

Connie L. Engel

Connie Engel is a Partner in the Atlanta Office Division of Childress Klein and has been in charge of development and leasing at the prestigious Atlanta Galleria for over twenty years. In 2010 NAIOP of Georgia honored Ms. Engel with the Award of Excellence for dedicated service to the commercial real estate industry. Ms. Engel was recently inducted into the inaugural Coles College of Business's Hall of Fame at Kennesaw State University. She has been frequently recognized as a leader in her industry. Twice she was recognized as the top producer in the Commercial Industry.



Engel is an accomplished executive whose career spans 3 decades in which she has successfully led marketing and operations for IBM and leasing, marketing and management for Childress Klein, a commercial real estate development firm in the southeast United States. Both firms are notable but vastly different organizations serving the requirements of their customers quite uniquely.

While IBM and Childress Klein are different in culture, reach, product and sector, both organizations are in cyclical businesses. The concept of providing the best product to the customer in their respective marketplaces and being well respected in their industries is where the commonality exists. Ms. Engel was able to take a disciplined, innovative and dispassionate approach to gain insights necessary to lead and gain traction resulting in superior performance broadly recognized by her customers, colleagues and organizations at IBM and Childress Klein. Her approach has also been recognized in the community through her leadership of several organizations. While at IBM Engel received awards as regional sales leader and as a manager during her management career she was charged with the task of managing units not performing to acceptable levels. She motivated, trained and encouraged her units to ultimately become top performing. She also held positions at Trammell Crow Company prior to joining Childress Klein.

Engle's community involvement responsibilities include being an elected Board Member in 1998 and Treasurer (2000 – 2008) of the Cumberland Community Improvement District, which is responsible for allocating a special property tax collected from commercial property owners for transportation and other improvements in Cobb County. The CCID has leveraged over \$100 million of private assessments to over \$1 billion in transportation and streetscape improvements.

In 2005, Engel was selected to serve on the Board of Trustees for Kennesaw State University, the third largest and fastest growing university in the state of Georgia. In 2006, she was asked to increase her involvement by becoming a member of the Executive Committee and in 2007 she became Chair of the Real Estate Committee. In 2008, the Real Estate committee spearheaded the purchase of 100 acres of land for future sports/stadium areas for Kennesaw State University. She has received the Erwin Zaban Award and the Clarice Bagwell Award from Kennesaw State University for outstanding contribution and leadership within the KSU Board of Trustees. In October of 2009 she was elected Vice Chair of the Foundation and in October of 2010 she was chosen Chair Elect of the Foundation. She became Chair of The Foundation in October 2012 and completed her term in 2014. Currently she is immediate past chair of the Foundation.

In 2011, Georgia Governor Nathan Deal appointed Engel to the Georgia Board of Dentistry, consumer representative. She has been frequently quoted and referenced as an expert in the industry on Atlanta by the Atlanta Journal & Constitution (11/10/14), Atlanta Business Chronicle (9/3/14); Georgia CEO (12/12/14)

In 2016, Engel became a Director of BrandBank/Brand Group Holdings. She is the immediate past Chair/Trustee of Kennesaw State University Foundation; and is a currently a board member of the Georgia Board of Dentistry, and as a board member of the Cumberland Community Improvement District.

Engel graduated from the University of Iowa with a B.A. in Communications and an area of concentration in Public Address. She is an MBA graduate of Kennesaw State University's Coles College of Business.