

Joseph B. Trahern

Of Counsel

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OVERVIEW

Joseph B. Trahern is of counsel at the firm and a member of the Public Policy and Law practice group. Since moving to Washington, Joe has worked across the spectrum of politics and policy in this city including campaigns, the White House, both chambers of Congress, as well as the private sector. He is a proven government affairs leader with extensive private sector experience, first at a Big Three Detroit automaker (including during the 2009 economic rescue during the financial crisis), and then at one of the nation's largest telecommunications companies (including working on its successful merger with an iconic media property).

Joe moved to Washington, D.C., after working on the Clinton campaign in Little Rock, AR, and served as special assistant to the president in the White House Office of Political Affairs. Additionally, he served extensively in leadership roles in the US Senate and House of Representatives, including as Senate Democratic Leadership staff for Senators Richard Durbin (D-IL) and Thomas Daschle (D-SD). In the House of Representatives, Joseph served as chief of staff for the late Rep. Robert Matsui and Rep. Doris Matsui (both D-CA).

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Recognized by *The Legal 500 United States* as a Recommended Lawyer for Government Relations, 2025

EDUCATION

- A.B., Princeton University, 1989 *(magna cum laude)*
- J.D., Harvard Law School, 1992 *(cum laude)*

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of District of Columbia

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP *POWERED BY HUB*

- 5 November 2026, The Post-Election Outlook: What the Midterm Results Mean for Business

- 30 January 2025, Trump 2.0 Executive Orders; Shock and Awe
- November 2024, Asset Management and Investment Funds Fall Conference—Washington, D.C.
- November 2024, 2024 Post-Election Recap Discussion
- 14 May 2024, New Legislation Would Establish the First US National Comprehensive Privacy Law

NEWS & EVENTS

- 4 November 2026, Asset Management and Investment Funds Conference Series—Boston
- 17 January 2024 , K&L Gates Adds Of Counsel to Public Policy and Law Practice in Washington, D.C.

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Public Policy and Law
- US Congressional Investigations

INDUSTRIES

- Life Sciences