

Access to Experts



Trevor Potter
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Former Commissioner and Chairman
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Mr. Potter is one of the country's best-known and most experienced campaign and election lawyers, and a former Commissioner (1991-1995) and Chairman (1994) of the Federal Election Commission. Mr. Potter has been described by the American Bar Association Journal as "hands-down one of the top lawyers in the country on the delicate intersection of politics, law and money". Mr. Potter has been listed as one of Washington's Best Lawyers by Washingtonian magazine and was recognized as a "Super Lawyer" by Washington DC Super Lawyers magazine in 2008.

Mr. Potter is the founding President and General Counsel of the Campaign Legal Center, a Washington, D.C. based nonprofit which helped successfully defend the McCain-Feingold law in the lower and Supreme Courts. He served as General Counsel to the John McCain 2008 campaign and also held that position with the McCain 2000 campaign.

Currently, Mr. Potter is a member in Caplin & Drysdale's Washington, D.C. office, where he leads the firm's Political Activity Law Practice.

Mr. Potter is also a non-resident Fellow at the Brookings Institution. He has published several books and articles in the field, including: Political Activity, Lobbying Laws and Gift Rules Guide (West Publishing, Third Edition 2008, Second Edition 1999); The New Campaign Finance Sourcebook, Brookings Institution, 2005; and Federal Election Law and the Internet, Brookings Institution, 2000. He is a frequent guest speaker at a variety of professional meetings, has testified before Congress on federal election proposals and campaign finance regulation, and has taught campaign finance law at the University of Virginia School of Law and Oxford University. He is Co-Chair of the Election Law Committee of the American Bar Association's Administrative Law Section, and a member of the Advisory Committee of the Standing Committee on Election Law of the ABA.

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