

FEDERATION OF DEFENSE & CORPORATE COUNSEL



DEFENSE LAWYERS. DEFENSE LEADERS.



FEDERATION OF DEFENSE & CORPORATE COUNSEL  
**FOUNDATION**

*“AmTrust is honored to be a founding sponsor of Ladder Down 2.0 and, by doing so, further empowering women to advance their careers within the insurance industry.”*

*Adam Karkowsky- President,  
AmTrust Financial Services*



## LADDER DOWN

WOMEN CLIMBING THE LADDER OF  
SUCCESS IN THE INSURANCE AND RISK  
MANAGEMENT INDUSTRY

Leadership- Branding- Effective Communication- Mentoring

*“Zurich North America is thrilled to support Ladder Down 2.0 as a Platinum Sponsor. Expanding the innovative Ladder Down program to women claims professionals will both enable their professional development in Claims while strengthening our future diverse workforce in the insurance industry.”*

*Jocelyn Jopa- VP, Head of  
Claims Quality at Zurich North America.*

*“Acuity values and encourages continuous, ongoing development and growth of our insurance professionals. We are proud to sponsor and support LD2, a program which provides women an opportunity to learn, network and grow their talents. LD2 is an incredible opportunity for our aspiring professionals to learn from recognized industry leaders. This program is about women helping other women!”*

*Lea Kapral- General Manager-Central  
Claims at Acuity Insurance .*



# LADDER DOWN

## Women Climbing the Ladder of Success in the Insurance and Risk Management Industry

### Leadership - Branding - Effective Communication - Mentoring

Ladder Down empowers professional women to further their careers in the insurance and risk management industry. This program focuses on four critical areas that equip participants to position themselves for professional success: leadership, branding, effective communication, and mentoring.

#### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Leadership empowerment through enhanced self-awareness and better understanding of others.
- Effective self-promotion and communication skills.
- Strategies for navigating corporate culture to fulfill career potential.

#### PROGRAM

- Large Group Interactive Series: These monthly sessions are dedicated to (1) leadership development, (2) building your brand (3) effective communication, and (4) navigating corporate culture. Participants graduate the program with practical tips and tools that they can implement immediately.
- Small Group Accountability Sessions: Each participant will be assigned to a small group that will meet regularly, facilitated by a faculty member. These sessions are designed to be a supportive forum for encouragement, goal setting, discussing obstacles and challenges, and sharing successes.

#### FACULTY



Deborah Saunders



Marianne Trost



Nicole Brunson



Elizabeth Fitch



Jordan Faugl  
Program Coordinator



# LADDER DOWN

## **2025 LADDER DOWN™ CURRICULUM & SESSIONS**

**All sessions are virtual and based on Central Time.**

**Thursday, January 23, 2025**

Welcome Reception: 5:00pm- 6:30pm

**Saturday, January 25, 2025**

Leadership Development Session #1: 10:00am-  
12:00pm\*

**Saturday, February 22, 2025**

Leadership Development Session #2: 10:00am-  
12:00pm\*

**Saturday, March 29, 2025**

Building Your Brand: 10:00am- 12:30pm\*

**Saturday, April 26, 2025**

Public Speaking- Communication with a  
Purpose: 10:00am- 1:00pm\*

**Saturday, May 31, 2025**

Effective Communication: 10:00am-  
1:00pm\*

**Saturday, June 28, 2025**

Navigating Corporate Culture: 10:00am-  
12:30pm

**Thursday, July 24, 2025**

Virtual Graduation Reception: 5:00pm-  
7:00pm

**\*This large group session will be followed by a one-hour  
small group session; date and time will be by agreement  
of instructors and participants**



# LADDER DOWN

**LADDER DOWN:  
LEADERSHIP, CAREER DEVELOPMENT, and  
MENTORING for WOMEN in RISK MANAGEMENT and  
INSURANCE  
2025 APPLICATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization & Position at  
the organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Years in Insurance/Risk  
Management/Claims: \_\_\_\_\_

Line(s) of  
Coverage/Other  
Area(s) of Focus: \_\_\_\_\_

1. How did you hear about Ladder Down?

2. What do you hope to achieve through participation in this program?

**Please submit completed application by Friday, January 3rd, 2025 to:  
Beth Fitch, [ladderdown@righilaw.com](mailto:ladderdown@righilaw.com)**

