Meredith Perkins, JD ‘96, vice president, corporate counsel, and assistant secretary of Enterprise Holdings, the largest rental car company in the world, is a generalist involved with every spoke of her corporation’s large wheel. “I feel like everyone at Enterprise is my client,” says Perkins, who was critical in helping with the acquisition of Alamo and National.

“I believed we could explain the transaction more easily in person,” Perkins recalls. “So, I gathered a number of our business specialists and flew with them to Ottawa. We sat down with the Canadian Competition Bureau and worked through any questions or concerns.”

The personal connection worked, and before summer’s end, the acquisition was complete.

Today, Perkins is vice president, corporate counsel, and assistant secretary of Enterprise Holdings. She is actively involved with some 2,300 employees at corporate headquarters, as well as with more than 63,000 field employees at Enterprise’s 45 regional subsidiaries throughout the country.
After graduation, she began her career as a product liability litigator with Thompson Coburn in St. Louis. Five years later, she became one of two in-house attorneys at the Missouri American Water Company.

The variety of her current work at Enterprise is rewarding and taps into her international interests. The company now has a presence in 39 countries worldwide, including 8,200 corporate-owned and franchise locations, as well as a strategic investment in China.

True to her nature, Perkins also believes in making a difference through connections locally. She serves on the boards of the Service Bureau and the Women’s Exchange, two organizations that seek to enable economic opportunities for area families. In recognition of her activities, Perkins received a regional economic development award from the Winning Women organization in April 2012.

Among her other roles, she was a gubernatorial-appointed board member of the Missouri Arts Council & Cultural Trust in 2005–12 and a delegate to the Republican National Convention in 2008.

Perkins and her husband, Peter, EMBA ’12, are both strong believers in a legacy of giving back. Perkins often brings daughters, Campbell, 9, and Lambert, 11, to volunteering events. “I value my time with my kids, and doing that together lets them see how fulfilling volunteering can be.”