Ellen Richey, who first joined Visa in 2007, serves as vice chairman of risk and public policy.

Richey is responsible for ensuring that Visa continues to drive the future of payment security, serving as its voice with legislators, regulators and clients globally regarding payment system security, and other similar initiatives combining business and policy issues of strategic importance to Visa. She is also responsible for coordinating global crisis management at the executive level.

Before assuming her current role in October 2014, Richey concurrently served as chief legal officer, chief risk officer, and a member of Visa’s executive committee. In those positions, she was responsible for the legal function as well as oversight of Visa’s compliance, audit and risk teams, including payment system risk, settlement risk and enterprise risk.

Prior to joining Visa, she worked at Washington Mutual Inc. as senior vice president of enterprise risk management and executive vice president of card services. Prior to that, she served as vice chairman of Providian Financial Corporation, where she had responsibility for the enterprise risk management, legal, corporate governance, corporate relations, compliance and audit functions. Earlier in her career, Richey was a partner in the San Francisco law firm Farella, Braun & Martel, where she specialized in corporate, real estate, and financial institution matters.

Richey received a B.A. in Linguistics and Far Eastern Languages from Harvard University and a J.D. from Stanford Law School, and served as a law clerk for Associate Justice Lewis F. Powell, Jr. of the United States Supreme Court.

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