



Sheri L. Orlowitz,
Founder, Chairman & CEO,
Shan Industries, LLC;
Founder & Owner,
OrloVon, LLC



Sheri L. Orlowitz was born in Philadelphia and raised a child of the East Coast, living in Miami, Philadelphia and New York while learning from her family both entrepreneurial skills and a tradition of philanthropy. Orlowitz had an early education in a family copper and commodities business, followed by an acting and modeling career and then several successful years of law practice. She currently leads one of the few majority women-owned holding companies, which acquires and operates manufacturing businesses. She is also a determined advocate for children.

Graduating from American University's law school in 1985, Orlowitz entered the United States Justice Department under the Attorney General's Honors Law Graduate Program and spent five years as a trial lawyer in Washington and Miami, prosecuting and defending complex civil cases. In 1990, Orlowitz left the public sector and worked for Greenberg Traurig, an international law firm founded and headquartered in Miami.

In 1993, Orlowitz secured the bulk of financing necessary to fund the highly leveraged buyout of Magnetic Data Technologies/DBI, a \$60 million manufacturing group with domestic and international holdings in computer hardware repair and manufacture. She enthusiastically traded the security of her successful legal career for the risks of the business world, agreeing to become CFO and eventually COO of DBI.

During her tenure, she was instrumental in improving DBI's EBITDA by a factor of three and also engineered the acquisition from Kodak by a DBI affiliate of Datatape, a \$55 million business which made high speed tape recording devices for, among other things, the space shuttle.

Currently, Orlowitz is Founder, Principal Owner, Chairman and CEO of Shan Industries, LLC, a holding company headquartered in Washington, D.C., which operates Thermodynamics, a rotational molding company with facilities in Oklahoma and Georgia, and Accurate Forming, a metal stamping company headquartered in New Jersey. She is also founder of OrloVon LLC, a D.C. real estate development company that recently completed a 20 unit upscale condominium project in the historic Adams Morgan neighborhood and is commencing a second project in the Dupont Circle area.

Orlowitz is on the Harvard University Women In Leadership Board and is the recipient of *Enterprising Women Magazine's* "2003 Enterprising Woman of Year" award. She is proud to serve on the Advisory Board of the International Humanitarian Campaign Against the Exploitation of Children and on the Board of Directors of the Kristi House in Miami, a refuge and advocacy resource for young victims of sexual abuse that is part of the Orlowitz Children's Advocacy Center.