



Gail Birks, EMBA, LMBB, IATA

Gail Birks is the founding Principal with CMA Enterprise Incorporated. Professionally, Ms Birks has served the South Florida Business community for nearly nine years as a Middle Market Assistant Vice President with Southeast Bank, NA and SunTrust/Miami, NA respectively. She holds a Bachelor Degree in Economics and Finance from Tennessee State University in Nashville, Tennessee where she was also enrolled in the University's Honors Program. She is a graduate of the Executive MBA Program at Florida International University and has completed post-graduate work in the area of Industrial Psychology and Personnel Staffing and Administration. She was also voted "Best Presenter" by her 1999 graduating class.

Ms. Birks is also a Certified Mediator and Arbitrator for the Florida State Supreme Court. Her Certifications encompass Circuit/Civil, County and Residential Mortgage Foreclosure. She has extensive experience in mediating conflicts in the workplace, customer service grievances, contract disputes, insurance claims, employee relations (and supervisor/employee matters.).

Ms. Birks has served as an **Independent Corporate Director since 1994**. She has been a part of the governing body of a financial institution that began as a privately held organization before merging in 2005 with a publically traded financial holding company and repurchased by private investors in 2009. Ms. Birks also has over 30 years of experience in board leadership and an expertise in board development and governance having served on and consulted numerous non-profit and civic boards in South Florida. In 2012, Ms. Birks received an invitation from the NYSE to attend a conference of Diverse Independent Corporate Board of Directors in NYC. And in June, 2013, she was a featured panelist for a workshop on "Enterprise Risk Management: A Director's Perspective" and the American Leader's Conference. Ms. Birks was also named as a "Director to Watch in 2014" by **Directors and Boards Magazine** (September Issue).

Ms. Birks, a published author of four books, holds an advanced **Certification in Lean Six Sigma**. She is a **Lean Master Black Belt through her matriculation at** Florida Atlantic University (September, 2013). Her other professional certifications include but are not limited to the following: Certified Total Quality Management Training, Certified Self-Directed Workgroup Training, Advanced Sales Training and Management Credit Training. In 2006 Ms. Birks was selected to be a Protégée with Accenture, LLC at the national level in their Inaugural Mentor/Protégée Program.

Her consulting and business concepts have been featured in numerous cover stories in the Miami Herald and other South Florida Circulars. She has raised the awareness of grassroots and corporate clients through her consulting and training exercises, resulting in heightened awareness in the areas of organization and cultural diversity, self-directed workgroups and high performance teams, and process improvement. She has designed and facilitated sessions as well as consulted on a local, regional and national levels for public, corporate and nonprofit organizations.

Ms. Birks' honors include: 2012 Top 100 Most Influential Black Professionals in South Florida – ICABA; Top 50 Most Powerful Black Professionals in South Florida -2011; Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Top Hat Award in Business and Entrepreneurship - 2008; Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce Women's Council of Commerce Circle of Excellence Award in Business – 2007; "In The Company of Women", Miami Dade County – 2001; National Association of Business and Professional Women Business Champion – 2001; FIU- Executive MBA Class of 1999, "Best Presenter"; JM Family Enterprises African American Achiever in Business – 1994.