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Janice Bryant Howroyd

Founder and CEO

ActOne Group

Janice Bryant Howroyd

Janice Bryant Howroyd – affectionately known as JBH – is an entrepreneur, educator, author, mentor, Presidential special appointee, Founder, and Chief Executive Officer of the ActOne Group. As the leader of a multi-billion dollar (US\$), award-winning, international workforce management and technology enterprise, JBH is passionate about what we can accomplish when we invest in women and women-owned businesses.

Born in North Carolina, JBH is one of 11 children and credits her parents for instilling in her the strong values that fueled her success. Guided by their example, Janice turned a small investment from her mother into a billion-dollar business. From navigating prejudice to being first to act when COVID-19 became a business reality, JBH has exemplified what it means to provide strong leadership under pressure. Through it all, she has provided commonsense wisdom and real-world guidance not only for her own businesses, but as a well-respected influencer with followers around the world. Through it all, she has never wavered from her professional mantra: “Never compromise who you are personally to become who you wish to be professionally.”

Over the years, JBH has received numerous accolades for her professional accomplishments including being featured in Forbes Magazine as one of America’s Richest Self-Made Women and being named an Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year. Black Enterprise recognized JBH as the first black woman to own and operate a billion-dollar company, she was BET’s first BET Honors Entrepreneur of the Year, and has received the Black Enterprise’s Business of the Year award. CNBC has identified her as being a game-changer in business and finance and Ebony Magazine has included JBH on their list of Power 100 Most Influential African Americans.

Her reputation as a well-respected advocate for women and minorities led President Barack Obama to appoint JBH to serve on the Board of Advisors for the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities. JBH was also asked to sit on the Federal Communications Commission’s Advisory Committee on Diversity and Digital Empowerment (ACDDE) to encourage women and minorities to create digital enterprises.

JBH believes that diversity promotes innovation, opens doors, and creates partnerships that fuel economies. Her commitment to provide women with the tools they need to succeed led her to accept a seat on the Women’s Business Enterprise National Council, the international serving WeConnect, and the Women Presidents’ Organization.

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