Kelly Watson

Kelly Watson is the National Service Group Leader of KPMG’s U.S. Risk Consulting Practice, leading a team of more than 4700 partners and professionals who provide the risk and compliance insights organizations need to protect themselves and grow. Prior to this position, Kelly spent six years as the Office Managing Partner of the firm’s New Jersey Business Unit, which houses more than 1100 people who serve the state’s largest companies and mid-market clients.

A fierce advocate for developing leaders in the firm, the accounting profession, and the community, Kelly initiated KPMG’s relationship with the United Nations Millennium Village Program, a global development initiative designed to alleviate poverty and promote gender equality in Africa. She is actively involved in KPMG’s Family for Literacy/First Book program, whose mission is to combat childhood illiteracy, and serves on the Essex County (NJ) Advisory Board of First Book.

Kelly is also a member of the Liberty Science Center’s Women’s Leadership Council. She chairs the New Jersey Women’s “Network-to-Network” organization, a consortium of women leaders from some of New Jersey’s most prestigious companies that provides a forum for professional women to share best practices and form mutually beneficial business relationships. Most recently, she has joined the Advisory Council of The New Agenda, an organization dedicated to improving the lives of women and girls and advancing them into leadership roles by bringing about systemic change in the media, the workplace, at school and home.

In 2007, she was named one of the Best 50 Women in Business by NJBIZ, won the YWCA Tribute to Women in Business Award and in 2008, and she was Garden State Woman magazine’s “Woman of the Year.” In 2010, Diversity Inc. named her among their “Women Worth Watching,” and she received the Helen Keller “Women Who Make a Difference” and the Boy Scouts’ “Woman of the Year” awards. In 2014, she was honored by the Executive Women of New Jersey as an influential policy maker in the State, and by New Jersey Business magazine as a top managing partner. In 2016, Kelly was named Consulting Magazine Top 25 winner for Excellence in Leadership.