

George J. Terwilliger III

Partner

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George Terwilliger is co-head of the firm's white collar practice and leads the firm's Strategic Response and Crisis Management practice group. Following his fifteen years of public service in the US Department of Justice, where he began as a law clerk and concluded as Acting Attorney General, George has provided counsel in government and internal investigations, agency enforcement proceedings and in civil and criminal litigation. He has represented many of the nation's and the world's largest corporations, including major financial institutions, energy companies, public institutions as well as leading business and government officials, including members of the US Senate and House as well as cabinet officials. He has also represented lawyers and corporate legal departments in investigations. As a result of both his private sector work and government positions, George is called upon to provide counsel as well as commentary to government officials, Congress and private organizations on national security, homeland defense, terrorism, and other public policy and legal issues. George's work regularly involves providing counsel in the executive suites and boardrooms of major corporations.

In private practice for international law firms, George has represented national and international financial, energy, telecommunications, industrial and healthcare companies. He is a recognized expert in leading credible corporate internal investigations and his experience designing and executing both targeted and global legal compliance reviews has involved work in more than 60 countries around the globe. George is an expert on the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and regularly provides counsel to companies addressing FCPA issues. No stranger to high stakes litigation and crisis events, George helped lead the Bush-Cheney legal team in the 2000 Florida vote recount, served as special outside counsel to a Senate committee investigating vote fraud allegations, served as counsel to an executive commission on gambling, and has represented many clients in politically charged election law and similar cases. He has guided corporations and individual through high stakes matters of intense public interest. He represented an incumbent president in First Amendment litigation concerning the right to have an inaugural prayer said in a public ceremony.

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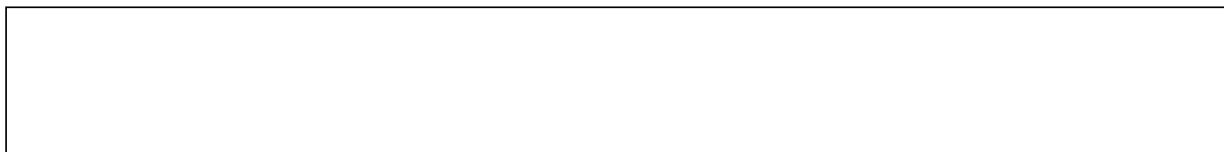
George J. Terwilliger III



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George J. Terwilliger III

[United States Deputy Attorney General](#)

In office

November 26, 1991 – January 20, 1993

President [George H.W. Bush](#)

Preceded by [William P. Barr](#)

Succeeded by [Philip B. Heymann](#)

[United States Attorney for the District of Vermont](#)

In office

1986–1990

President [Ronald Reagan](#)
[George H.W. Bush](#)

Personal details

George J. Terwilliger III

Born June 5, 1950 (age 65)

[New Brunswick, New Jersey](#)

Political party [Republican](#)

Spouse(s) Carol H. Terwilliger

Alma mater [Seton Hall University \(B.A.\)](#)
[Antioch School of Law \(J.D.\)](#)

George J. Terwilliger III (born June 5, 1950) is an American lawyer and politician. He is a partner in the Washington, D.C. office of [McGuireWoods LLP](#) and is a former [United States Deputy Attorney General](#) and acting [United States Attorney General](#).^{[1][2]} Terwilliger, of Vermont, was nominated on February 14, 1992, by President [George H.W. Bush](#) to be Deputy Attorney General at the [U.S. Department of Justice](#). He would succeed [William Pelham Barr](#).^[3] As Deputy Attorney General, Terwilliger became the second-highest-ranking official in the [United States Department of Justice](#) (DOJ) and ran the day-to-day operations of the Department, serving in that position from 1991 through 1993. He was appointed to the position after serving as the [United States Attorney](#) for the District

of [Vermont](#). In addition, he currently serves on the Advisory Board of Intellaine, LLP,^[4] a U.S. defense and risk engineering firm located in Arlington, Virginia.

Career

Terwilliger was born June 5, 1950, in New Brunswick, New Jersey. Terwilliger is married, has three children, and resides in Oakton, Virginia.^[3] Terwilliger graduated from [Seton Hall University](#) (B.A., 1973) and [Antioch School of Law \(J.D.\)](#), 1978). A former U.S. Attorney for Vermont and Deputy U.S. Attorney General (1991–93) in the [George H. W. Bush](#) administration, Terwilliger specialized in [white-collar crime](#) and terrorism.^[5] Terwilliger served as a panelist for the [Brookings Institution](#) Judicial Issues Forum entitled "Politics and the Justice Department: Finding a Path to Accountability".^[6] Terwilliger was listed among the "Top Contenders"^[7] to replace Gonzales, "whose tenure has been marred by controversy and accusations of perjury before [Congress](#)". Gonzales resigned August 27, 2007,^[8] and left office on September 17, 2007.^{[9][10]} Terwilliger "briefly took the helm of the Justice Department as acting attorney general after the departure of former Attorney General William Barr in 1993."^[11] From 1978 to 1981, Terwilliger also served as Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia.

Throughout his career, Terwilliger dealt with resolving matters such as investigating [BCCI](#) after an international banking scandal and investigating after the savings and loan scandal,^[12] environmental cases, antitrust merger reviews and enforcement matters, [civil rights](#) and voting cases as well as terrorism and national security cases. Terwilliger was also in charge of all Justice Department operations, including crisis response, such as the [1992 Los Angeles riots](#). On policy matters, he was a principal in the highest councils of government charged with addressing the broad array of legal policy issues arising in the executive branch.^[11]

Iran-Contra

Terwilliger, Deputy Attorney General under Attorney General [Edwin Meese](#), was described as having acted as the Political Liability Suppression Officer for the Department of Justice in the post-[Iran-Contra](#) environment. Terwilliger, in concert with [Lowell Jensen](#) (now a federal district judge) acted to suppress or manipulate Iran-Contra prosecutions in sensitive jurisdictions, particularly in [Miami](#), to ensure that no government connection would be mentioned.^[citation needed]

In a February 6, 2001 appearance on [CNN](#) about [Ronald Reagan's "Legal Legacy"](#),^[13] after being asked about "lying to Congress", Terwilliger said:

"... one of the things that I found very bothersome about Iran-Contra was that some of the prosecutions for false statements involved false statements that were made in unrecorded interviews with investigators, not in sworn testimony under oath

"But whether or not there was substantive violation of law in Iran-Contra surrounding this policy dispute was never really adjudicated: Nobody was ever charged with that crime ...^[14]

"But the bottom line is that whether or not there was a violation of law, substantively it was problematic. And the fact that people were hounded, pursued, over alleged false statements, I mean, do we hear an echo here to the complaints from the left and from [Democrats](#) about an independent counsel hounding somebody for...."

2000 Florida recount

During the Florida 2000 election recount, Terwilliger led [Republican](#) President-elect [George W. Bush](#)'s legal team^[15] and was "an advisor to the Bush-Cheney Transition and counselor to designated cabinet and other prospective appointees."^[11]

Candidate for high-ranking positions

In June 2001, [Bush administration](#) spokesman [Ari Fleischer](#) was asked in a White House press briefing whether Terwilliger was a leading candidate to head the [Federal Bureau of Investigation](#).^[16]

In 2008, the American Bar Association mentioned Terwilliger as a leading candidate for Attorney General under a [John McCain](#) presidency.^[12]

Other activities

In 2003, Terwilliger co-founded the [527 committee](#) Americans for a Better Country with Frank J. Donatelli, former [Ronald Reagan](#)

White House political director and secretary and treasurer of the [Young America's Foundation](#)^[17] and [Craig Shirley](#), president and CEO of Shirley & Banister Public Affairs.^[18]

It was reported October 10, 2007, that Terwilliger had been hired by former Attorney General [Alberto R. Gonzales](#) "to represent him in investigations of mismanagement" of the [U.S. Department of Justice](#). "Investigators are look[ing] into allegations that Gonzales lied to lawmakers and illegally allowed politics to influence [hiring and firing](#) at the department."^[19]

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Affiliations

- Counsel, National Gambling Impact Study Commission (1997)^[20]
- Legal Advisory Council, [National Legal Center for the Public Interest](#)
- [Washington Legal Foundation](#)
- [American Bar Association](#)

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External links

- George Lardner Jr. and Peter Slevin, "[Military May Try Terrorism Cases. Bush Cites 'Emergency.'](#)" Washington Post (Freedom of Information Center), November 14, 2001.
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Legal offices		
Preceded by William P. Barr	U.S. Deputy Attorney General Served under: George H.W. Bush 1992–1993	Succeeded by Philip Heymann

Persondata Name Terwilliger, George J. Alternative names Short description Lawyer Date of birth June 5, 1950 Place of birth New Brunswick, New Jersey Date of death Place of death

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[United States Department of Justice](#) The United States Department of Justice (DOJ), also known as the Justice Department, is a federal executive department of the U.S. government, responsible for the enforcement of the law and administration of justice in the United States, equivalent to the justice or interior ministries of other countries. William P. Barr William Pelham Barr (born May 23, 1950) is an American attorney who served as the 77th Attorney General of the United States. [United States Attorney General](#) The United States Attorney General (A.G.) is the head of the United States Department of Justice per 28 U.S.C. § 503, concerned with legal affairs and is the chief law enforcement officer of the United States government.

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George J. Terwilliger III

Co-Chairman of White-Collar Practice, McGuireWoods LLP

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Background

Mr. George J. Terwilliger, III, served as Senior Partner, Head of Corporate Defense & Special Projects, Partner and Head of the White Collar Practice of White & Case LLP, of Washington, DC, where Mr. Terwilliger led teams of lawyers on behalf of major corporate clients, including oil companies. Mr. Terwilliger served as a Deputy Attorney General of the United States from 1991 to 1993. As Deputy Attorney General, he served as the number two official and Chief Operating Officer of the Department of Justice. He served as Principal Associate Deputy Attorney General from 1990 to 1991, and a U.S. Attorney for the District of Vermont from 1986 to 1991. His public service career dates back to 1978, when he was appointed an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia. In private practice, his clients have included some of the world's largest companies and most prominent individuals. Most recently, representing an international financial institution and a European defasance entity, he led civil and criminal litigation teams to successful resolution of multi-billion dollar bank fraud allegations. He has represented energy, telecommunication and industrial companies in government investigations and in civil and criminal litigation. He has conducted and supervised corporate internal investigations and legal compliance reviews across the globe. He has also represented prominent academic medical centers and other entities in connection with government healthcare fraud investigations. He has ten years as a front-line federal prosecutor conducting investigations, trials and appellate proceedings. Highlights of this service include his leadership in major cases, such as BCCI, an international banking scandal, where he led the negotiation of a criminal and civil settlement involving over 20 parties in the United States and abroad, in domestic crisis, including managing the federal response to massive civil unrest in Los Angeles and the rescue of federal officers taken hostage in a prison takeover as well as lead prosecutor in significant white collar crime and terrorism cases. He has also served as Counsel to a US Senate investigation, Outside General Counsel to Federal Commissions, as well as confidant and counselor to elected and appointed officials. He was a Leader of President George W. Bush's legal team during the Florida election recount and is a Formal and Informal Advisor to appointed and elected public officials. He is supported by a superb practice group and the extensive experience of lawyers in one of the world's largest firms with an unparalleled international presence. He has been a Co-Chairman of White-Collar Practice at McGuireWoods LLP since February 2015. He has been a Director of DynaMotive Energy Systems Corp. from November 2006 to March 2009 and Dynamotive Corporation since November 2006. His Awards and Rankings are: The Best Lawyers in America, White Collar and National Law Journal, 100 Most Influential Lawyers in America. Mr. Terwilliger holds B.A. from Seton Hall University in 1973 and J.D. from Antioch School of Law in 1978. McGuireWoods

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Corporate Headquarters

Gateway Plaza
Richmond, Virginia 23219-3916

Annual Compensation

There is no Annual Compensation data available.

United States

Stocks Options

There is no Stock Options data available.

Phone: 804-775-1000

Fax: 804-775-1061

Total Compensation

There is no Total Compensation data available.

Board Members Memberships

There is no Board Members Memberships data available.

Education

BA 1973

Seton Hall University

JD 1978

University of the District of Columbia David A.

Clarke School of Law

Other Affiliations

White & Case LLP

Dynamotive Energy Systems Corporation

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Press Release

George Terwilliger, Elite White-Collar Litigator and Former Top DoJ Official, Joins McGuireWoods in D.C.

Accomplished Litigators Robert Bittman and Todd Steggerda Join Him; Terwilliger to Co-Chair White-Collar Practice, Lead New Risk & Crisis Group

January 29, 2015

George J. Terwilliger III, a leading Washington lawyer who served in an array of top Justice Department posts, and two new partners are joining McGuireWoods, where Terwilliger will co-chair the firm's white-collar practice.

Terwilliger comes to McGuireWoods' Washington office from Morgan Lewis along with accomplished litigation partner Robert J. Bittman and government contracts, litigation and enforcement partner Todd R. Steggerda. Terwilliger co-chaired the White-collar Litigation and Government Investigations practice at Morgan Lewis.

The arrival of Terwilliger, Bittman and Steggerda at McGuireWoods represents a major addition to what already is ranked by respected and independent authorities among the nation's elite white-collar criminal defense groups. Besides co-chairing the firm's white-collar practice, Terwilliger will lead a new Strategic Risk and Crisis Management group that complements the firm's Government, Regulatory and Criminal Investigations (GRCI) Department. Last month, the well-respected and widely read legal news service Law360 ranked McGuireWoods as a 2014 "Practice Group of the Year" for its white-collar criminal defense work, one of only five firms to be so honored.

Terwilliger is among Washington's most sought-after litigators. He has represented national and global financial, telecommunications, energy, healthcare and industrial corporations facing government investigations or in criminal and civil lawsuits. He has conducted internal inquiries and compliance assessments for corporations in more than 60 countries. He also has rich experience in political litigation, including leading George W. Bush's legal team in the contentious Florida ballot recount that the Supreme Court ultimately decided in Bush's favor, making him president. Among the prominent individuals he has represented are a U.S. attorney general, presidential counselors, members of Congress, media figures, top business executives and other private lawyers.

It's also a homecoming for Terwilliger and Bittman, who were McGuireWoods partners in Washington from 1993 through 2000. Besides Morgan Lewis, both men also distinguished their international practices at White & Case.

Bittman, whose practice focuses on issues surrounding multinational corporations, particularly the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and False Claims Act cases, also has substantial federal prosecutorial experience. He was a top deputy to Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr during the Whitewater investigation.

Steggerda, a former Navy aviator, is a premier government contracts lawyer who will head McGuireWoods' government contracts team and play a key role in the new Strategic Risk and Crisis Management group. He has more than 17 years' experience, particularly in FCA litigation, and a deep understanding of the nation's defense, security and enforcement sectors. He is widely respected for obtaining favorable outcomes in high-stakes and complex litigation, and has resolved claims, investigations, and other disputes in numerous foreign jurisdictions in the Middle East and Russia. He also served as chief counsel of Sen. John McCain's 2008 presidential campaign.

"Attracting George Terwilliger, Bob Bittman and Todd Steggerda is a coup for any firm," said Richard Cullen, chairman of the firm and a former U.S. attorney and Virginia attorney general who established the firm's white-collar practice. "Their experience, connections and leadership will be a tremendous asset for our clients. We are delighted they are joining us to launch this important new practice."

Terwilliger built a long and storied legacy as a federal prosecutor. President Ronald Reagan appointed him as U.S. attorney for Vermont. Under Reagan's successor, President George H.W. Bush, he was deputy attorney general, the No. 2 official in the Justice Department, and briefly served as acting U.S. attorney general. Among the cases he personally prosecuted was the Bank of Credit and Commerce International scandal in the early '90s in which negotiations he led produced a sweeping resolution to criminal and civil charges that affected more than two dozen parties worldwide.

Terwilliger earned his law degree from the Antioch School of Law in 1978 and is a 1973 graduate of Seton Hall University. He is admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court, the 2nd, 4th and D.C. U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeals, and U.S. Tax Court.

In private practice, Bittman has achieved enviable results for multinational clients in FCPA, FCA, antitrust and securities matters as well as defense contractor and healthcare fraud allegations, and money laundering and public corruption charges.

He earned his law degree in 1987 from Catholic University's Columbus School of Law and is a 1984 University of Maryland graduate.

Steggerda is widely respected for securing favorable outcomes in high-stakes and complex litigation involving the federal government's most formidable enforcers, including the Justice, Defense and State departments, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Small Business Administration, the General Services Administration and the Defense Criminal Investigative Service. In addition to further strengthening the firm's government contracts team, he adds depth to the GRCI practice's defense, aerospace and national security sectors on government contract investigations and enforcement matters, and to the new Strategic Risk and Crisis Management group.

Steggerda earned his law degree from the University of Iowa College of Law in 1997 and earned his bachelor's degree in aerospace engineering from the Naval Academy in 1987. In the Navy, he was an F-18 pilot and a flight instructor.

"McGuireWoods is respected throughout Washington and elsewhere for excellence, particularly with its white-collar work, and I am delighted to be coming aboard and leading such an important new initiative," Terwilliger said. "We believe this will provide McGuireWoods' clients powerful new advantages."

John Adams, the chairman of McGuireWoods' GRCI practice, said the addition of Terwilliger, Steggerda and Bittman and the establishment of the new Strategic Risk and Crisis Management team represent a game changer for McGuireWoods.

"This gives us an entirely new and important platform for serving clients on many levels, not only with excellent legal work but also with the very best government relations, advocacy and strategic communications professionals," Adams said, referring to McGuireWoods Consulting, the firm's public affairs arm, which is ranked in the Top 15 of the National Law Journal's "The Influence 50," an annual report of the top public affairs firms in Washington.

The team includes former U.S. Sen. Evan Bayh, a bet-the-company litigator in Cullen, former staff director of the Senate Finance Committee Russell W. Sullivan, high-profile corporate and securities litigator Anne Marie Whittemore, and Los Angeles partner Molly M. White, a former senior trial counsel at the Securities and Exchange Commission. Several lawyers have held leadership positions in federal and state law enforcement agencies and other governmental bodies before joining the firm.

McGuireWoods LLP is a leading international law firm with nearly 1,000 lawyers in 20 offices in the United States and Europe. Its GRCI practice is recognized by Law360 as one of the top 20 U.S. firms with the most partners in the securities and white-collar categories. Four of the firm's white-collar practitioners are ranked by Chambers USA in its 2014 guide.

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