

Biographies Investment Professionals

Stephen L. Nesbitt – Chief Executive Officer

Steve is Chief Executive Officer of Cliffwater LLC. Steve is responsible for client service and oversees all investment research. Prior to forming Cliffwater in 2004, Steve was a Senior Managing Director and principal of Wilshire Associates from 1980 to 2004. From 1990 he led the Consulting Division and built the asset management business using a 'manager of manager' investment approach, including private equity and hedge fund of fund products. His published articles have appeared in the Financial Analysts Journal, the Journal of Portfolio Management and the Journal of Applied Corporate Finance on issues ranging from performance fees, to currency hedging to private equity performance.

He earned a BA in Mathematics and Economics from Eisenhower College, and an MBA from The Wharton School at The University of Pennsylvania.

Dennis R. Sugino – President

Dennis is President of Cliffwater LLC. Dennis is responsible for client service in all alternative investment strategies. Prior to forming Cliffwater in 2004, Dennis was a Managing Director and principal of Wilshire Associates from 1992 to 2004 where he was a senior consultant working with large public funds, corporate plans and endowments/foundations. From 1986 to 1992 he was the Chief Investment Officer of the Los Angeles Police and Fire Pension system where he was responsible for its multi-billion dollar investment fund and initiating investments in real estate, equity and emerging manager programs.

He earned a BS in Environmental Management from California State University, Dominguez Hills, and an MA in Architecture and Urban Planning from the University of California, Los Angeles. Dennis is a member of the CFA Institute and the Los Angeles Society of Financial Analysts.

Kathleen K. Barchick – Senior Managing Director

Kathy is a Senior Managing Director of Cliffwater LLC. Kathy is responsible for client service in all alternative investment strategies. Prior to forming Cliffwater in 2004, Kathy was a Managing Director and principal of Wilshire Associates from 1994 to 2004 where she was a senior consultant working with large public funds, corporate plans and endowments/foundations. Previous experience includes working as an acquisition officer for the US Air Force where she was responsible for purchasing spacecraft and satellites and as a team manager for the Department of Defense Logistics Agency where she was responsible for assessing contractor performance for US Air Force radar systems.

She earned a BS in Operations Research from the United States Air Force Academy, and an MBA from the University of Southern California. Kathy is a Chartered Financial Analyst, a member of the CFA Institute and the Los Angeles Society of Financial Analysts.

Barbara J. Smith – Senior Managing Director

Barbara is a Senior Managing Director of Cliffwater LLC. Barbara is responsible for administration, operations, compliance, and client reporting. Prior to forming Cliffwater in 2004, Barbara was a Managing Director and principal of Wilshire Associates from 1996 to 2004 and was responsible for the operational and administrative management of the investment consulting and funds management divisions. Previous experience includes corporate finance work for Chase Manhattan Bank in Africa, France and the U.S., private debt securities investments for Northwestern National Life Insurance Company, and operational management for Bankers Trust.

She earned a BA in Anthropology from Smith College and a MA in International Economics and Relations from the Johns Hopkins School for Advanced International Studies.

Daniel Stern – Senior Managing Director

Daniel is a Senior Managing Director of Cliffwater LLC in our New York office and leads our hedge fund research team. Prior to joining Cliffwater in 2005, Daniel was a Director of BlackRock Financial Management where he was a senior member of the Fund of Funds team that managed the firm's fund of hedge funds products. Previous experience includes working for Wilshire Associates handling investment strategies for large public funds, corporate plans and endowments/foundations.

He earned a BA in Economics and Political Science from Brandeis University and an MBA in Finance from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

James B. Feidler – Managing Director

Jamie is a Managing Director of Cliffwater LLC and a member of our client services team. Prior to joining Cliffwater in 2005, Jamie was a Manager at The Walt Disney Company where he managed the public equity allocation of Disney's defined benefit plan. Previous experience includes working for the Private Wealth Management Group of Morgan Stanley and in the Portfolio Management Group at Prudential.

He earned a BS in Business Administration from Bucknell University, and an MBA from The Anderson School at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Thomas K. Lynch – Managing Director

Tom is a Managing Director of Cliffwater LLC in our New York office and a member of our client services team. Prior to joining Cliffwater in 2008, Tom was a Senior Managing Director and principal of Wilshire Associates where he managed the firm's private equity business for 17 years. Previous experience includes working for the New York Life Insurance Company. He has served on the advisory boards of numerous private equity partnerships.

He earned a B.S. in Finance from Boston College, his J.D. from Duquesne University School of Law and is a Chartered Financial Analyst.

Mark Williams – Managing Director

Mark is a Managing Director of Cliffwater LLC and a member of our real assets research team. Prior to joining Cliffwater in 2008, Mark was a Managing Director and principal of Wilshire Associates where he performed real estate research and consulting services and managed the development of the Compass institutional investment software and the RetirePath discretionary managed accounts system. Previous experience includes real estate research with The Meyers Group, and CJ Bonner Corporation.

He earned a B.S. in Finance from the University of Utah.

Gabrielle Zadra – Managing Director

Gabrielle is a Managing Director of Cliffwater LLC and leads our private equity research team. Prior to joining Cliffwater in 2004, Gabrielle was an Associate with Pathway Capital Management, LLC where she led due diligence on private equity investments including venture capital, buyout, debt-related and special situation partnerships. Previous experience includes working in investment banking with the Banc of America Securities Technology Group. She also worked for the Service Employees International Union / AFL-CIO.

She earned a BA in History and Women's Studies from Oberlin College, and an MBA from The Anderson School at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Eric Abelson – Director

Eric is a Director of Cliffwater LLC and a member of our private equity research team. Prior to joining Cliffwater in 2007, Eric was a Senior Associate with WestLB Mellon Asset Management where he performed due diligence on private equity investments including venture capital, buyout, special situation partnerships, and co-investment opportunities. Previous experience includes working in equity management for Sit Investment Associates.

He earned a BS in Environmental Economics from the University of California at Berkeley. Eric is a Chartered Financial Analyst, and a member of the CFA Institute and the CFA Society of Los Angeles.

Chae Hong – Director

Chae is a Director of Cliffwater LLC and a member of our real assets research team. Prior to joining Cliffwater in 2008, Chae was a Vice President with Callan Associates where he was responsible for real estate and infrastructure consulting. Previous experience includes working for RREEF and PM Realty Advisors.

He earned a BA in Political Science from the University of California, Los Angeles and an MBA from The Anderson School at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Louis Kahl – Director

Louis is a Director of Cliffwater LLC in our New York office and a member of our hedge fund research team. Prior to joining Cliffwater in 2007, Louis was a Senior Manager in Benefits Finance at Pfizer Inc where he was responsible for due diligence, manager selection and oversight of external managers for the company's pension plans and corporate foundation. Previous experience includes working for FleetBoston Financial, Merrill Lynch, and Monarch Financial Corporation.

He earned a BA in Economics from Villanova University, and an MBA from Penn State University. Louis is a Chartered Financial Analyst and a member of the New York Society of Security Analysts.

Lan Qian – Director

Lan is a Director of Cliffwater LLC and a member of our private equity research team. Prior to joining Cliffwater in 2007, Lan was an Associate with Ennis Knupp + Associates, where she advised institutional investors of private equity investing and led due diligence on private equity fund of funds and direct partnerships. Previous experience includes working for Botta Capital Management LLC and ABN AMRO Asia.

She earned a BA in Liberal Arts from Fudan University in Shanghai China, and an MBA from the Mendoza College of Business at the University of Notre Dame. She is a Chartered Financial Analyst and a member of the CFA Institute.

Jonathan Rogal – Director

Jonathan is a Director of Cliffwater LLC and is responsible for alternatives legal due diligence. Prior to joining Cliffwater in 2006, Jonathan was an associate at Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker LLP where he represented domestic and international private and public companies in all aspects of corporate and business law. Previous experience includes working for Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP.

He earned a BS in Industrial and Labor Relations from Cornell University, and a J.D. from New York University School of Law. He is admitted to the California and New York State Bars.

Ben Rotenberg – Director

Ben is a Director of Cliffwater LLC and a member of our real assets research team. Prior to joining Cliffwater in 2007, Ben was Director of Research with National Fiduciary Advisors, Inc., where he advised institutional investors and led due diligence on investment management firms. Previous experience includes working for PaineWebber PRIME Consulting Group and Wilshire Associates Incorporated.

He earned a BA in International Relations and Russian from Pomona College. He is a member of the CFA Institute, the Los Angeles CFA Society, and the Investment Management Consultants Association.

Eli Sokolov – Director

Eli is a Director of Cliffwater LLC and a member of our hedge fund research team. Prior to joining Cliffwater in 2007, Eli was a Senior Associate at MSCI Barra, where he conducted research in the areas of trading cost, securities analyst skill, real estate risk, firm valuation, and alpha forecasts. Previous experience includes working for Pacific Alternatives Asset Management Company.

He earned a BA in Astrophysics and Economics with distinction from the University of California, Berkeley and an MBA with highest honors from The Anderson School at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Richard P. Teisch – Director

Rick is a Director of Cliffwater LLC in our New York office and a member of our hedge fund research team. Prior to joining Cliffwater in 2006, Rick was a Senior Analyst at Paradigm Consulting Services LLC, where his responsibilities included hedge fund sourcing, due diligence, monitoring, and portfolio construction for institutional clients. Previous experience includes working for Hennessee Group LLC and for Public Service Enterprise Group Inc.

He earned a BS in Business Administration from the University of Delaware, and an MBA from Seton Hall University.

Aaron Dalrymple – Vice President

Aaron is a Vice President of Cliffwater LLC and a member of our hedge fund research team. Prior to joining Cliffwater in 2006, Aaron was a Securities Compliance Examiner with the SEC where he managed audits of investment advisors, investment companies and hedge funds advisors. Previous experience includes serving as an Operations Officer in the U.S. Coast Guard.

He graduated Summa Cum Laude with a BBA in Finance from Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi. Aaron is a Chartered Financial Analyst, and a member of the CFA Institute and the CFA Society of Los Angeles.

Cathleen Gorman – Vice President

Cathy is a Vice President of Cliffwater LLC in our New York office and a member of our hedge fund research team. Prior to joining Cliffwater in 2008, Cathy was a Senior Associate with Daylight Forensic & Advisory, LLC working on client investigations and examinations for financial institutions. Previous experience includes working for Paradigm Consulting Services, Deutsche Bank Absolute Return Strategies, and Bankers Trust Private Bank.

She earned a BA in Economics with honors from the University of Virginia.

David Wippel – Vice President

David is a Vice President of Cliffwater LLC and a member of our hedge fund research team. Prior to joining Cliffwater in 2007, David was an Accounting Manager with CBRE where he managed the preparation and delivery of accounting and financial reporting services for corporate real estate services clients. Previous experience includes working as a Corporate Accountant for InfoSpace, Inc.

He earned a BS in Finance from the University of Idaho and an MBA from California State University, Long Beach.

Kerrisha Jenkins – Senior Associate

Kerrisha is a Senior Associate of Cliffwater LLC and a member of our real assets team. Prior to joining Cliffwater in 2008, Kerrisha was a Summer Associate at Northwestern Mutual Capital where she worked on private equity co-investments and fixed income private placements. Previous experience includes working for the Energy Investment Banking Group at A.G. Edwards and in the Finance and Strategic Planning Group at Lions Gate Entertainment.

She earned a BA in Business Administration from Clark Atlanta University, and an MBA from The Marshall School of Business at the University of Southern California.

Alison Ruddy – Senior Associate

Alison is a Senior Associate of Cliffwater LLC and is a member of our hedge fund research team. Prior to joining Cliffwater in 2008, Alison was an Analyst at Citadel Investment Group, LLC where she focused on internal control, asset valuation, and financial reporting. Previous experience includes working at Ernst & Young LLP as an auditor and at the Securities and Exchange Commission.

She graduated Summa Cum Laude with a BBA in Accounting from the University of Notre Dame, and earned an MBA from the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business.

Jennifer Bermudez – Associate

Jennifer is an Associate of Cliffwater LLC and a member of our private equity research team. Prior to joining Cliffwater in 2008, Jennifer was a Financial Statement Auditor at Deloitte & Touche, LLP, where she focused on audits of companies in the consumer business and financial services industries.

She earned a BS in Accounting from Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles.

Nicolas Giovannetti – Associate

Nick is an Associate of Cliffwater LLC and a member of our hedge fund research team. Prior to joining Cliffwater in 2008, Nick worked as an Assurance Associate with PricewaterhouseCoopers, where he planned and worked on audit engagements of financial service clients.

He earned a BA in Business Economics from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Sam Hagan – Associate

Sam is an Associate of Cliffwater LLC and a member of our private equity research team. Prior to joining Cliffwater in 2007, Sam was an Analyst in Countrywide Financial Corporation's Capital Management Group.

He earned a BA in Economics from Occidental College.

Paulo Jeronymo – Associate

Paulo is an Associate of Cliffwater LLC and a member of our private equity research team. Prior to joining Cliffwater in 2007, Paulo was a Manager of Compliance & Reporting with Investors Bank & Trust. Previous experience includes working for State Street Corporation, MetLife, and Pioneer Investments.

He earned a BS in Finance from Salem State College in Salem, Massachusetts.

Amita Patel – Associate

Amita is an Associate of Cliffwater LLC and a member of our private equity research team. Prior to joining Cliffwater in 2006, Amita was an Accounting Coordinator with Allied Consulting Group.

She earned a BA in Economics from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Brie Bucci – Analyst

Brie is an Analyst of Cliffwater LLC and a member of our private equity research team. Prior to joining Cliffwater in 2007, Brie worked at General Electric in the supply and buyer support group.

She earned a BA in Economics for Business and Management from Occidental College in Los Angeles.