

## **SHARON M. MCGOWAN**

Sharon M. McGowan (she/her) is the Chief Strategy Officer and Legal Director of Lambda Legal, where she leads a talented team of over 30 attorneys and paraprofessionals who advocate in courts, legislatures and administrative bodies at the federal, state and local level to resist attempts to roll back recently-secured legal protections for the LGBT community, as well as continue the progress toward full formal and lived equality.

Previously, McGowan served as the Principal Deputy Chief of the Appellate Section of the Civil Rights Division in the U.S. Department of Justice, where she supervised attorneys in matters proceeding before the U.S. Supreme Court and federal courts of appeals, and advised the Department of Justice on litigation and policy matters impacting the LGBTQ community, including guidance in documents jointly issued by the Department of Justice and the Department of Education.

McGowan served as Acting General Counsel and as Deputy General Counsel for Policy at the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) during the Obama Administration, and earlier in her career was a Staff Attorney at ACLU's Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender & AIDS Project.

McGowan served as a law clerk to the Honorable Norman H. Stahl, U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, and the Honorable Helen G. Berrigan, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana. She is a graduate of Harvard Law School and the University of Virginia.