

Gail Snowden

Interim Executive Director
Freedom House



Gail Snowden has been named Interim Executive Director of Freedom House and is responsible for the attainment of Freedom House's mission, financial and human resource management, board engagement, community relations, programs and Operations. Snowden served as Board Chair of Freedom House from 1996 to 2001 and Chair Emeritus from 2001-2008. She also established Gail Snowden Consulting Services providing management and financial consulting as well as performance management and executive level career counseling.

Gail Snowden retired as Vice President for Finance and Operations of the Boston Foundation in 2007, one of the oldest and largest community foundations in the United States. In this position, she oversaw the finances and administrative operations of the \$800 million community foundation, and was a key member of the senior management team. Ms. Snowden defined key financial and other performance objectives, provided financial reporting and analysis, and managed funds administration and grant processing. Her administrative oversight included the areas of personnel policies and other human resource activities, the Foundation's facilities and MIS, and support for the auditors and Foundation Board committees.

Ms. Snowden, a veteran of the banking industry and a nationally recognized leader in urban community development, retired from banking after a successful 36-year career. Most recently, she was Executive Vice President for Bank of America, where she was responsible for strategy development and oversight of 60 plus strategic alliances and partnerships. Prior to that, she was President of FleetBoston Financial Foundation, where she managed the distribution of \$25 million in grants, and earlier served as Executive Vice President and Managing Director of FleetBoston Financials Community Investment Group, where she was responsible for directing and investing the banks resources into low- and moderate-income communities.

Ms. Snowden joined Bank of Boston in 1968 and served in many capacities through the banks numerous mergers, including her membership on Fleet's Leadership Advisory Group. Under her leadership, innovative financial services were brought to those most in need, and nationally recognized community investment efforts were developed. Her contributions resulted in the awarding of "Outstanding" Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) ratings at the banks, and the White House Ron Brown Award for Advocating for the Needs of Minority and Low-Income Constituents.

She is currently serves on the Board of Trustees for Simmons College. She has received numerous awards, including the Rosoff Diversity

Award, honorary doctorates from her alma mater, Simmons College, and several other colleges. She was named one of the nation's Top Business and Professional Women by Dollars and Sense magazine, one of 50 African-American Women at the top in corporate America by Ebony magazine, and one of Boston magazine's 100 most influential women.

Ms. Snowden is a 1967 graduate of Harvard/Radcliffe College and earned an MBA from Simmons Graduate School of Management in 1978. She currently resides in Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts and runs her own consulting firm, Gail Snowden Consulting Services LLC.