



# MEET THE DEVELOPERS



**Angel B. Rodriguez**  
*Executive Director,*  
**Phila. Land Bank,**  
*Senior Vice President,*  
*Land Management,*  
**Philadelphia Housing**  
**Development**  
**Corporation,** *Deputy*  
*Executive Director,*  
**Philadelphia**  
**Redevelopment**  
**Authority**



**Mohamed (Mo) Rushdy**  
*Managing Partner*  
**The Riverwards Group**



**Brennan Tomasetti**  
*Co-Owner*  
**Civetta Property**  
**Group**



**Justin Veasey**  
*Co-Founder*  
**BVG Property Group**



**Moderator**  
**Rachael J. Pritzker, Esq.**  
*Chief Executive Officer*  
**Pritzker Law Group LLC**

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**Building Industry Association of Philadelphia**  
**General Building Contractors Association**  
**Electrical Association of Philadelphia**  
**Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia**

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#MeetTheDevelopers



**Thursday, February 8, 2024**  
**Convene Commerce Square**  
**2001 Market Street, 2nd Floor Philadelphia, PA 19103**



## Angel B. Rodriguez

*Executive Director, Philadelphia Land Bank, Senior Vice President, Land Management, Philadelphia Housing Development Corporation, and Deputy Executive Director, Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority*

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## Mohamed (Mo) Rushdy

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The Riverwards Group*

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**Angel B. Rodriguez** serves as Executive Director of the Philadelphia Land Bank (PLB) and the Senior Vice President of Land Management at Philadelphia Housing Development Corporation (PHDC), appointed in 2017, and Deputy Executive Director of the Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority (PRA) appointed in 2019.

The Land Management group is responsible for the acquisition, disposition and property management of surplus real property for PLB, PHDC & PRA including the surplus inventory of the City of Philadelphia's Department of Public Property. Since 2018, Land Management has disposed of land resulting in 744 units of housing, 56% of those units were affordable housing units. Land Management has also acquired 772 parcels of land through Sheriff Sale.

Previously, Angel served as Vice President of Community Economic Development (CED) for Asociación Puertorriqueños en Marcha (APM). APM a Philadelphia based non-profit, assists families achieve their full potential through innovative housing & community development programming. Angel was responsible for housing development initiatives and directed the Sustainable Communities Initiative (SCI) Quality of Life Plan for Eastern North Philadelphia. He established APM's Food Buying Club which focused on food insecurity in Eastern North, oversaw community outreach, Housing Counseling, and APM's Financial Opportunity Center (FOC).

Angel's 32 year career began in education, establishing an alternative school for adolescents with special needs then serving as the Executive Director of Youth Build Philadelphia Charter School, one of the first six charter schools established in the state of Pennsylvania, serving out of school youth and building affordable housing. Angel focus then shifted to Community Economic Development (CED) developing holistic programming for at risk communities. His work in CED began with serving as Executive Director of the Empowerment Group a not for profit focused on small business development and entrepreneurship training in Philadelphia. It continued with his facilitation of Entrepreneurship Training at the Corzo Center for the Creative Economy at the University of the Arts. Currently, Angel serves as Chairman of the Board for the Food Trust.

While completing his Master's Degree from The American University in Cairo, Egypt, **Mohamed (Mo) Rushdy** began his construction engineering career with a position as a Planning Engineer on the construction of the first-ever cement plant in Sinai, Egypt. He then moved to Kuwait for two years, where he served as the planning and project controls Engineer for the construction of Kuwait's first Olympic stadium.

Rushdy moved to the United States in 2004 and worked with Toll Brothers as a Sr. Project manager in its largest urban project at the time: Naval Square. In early 2007, Rushdy was recruited by Westrum Development Company, as General Manager to launch, contract and hire a team for Philadelphia's largest active adult community: The Arbors at Eagle Pointe, consisting of approximately 400 homes.

In late 2008, as the financial crisis unfolded, Rushdy joined Larry McKnight, a colleague from Westrum, to start developing single lot infills in Philadelphia's Fishtown neighborhood. Their investments in the area have contributed to the revival of the city's river wards neighborhoods - Kensington, Fishtown, Northern Liberties, Port Richmond, and others.

Now nearly 12 years later, what started as five homes per year in 2012 has grown to hundreds of homes under construction of mostly naturally occurring affordable housing. The Riverwards Group, where Rushdy serves as Managing Partner, has completed more than 60 projects in Philadelphia's booming riverwards neighborhoods, totaling close to 600 mainly single-family homes delivered over the decade. The Riverwards Group has about 1,100 units in construction and approval process combined.

In 2017, The Riverwards Group was named to Philadelphia magazine's list of the "next wave of Philadelphia developers," which highlighted nine developers remaking the city's neighborhoods in big ways. In addition to Philadelphia magazine, the company and Rushdy were featured in articles in The Philadelphia Inquirer, Philadelphia Business Journal, Curbed Philly and Spirit News.

Rushdy serves as Board President of the 420 member company Building Industry Association of Philadelphia, and is on the board and the Chair of the Philadelphia Accelerator Fund, a non-profit fund promoting affordable housing financing tools for black and brown businesses.





## Brennan Tomasetti

Co-Owner  
Civetta Property Group

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## Justin Veasey

Co-Founder  
BVG Property Group

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**Brennan Tomasetti**, co-founder of Civetta Property Group, has a 20+ year track record in single-family and multi-family properties. Her dedication lies in making a positive community impact by increasing the availability of affordable housing and contributing to the restoration of historic properties.

At Civetta, we create homeownership opportunities that will enhance the lives of city residents by building wealth and helping communities thrive. Impact-driven and community-focused, we not only provide affordable homes that will improve the quality of life for Philadelphia's workforce, but we are also committed to making a positive difference in the surrounding neighborhoods. This means looking for ways to give back and support the needs of the community at large, shaping a brighter future for hardworking Philadelphians.

**Justin Veasey** began his career in the hospitality industry bartending at several of the top hot spots located throughout Philadelphia and The Jersey Shore including Chickie's and Petes, Ventura's Greenhouse, Memories in Margate and Del Frisco's Double Eagle Steakhouse. Throughout his nine years in the hospitality industry, Justin was able to network regularly building strong relationships with many of his regulars who eventually became close friends. His unique rolodex of contacts ranges anywhere from top athletes throughout the NFL, NHL, MLB, and NBA as well as high net worth and well-respected CEO's and founders of some of the top companies globally.

In 2022, Justin partnered with Danny Govberg and Joseph Byrne IV to form BVG Property Group, LLC, a residential development company which focuses on luxury single family townhomes, affordable/workforce housing, large multifamily buildings, and commercial mixed use.

Just two years in, BVG Property Group, LLC has over \$20MM in development throughout with plans on expanding into other markets. Being as Justin always had a love for the hospitality industry, in 2024, he opened a high-end Italian Steakhouse which contains a nightlife twist located in Northern Liberties called "SIN" which has become a new hot spot in Philadelphia overnight. In his spare time, he is found at a sporting event or spending time with his son Santino and fiancé Kirstin.





## Moderator

**Rachael J. Pritzker, Esq.** is an entrepreneur, attorney, and business owner. She is a member of both the PA & NJ Bar, and is a proud alumni of The Pennsylvania State University and Widener University School of Law. Among other ventures, Rachael is the Chief Executive Officer of Pritzker Law Group, the City's only Certified Women-Owned Real Estate and Business law firm. Rachael is one of our city's only real estate attorneys with experience in both the private sector and local government, having served as Legislative Council to former City Councilman Allan Domb and having worked in private practice with current State Senator and PA Democratic Party Chairman Sharif Street.

As CEO of Pritzker Law Group, Rachael focuses her practice on zoning, land use, and public property acquisition in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey and the surrounding counties. Rachael also spearheads the firm's advocacy group obtaining public funds and working on legislative and regulatory initiatives for major developers and life science organizations.

Rachael has appeared in front of all major Administrative Boards and Agencies, and has an intimate working knowledge of local politics, municipal systems and processes. Some of Rachael's most notable accomplishments include:

- Acknowledgement by Super Lawyers as Super Lawyer and Rising Star every year since 2019
- One of the first 27 women appointed to the Mayor's Commission for Women
- Youngest female Board Member of the Board of Directors - Building Industry Association (BIA)
- Over 98% approval rating in front of all major municipal boards and agencies inclusive of thousands of residential units, single family homes, commercial mixed use developments, and approvals for tax abatements and tax appeals
- Drafted and passed major real estate related legislation through Philadelphia City Council, including housing and business related legislation, encroachment ordinances, appraisal ordinances and legislative amendments.
- Various leadership awards including 40 under 40 in Real Estate, Law Firm Mentor of the Year and WBEC East's Resiliency Award

## Rachael J. Pritzker, Esq.

Chief Executive Officer  
Pritzker Law Group LLC

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## Upcoming Events

### Lunch with the City's Leaders

**Atif Saeed**

**CEO, Philadelphia International Airport,  
Northeast Philadelphia Airport**

Wednesday, February 21, 2024

11:45 AM to 1:30 PM

**City Winery Philadelphia - 990 Filbert Street**

\$55 for Members, \$75 for Guests

### Lunch with the City's Leaders

**Gregory E. Deavens**

**President and Chief Executive Officer  
Independence Health Group**

Tuesday, March 5, 2024

11:45 AM to 1:30 PM

**Pyramid Club - 1735 Market Street**

\$55 for Members, \$75 for Guests

### Happy Hour Breakfast

**Tuesday, February 13, 2024**

8:30 AM to 9:30 AM

**Cork & Candles - 1315 Walnut Street**

\$20 for Members, \$35 for Guests.

### Women Changing the City

**Wednesday, March 13, 2024**

8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

**City Winery Philadelphia - 990 Filbert Street**

\$35 for Members, \$65 for Guests.

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include state of the A/V, inclusive of high-resolution projection screens and audio for a seamless in-person or hybrid experience. Learn more at <https://convene.com> or contact Megan Wiley at [mwiley@convene.com](mailto:mwiley@convene.com).

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## PRESERVATION ALLIANCE

*for greater philadelphia*

Preservation Alliance for Greater Philadelphia actively promotes the appreciation, protection, appropriate use, and development of the Philadelphia region's historic buildings, communities, and landscapes. As a membership-based, not-for-profit advocacy organization that shines a spotlight

on the historic places that make the Philadelphia region special, the Alliance gives a voice and a toolbox to those who care deeply about protecting them for the future. Visit [www.preservationalliance.com](http://www.preservationalliance.com)



Pritzker Law  
GROUP

Pritzker Law Group, is the City's only certified women-owned full-service law firm providing high quality legal services in the areas of real estate, business and government relations. Pritzker Law Group proudly represents

businesses, individuals, non-profits, investors and institutions resolving a variety of complicated legal issues and problems. Pritzker Law Group is exceptionally successful in front of and working with all municipal boards and agencies including the Zoning Board of Adjustment, the Board of Revision of Taxes and local and state courts. Led by twin attorneys Adam and Rachael Pritzker, who both worked in the private sector and municipal government, Pritzker Law Group understands how to advise and resolve the smallest or largest issues to get your business moving forward. Please contact us for a free 15 minute consultation at [contact@pritzkerLG.com](mailto:contact@pritzkerLG.com).



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