

JENNIFER KNIGHT

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Jennifer Knight: Transformational Leader, Private Equity Expert, and Board Member



Jennifer Knight is a dynamic C-suite executive and experienced board member with over 20 years of expertise in driving growth, managing ownership transitions, and leading strategic turnarounds for private equity-backed firms, family-owned businesses, and startups. Her track record demonstrates a keen ability to align stakeholder interests, implement operational improvements, and create sustainable value.

Jennifer's leadership spans industries including textiles and apparel manufacturing, consumer products, global supply chains, and critical minerals and metals. Her deep experience with private equity-backed companies includes successfully leading transformative initiatives, enhancing profitability, and positioning firms for long-term growth.

At Georgia Narrow Fabrics, a family-owned and private equity-partnered enterprise, Jennifer achieved 27% revenue growth and a 25% profit margin increase in two years. She spearheaded operational streamlining, secured refinancing to fuel expansion, and introduced innovative product lines to capture new market

opportunities.

As President and COO of American Woolen Company, Jennifer revitalized a historic 600,000-square-foot textile mill, establishing the company as a leader in premium manufacturing. Under her leadership, the company was positioned to secure \$50M in multi-year military contracts, obtained a \$2M Department of Defense grant, and fostered partnerships with renowned brands such as J.Crew, Brooks Brothers, and The North Face. Her focus on sustainability and operational excellence was pivotal in driving growth in a competitive market.

Jennifer's expertise extends to public service, where she served as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Textiles, Consumer Goods, Materials, Critical Minerals, and Metals at the U.S. Department of Commerce under President Biden. She championed policies to enhance U.S. manufacturing competitiveness, strengthen supply chain resilience, and advance economic security.

As a board member, Jennifer has guided organizations such as National Spinning Company, Premier Narrow Fabrics, and The Commonwealth Institute, providing governance and strategic insights. Her contributions consistently foster innovation, operational excellence, and stakeholder value creation in complex business environments.

Jennifer holds an M.B.A. from Columbia Business School and a B.A. in Religious Studies from Brown University. She splits her time between New York City and Orient, NY.

Board Directorships:

- Board Member, Premier Narrow Fabrics (2006–2008)
- President and Board Member, The Commonwealth Institute (2013–2016)
- Board Member, American Woolen Company (2014–2020)
- Board Member, National Spinning Company (2020–2021)
- Board Member, American Apparel Producers Network (2020–2021)