGER
ctmanager@wellingtonadvisors.com

Brandi Wologo is an experienced multifamily housing professional with a strong background in property management and accounting. Currently serving as a Community Manager at Wellington Advisors, she brings a detail-oriented and resident-focused approach to her role, supporting daily operations and community success. Her responsibilities have included accounts payable and receivable, budget oversight, and resident relations, utilizing platforms such as Yardi Voyager to ensure smooth and efficient property performance. Brandi is passionate about maintaining thriving communities and delivering exceptional service to residents and property owners alike.