

**Regional Leadership on Economic  
Mobility & Inclusive Growth**

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Melody Barnes is co-director of the Democracy Initiative at the University of Virginia. She is also the Dorothy Danforth Compton Professor of Practice at the Miller Center of Public Affairs and a Distinguished Fellow at the School of Law.

From 2009 until January 2012, Ms. Barnes was Assistant to the President and Director of the White House Domestic Policy Council. Prior to her White House appointment, she served as executive vice president for policy at the Center for American Progress, chief counsel to Senator Edward M. Kennedy on the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee and director of legislative affairs at the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Ms. Barnes serves on several corporate, foundation and non-profit boards of directors, and lives in Richmond, Virginia.