



What is your role at Engle Martin?

I am the Cash Applications Manager and I have been with Engle Martin for 7 months.

Who is the most influential woman you know? How does she inspire you?

The most influential woman I know is my mother. She inspires me because she was a stay-at-home mom until I was 12 years old. When my parents divorced, she had to start from scratch in her career. She worked her way up from a Billing Analyst to a Director of Shared Services within 7 years while maintaining a wonderful relationship with my sister and I.

This year, the theme of Women's History Month is "Celebrating Women Who Tell Our Stories". How does that resonate with you?

This resonates with me because I think it's so important for women to celebrate other women. We all have our own stories, yet we all can relate to one another in the challenges we face specifically due to being women. We should celebrate each other's successes, knowing the barriers we have had to overcome.

Have you faced any barriers in your career?

I have dealt with sexism in the workplace at a previous organization. I made sure to stand up for what was right, and I eventually left when I felt it wasn't being taken seriously. I think it's important not to reward these types of situations by providing what you have to offer when you are being disrespected for something out of your control, such as gender, race, etc.

What is the most important piece of advice you have been given?

We will all face obstacles in life, some more than others, but what is important is that you realize you can't change the current state of the world or other people's mindsets – what you can do is choose to do whatever it takes to overcome the obstacle, and not repeat unfair cycles.

What is the most important message you want to send out to young women thinking about a career in the insurance industry?

Any time you are thinking about how to act in a work situation, whether it's asking for a raise/promotion, demanding respect when you feel you've been mistreated, putting forth an idea for new processes, etc., if you find yourself hesitant to do so, ask yourself – if I were a man, would I hesitate? If the answer is no, there may be some underlying bias you have internalized that makes you believe you cannot act accordingly due to your gender. Reflect on that and reframe how you answer yourself.