



Karen Dewalt

Vice President, Global Tax, The Home Depot

Biography

Karen Dewalt is an innovative executive with a background in accounting and tax. Karen has spent over 20 years interacting with the Board of Directors and Audit Committees for two publicly traded companies in the retail sector covering audit, financial accounting, internal controls, and tax matters. She has advised the business on multiple M&A transactions in due diligence and structuring.

At The Home Depot, Karen led the development of a cross-functional program to secure location incentives for the company's supply chain expansion. She brought together the tax, legal, real estate, supply chain, corporate communications, and government affairs teams to create a best-in-class holistic and novel approach to coordinating value creation, which has exceeded \$500 million in incentives secured. In addition, she has developed and implemented tax optimization in the billions of dollars through strong business partnerships and strategic thought leadership.

Previously, Karen led the strategy for the global expansion of publicly traded retailer Abercrombie & Fitch, taking the iconic American brand to the international market.

Karen has been a speaker in national forums on tax matters including organizational effectiveness and tax policy. She is an expert in driving tax legislative advocacy and is known for her insights among members of Congress and their staff. She founded and chaired the Tax Advisory Council for the leading retail trade association. Karen has served on the Advisory Board for the Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University as a member of the Executive Committee, is currently the chair of the Real Estate Investment Committee, and serves on the Advisory Board of Norfolk State University, an HBCU, for her insights on academic preparedness and mentorship of students.

Karen is a CPA and holds a Master of Taxation degree from Virginia Commonwealth University as well as a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. She lives in Georgia with her husband and has two children.