



Republican National Lawyers Association

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For Immediate Release
January 15, 2016

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RNLA ANNOUNCES NEW BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEMBERS

WASHINGTON, DC- The Republican National Lawyers Association (RNLA) has elected four news members to its Board of Governors at its recent annual Board meeting. These attorneys join an elite group of prominent Republican practitioners from around the country who will help to lead the over 5,000 member strong organization for 2016. "RNLA is honored to welcome such distinguished and accomplished lawyers to the RNLA Governance Board," stated RNLA President Larry Levy.

Reginald J. Brown is the chairman of the Financial Institutions Practice Group and a partner in the Wilmer Halefirm's Litigation/Controversy and Regulatory and Government Affairs Departments. Mr. Brown previously served in the White House Counsel's office, where he was the White House's principal legal liaison to the Departments of Treasury and Housing and Urban Development, as well as many independent financial services agencies. Mr. Brown also served as a counselor for the White House Office of Political Affairs, Presidential Personnel Office and the National Economic Council. In 2011, Mr. Brown was appointed by the Governor of Virginia to serve as a four-year member of the Board of Visitors for George Mason University, where he served on the Board's Audit and Executive Committee. In 2011, Mr. Brown co-chaired Harvard Law School's Celebration of Black Alumni reunion.

Marc Ellinger is a member of the Jefferson City office of Blitz, Bardgett & Deutsch, LC representing businesses, individuals and committees in disputes, with extensive experience in legislative and rulemaking practice, environmental regulatory issues, issues of state and federal constitutional law and the related litigation and appellate practice. Marc has drafted initiative petitions covering a broad range of subjects and has been involved in the coordination of campaigns and litigation on ballot measures, both as a proponent and opponent. As a Certified Public Accountant, Marc has also extensive background in sales, use and property tax law, both in the administrative law context and in general litigation and transaction structuring. Marc was litigation counsel for the Missouri State Auditor, a statewide elected official, and advised the Auditor in constitutional and tax law matters, including arguments before appellate courts of the State of Missouri and the Missouri Supreme Court. He also served as Treasurer of the Missouri House Republican Campaign Committee, a Presidential Elector in 2000, and Presiding Commissioner of Cole County, Missouri for eight years from 2007 through 2014. Marc has been RNLA's Missouri Chapter Chair and for 2016 serves as the National Vice President for Membership for RNLA.

Don McGahn advises and represents elected officials, candidates, national state parties, political consultants, and others on political law issues. Don served as a commissioner and chairman of the Federal Election Commission (FEC). During his time at the FEC, Don led what has been called a "revolution" in campaign finance. He rewrote virtually all of the FEC's procedures for audits, enforcement matters, and advisory opinions, which provide for an unprecedented amount of due process. Several opinions authored by Don represent the current state of law regarding issues such as coordination, issue advocacy, campaign travel, political party programs, and emerging technologies. Prior to joining Jones Day in 2014, Don had one of the first successful

defenses of a so-called 527 issue group against an FEC enforcement action. He also successfully defended members of Congress before the FEC. In addition, he served as general counsel for the National Republican Congressional Committee (NRCC) for nearly 10 years, where he introduced several innovations, including what has become the standard structure for making independent expenditures. Don has frequently addressed the Republican National Lawyers Association National Conferences and Seminars.

Stefan Passantino is a member of Dentons' Public Policy and Regulation practice and heads the Firm's Political Law practice. He maintains offices in Washington, DC and Atlanta. In the 2015-2016 election cycle, Mr. Passantino helped form, and served as counsel to, some of the largest and most influential "SuperPACs" and 501(c)(4) advocacy groups in the Presidential campaign. Mr. Passantino was also asked to Co-Chair the Republican National Lawyers Association Ballot Access Project which coordinated and disseminated guidance on Republican Party ballot access to counsel for all current candidates. Mr. Passantino is a co-author of the Handbook on Corporate Political Activity: Emerging Corporate Governance Issues, an overview of the legal rules and standard practices related to corporate activity in the political arena. Mr. Passantino was appointed Special Assistant to the Attorney General of Georgia Sam Olens to represent the interests of the State of Georgia in a litigation matter against the federal government. He is a Visiting Professor on campaign finance for Georgia State University College of Law. Mr. Passantino is serving as the RNLA Vice President for Judicial Affairs for 2016.