

Biography of Marissa Levin

Chairman Information Experts (www.informationexperts.com)

CEO Successful Culture (www.successfulculture.com)

Marissa Levin founded her first company **Information Experts**, a global strategic communications and education firm, in 1995. She launched her firm with no outside funding after working for a man that capped her worth at \$34,000. Marissa has led her firm through the implosion of the telecom and internet industries, 9/11 terrorist attacks which shut down the DC business region, two recessions, one government shut-down, the collapse of the auto, finance, & housing markets, and two cancer scares, while raising two sons as a hands-on mom.



Under her leadership, Information Experts has won more than 100 awards for creativity & leadership, was named to the Inc. 5000 List of America's Fastest Growing Companies for 2009, 2010, and 2011, and won the SmartCEO 2010 GovStar Industry Star Award.

Marissa's passion of mentoring other leaders motivated her to launch **Successful Culture** in June 2011. Through Successful Culture she applies her 20 years of experience to help leaders achieve their highest potential through CEO-to-CEO coaching, build exceptional organizations to engage & inspire employees, and keep top-level talent, which results in high growth and high productivity.

She is the author of "**My Company ROCKS!**" **Eight Secrets to a Growth-Driven Culture That Keeps Employees Happy & Engaged,**" which provides specific strategies on how to build a culture that fosters employee loyalty, engagement, and excitement.

She is also the author of the #1 best-selling book on advisory boards, "**Built to SCALE: How Top Companies Create Breakthrough Growth Through Exceptional Advisory Boards**". The book leads businesses owners through her patent-pending **SCALE™ Model** to strategically select, compensate, associate, and leverage advisory boards for breakthrough growth.

Marissa is the Washington, DC region's small business expert on ABC's **Washington Business Report** where she addresses the challenges that small business owners face. She is also **SmartCEO Magazine's** syndicated columnist, penning a column entitled "Get on Board," which advises business owners how to strategically build advisory boards to fuel organizational growth.

She was named as a 2009, 2010, and 2011 SmartCEO Smart 100 participant by SmartCEO Magazine, which recognizes the top 100 CEOs in the region, and was named as a 2008 BRAVO Award winner, which honors the region's 25 most influential women CEOs. In 2011, she was one of the first honorees to be inducted into the SmartCEO Hall of Fame for outstanding and exemplary leadership.

She was named as one of Washington's Top 100 Technology Titans for 2009 by Washingtonian Magazine. She was a finalist for the 2002 Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award and for the 2004 Women in Technology Entrepreneur Leadership Award, and was also named as a finalist for the 2009 national Stevie Awards in three categories: Best Entrepreneur - Service Businesses; Employer of the Year; and Women Helping Women.

Marissa was selected as one of greater Washington's "Women Who Mean Business" by the Washington Business Journal, which honors the region's "most influential and powerful" women executives. Marissa has been featured in USA Today, The Washington Post, The Washington Business Journal, Working Mother Magazine, Washington Woman Magazine, Washingtonian Magazine, Inc. Magazine, BisNow, Fortune, and on many TV networks as a successful woman business owner and working mother.