



KAREN L. DEE

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Karen is a certified executive coach, thought leader and speaker. She is co-founder & managing partner of Accendo Leadership Advisory Group, LLC. Accendo (Latin for “ignite” and pronounced A-shen-doh) is a leadership development company specializing in executive coaching, high performance team building, leadership seminars & workshops, *LEAD*Forward programs for high potential women, and public speaking. She is a member of Forbes Coaches Council, an invitation-only organization for successful business and career coaches. Several of Karen’s leadership articles have been published and can be found on Forbes.com.

Karen is a highly accomplished, former senior bank and chief executive with a 30+ year track record of driving profitable business growth working for companies such as Wells Fargo (1983-1986, 1989-2006), SunTrust (1986-1989), and Fifth Third Bank (2006-2014). In her most recent role as Fifth Third Bank Regional President for Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Kentucky, she had responsibility for \$17.4 billion in assets, and over 3200 employees.

Upon retiring from the banking industry in 2014, Karen pursued a goal to become an executive coach and subsequently launched Accendo in 2015. This was born out of her passion for wanting to see others succeed and experience in coaching hundreds of leaders and their teams to achieve higher performance.

Karen has a passion for giving back to her community. She has served on numerous boards including: Heart of Florida United Way (Board Chair and Chair of Women's Leadership), United Way of Tampa Bay (Executive Committee and Chair of Women's Leadership), USF Foundation (Audit Chair) and Stetson University Business School Advisory Board.

Karen has received numerous community recognitions including being named as one of Central Florida's 50 most powerful people (2010-2014) by Orlando Magazine and Business Woman of the Year (2011) by the Orlando Business Journal.

Karen lives in Tampa Bay, Florida with her husband Tom. They have two grown daughters. Karen has a BBA from Stetson University where she attended on a Woman's Basketball Scholarship. Her love for sports continues as she is an avid tennis player and boater.