

William J. Brodsky



William Brodsky is chairman of Cedar Street Asset Management, LLC, an investment management firm devoted to investing in equity securities in international markets and chairman of Options Solutions, a specialized investment firm. Both firms are based in Chicago.

During his combined 35-year career at the Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME) and Chicago Board Options Exchange (CBOE), Brodsky was recognized as a global leader in the development of the future and options markets. His contributions to Chicago's futures and options markets were a major factor in Chicago's becoming the world's preeminent city for the futures and options markets.

Brodsky served as chairman of the CBOE Holdings, Inc. now known as CBOE Global Markets and its predecessor firms between 1997 and 2017. He also served as the chief executive officer of the CBOE from 1997 to 2013, overseeing its demutualization, leading to an IPO in 2010, and the creation of futures and options on VIX (the CBOE Volatility Index). During his CBOE tenure, he served as the chairman of the World Federation of Exchanges and the International Options Market Association. From 1985 to 1997, he was president & CEO at the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. While at CME, Brodsky played an instrumental role in the development and globalization of stock index futures and the establishment of the GLOBEX trading system.

Brodsky began his career in 1968 at the Wall Street based investment banking and securities brokerage firm of Model, Roland and Co. Inc. In 1974, he joined the American Stock Exchange. Over the next eight years, he held a variety of roles and ultimately was Executive Vice President for Operations.

In 1982, he moved to Chicago from New York to become Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the CME. In 1985, he was appointed President and CEO of the CME.

Brodsky served on the board of Northwestern Memorial Hospital and its affiliates for 24 years, including chairman of the hospital board from 2012 to 2016 and is currently a life trustee. He has been the chairman of Navy Pier, Inc. since 2013 and serves as an advisor to Madison Dearborn Partners and OCA Ventures. In 2019, Governor J.B. Pritzker named him to co-chair the newly formed State's Pension Consolidation Feasibility Task Force. Under his leadership and recommendation 652 Municipal Fire and Police Pension Funds were consolidated into two separate funds, one for police and one for firemen. In April 2022, he was inducted into "The Order of Lincoln," the state's highest honor for professional achievement and public service.

Bill's wife, Joan, is a licensed librarian and specializes in book and paper conservation. She was appointed to the Board of Trustees of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum by Governor, J.B. Pritzker. She is also a trustee of the Newberry Library in Chicago.

Bill and Joan have been married for fifty-five years and reside in Chicago. They have three sons: Michael (Aleta), Stephen (Elizabeth), and Jonathan (Lena). Joan and Bill have six grandchildren, Isabel, Mira, Joshua, Matthew, Sophia and Rebekah.