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Roderick Palmore reflects on namesake award

The Roderick Palmore Pathmaker Award is a new category in the Transformative Leadership Awards

BY ASHLEY POST
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The East Coast edition of the Transformative Leadership Awards (TLA) takes place tomorrow in New York City. Last week, InsideCounsel reached out to the 2013 TLA East winners to learn more about what the TLA program and its awards mean to them. Today, InsideCounsel catches up with Roderick Palmore, for whom a new award category is named. Palmore is the executive vice president, general counsel, and chief compliance and risk

management officer at General Mills Inc. and is a member of the board of directors at Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co.

The Roderick Palmore Pathmaker Award is presented to a law firm managing partner, law firm senior leader or senior law department leader whose courage, unyielding vision, integrity, conviction and authenticity have carved a groundbreaking path and laid a new foundation to accelerate the economic empowerment of attorneys of color or women. This year's Roderick Palmore Pathmaker Award winner is Candace Beinecke, chair of Hughes Hubbard & Reed.

"I am deeply honored and humbled to have an award named for me," Palmore says. "But more than that, I hope that this accelerates our progress in ensuring that everyone has a real chance to succeed in our profession."

In 2004, Palmore, who was then GC at Sara Lee Corp., wrote "A Call to Action, Diversity in the Legal Profession," which urged GCs to promote diversity by demanding results in the law firms with which they worked. More than 120 GCs made the commitment. The initiative has since developed into the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity, a collaboration between GCs and managing partners.

[Click here to learn more about the TLA program.](#)

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