Julia M. Lawler
Executive Vice President and Chief Risk Officer
Principal Financial Group

Julia Lawler is executive vice president and chief risk officer of the Principal Financial Group. She is responsible for helping the company identify and successfully manage risk, in areas including global security, business continuity, corporate real estate, and aviation.

Lawler joined Principal in 1984 as a commercial real estate representative and was promoted to regional equity administrator in 1988 and senior regional equity administrator in 1990. She was elected an officer and named assistant director of commercial real estate - equities in 1993, and executive advisor in 1994. In 1995, she was named director of capital markets and vice president of capital markets in 1999. In 2000, Lawler was named president of the real estate equity group with Principal Capital Real Estate Investors, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Principal. In 2002, she was named senior vice president and chief investment officer. In 2013, she was named chief investment officer of Retirement and Investor Services. In 2015, she was named senior executive director of Principal Portfolio Strategies. In January 2018, Lawler was named senior vice president and chief risk officer. She was promoted to executive vice president and assumed responsibility for global security, business continuity, corporate real estate, and aviation in September 2018.

Lawler serves as chair of the Principal Bank board of directors and the Principal Trust audit committee. In addition to the Tippie Advisory Board, she holds positions on the boards of Principal Trust; Principal Securities, Inc.; Principal Funds Distributor, Inc.; Finisterre Holdings Limited; Finisterre Capital LLP; Origin Asset Management LLP.

Lawler earned her bachelor’s degree in 1982 from the University of Iowa Tippie College of Business.