

**CLETA MITCHELL**



PARTNER

CMITCHELL@FOLEY.COM

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP  
3000 K STREET, NW  
SUITE 600  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20007-5109  
202.295.4081



Cleta Mitchell is a partner in the Washington, D.C. office of Foley & Lardner LLP and a member of the firm's Political Law Practice. With more than 30 years of experience in law, politics and public policy, Ms. Mitchell advises corporations, nonprofit and issue organizations, candidates, campaigns, and individuals on state and federal campaign finance law, election law, and compliance issues related to lobbying, ethics and financial disclosure. Ms. Mitchell practices before the Federal Election Commission, the ethics committees of the US House and Senate and similar state and local enforcement bodies and agencies.

Ms. Mitchell has extensive experience on the federal lobbying and ethics law enacted by Congress in 2007, having taught more than a dozen seminars on the subject since its passage. In 2008, Ms. Mitchell authored *The Lobbying Compliance Handbook*, published by Columbia Books, Inc.

Ms. Mitchell represents numerous candidates, campaigns and members of Congress, as well as state and national political party committees. She has served as legal counsel to the National Republican Senatorial Committee and the National Republican Congressional Committee. Ms. Mitchell served as co-counsel for the National Rifle Association in the Supreme Court case involving the 2002 federal campaign finance law.

Ms. Mitchell has testified before Congress on numerous occasions related to election law, campaign finance and lobbying and ethics laws, and is a frequent speaker and guest commentator on political law. In 1999, she authored "The Rise of America's Two National Pastimes: Baseball and the Law," published by the *University of Michigan Law Review*.

Ms. Mitchell has been appointed to the American Bar Association's Standing Committee on Election Law and has been appointed an advisor on the American Law Institute's Election Law Project entitled, "Principles of Election Law: Dispute Resolution." She serves on the boards of directors of the National Rifle Association and the Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation, is chairman of the American Conservative Union Foundation, and is president of the Republican National Lawyers

Association.

Ms. Mitchell has been Peer Review Rated as AV® Preeminent™, the highest performance rating in Martindale-Hubbell's peer review rating system and was selected by her peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*® 2010, 2011 and 2012 editions for her work in administrative/regulatory law. She was also named a "Top Lawyer" in Washington D.C. by the *Washingtonian* for her work in political and campaign law. For her work in government and political law, she is listed in *Chambers USA: America's Leading Business Lawyers* (2010 and 2011). Ms. Mitchell was a teaching fellow at the Institute of Politics, Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University in 1981 and was the Shapiro Fellow at the School of Media and Public Affairs at The George Washington University in 2001.

Ms. Mitchell was a member of the Oklahoma House of Representatives from 1976-1984 where she chaired the House Appropriations and Budget Committee. She served on the executive committee of the National Conference of State Legislatures.

Ms. Mitchell was in private law practice in Oklahoma City in litigation and administrative law until 1991 when she became director and general counsel of the Term Limits Legal Institute in Washington, D.C. She litigated cases in state and federal courts nationwide on congressional term limits and served as co-counsel with former U.S. Attorney General Griffin Bell in the U.S. Supreme Court case on term limits for members of Congress.

Ms. Mitchell received her B.A. (high honors, 1973) and J.D. (1975) from the University of Oklahoma. She is admitted to practice in the District of Columbia, the State of Oklahoma, the Supreme Court of the United States and federal district and appellate courts.

**DAVID T. RALSTON, JR.**



PARTNER

DRALSTON@FOLEY.COM

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP  
3000 K STREET, NW  
SUITE 600  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20007-5109  
202.295.4097



David T. Ralston, Jr. is a partner in the Washington, D.C. office of Foley & Lardner LLP where his practice focuses on rail and air transportation; government contract litigation and counseling; national and homeland security.

Mr. Ralston has handled virtually all aspects of government contracts, including bid and small business size protests, claims, defective pricing, intellectual property, qui tam litigation, and Cost Accounting Standards matters. He has successfully defended government contractors against fraud and bribery charges, including coordinating corporate investigations, voluntary disclosures to the Justice and Defense Departments, and represented firms in debarment/suspension proceedings at numerous federal agencies. Mr. Ralston frequently lectures and writes on government contracts matters. His most recent publication is "The Foley & Lardner Guide to Federal Procurement Protests (second edition)," available at [www.foley.com/procurementprotest](http://www.foley.com/procurementprotest), which will soon be published as part of "Inside The Minds: The Impact of Recent Changes in Government Contracts," *Aspatore Books*, 2011.

In rail transportation, Mr. Ralston represents a leading Class I railroad, a major commuter rail carrier and shortline railroads on federal regulatory, legislative and compliance matters. In aviation, he has represented and advised a number of major U.S. airports on federal regulatory and grant assurance requirements, particularly in the security arena, and serves as vice-chair of the Federal Bar Association's Transportation and Transportation Security Law Committee.

Mr. Ralston has been Peer Review Rated as AV® Preeminent™, the highest performance rating in Martindale-Hubbell's peer review rating system. In 2011, he was named one of America's Leading Lawyers in the area of government contracts by *Chambers USA*, and in 2010 *Legal 500* cited him for his knowledge of government contracts issues and client availability.

In recent years, Mr. Ralston has been particularly active in contracts claims resolution, and matters concerning US domestic content laws, such as the Buy American Act, the Berry Amendment, the Trade Agreements Act, and

international trade areas. He has also been active in matters where government contracts and intellectual property issues intersect, having led multi-year litigation opposing Department of Defense efforts to compete with the private sector in publishing military standards and specifications over the Internet. In 2011, he presented to European procurement leaders at the EU Parliament in Brussels on US perspectives concerning innovation in government procurement during the ScienceBusiness Policy Bridge conference *Power of the Purse: Can Europe use procurement power to stimulate innovation?*

Virginia Governors George Allen and James Gilmore appointed Mr. Ralston to the board of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority. He was elected as chairman of the board from 1997-2000, and has served as vice-chairman and chair of several committees. In 2010, Governor Robert McDonnell appointed him to the board of trustees of the Southern Growth Policies Board, a non-partisan public policy think tank focused on advancing effective economic development policies in 13 Southern states.

From 1980 to 1984, Mr. Ralston served on active duty with the U.S. Army as a prosecutor and appellate attorney, handling over 100 courts-martial, including more than 30 contested cases. From 1984 to 1994, he served as a military judge in the U.S. Army Reserves.

A law graduate of Georgetown University (J.D., 1979, *cum laude*), Mr. Ralston received his B.S.F.S. degree from Georgetown University – School of Foreign Service (1976). He is a graduate of the Army War College National Security Seminar (2007).

Mr. Ralston is admitted to the bars of the District of Columbia, Virginia and New York, and served from 2008-2011 on the Litigation Section Committee of the D.C. Bar. He is vice-chair of the Federal Circuit Bar Association's Government Contracts and Construction Law Committee and the Federal Bar Association's Transportation and Transportation Security Law Committee. He is admitted to practice before the U.S. Courts of Appeal for the Armed Forces, the Federal, Fourth, Sixth and District of Columbia Circuits. He is also admitted before the U.S. District Courts for the Eastern District of Virginia, the District of Columbia, the District of Maryland, and the U.S. Court of Federal Claims.

**ROBERT COHEN**



DIRECTOR, POLITICAL RISK &  
COMPLIANCE

RCOHEN3@KPMG.COM

KPMG LLP  
1801 K STREET NW  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036  
202 533.3060



Robert (Rob) Cohen is Director, Political Risk & Compliance, at KPMG LLP. Mr. Cohen directs KPMG’s national political compliance program. He developed and implanted a political compliance program for the Firm. Additionally, he counsels the Firm’s partners and employees on federal, state, and local campaign finance, lobbying, government procurement, gifts to government officials, and other government ethics laws and regulations.

Mr. Cohen joined KPMG in January 2009 in this newly created position from the Washington, DC office of Kelley Drye & Warren. Mr. Cohen was a member of the Campaign Finance & Political law and Government Relations practice groups at Kelley Drye & Warren LLP (Kelley Drye). Previously, Mr. Cohen was Of Counsel at Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice LLP (Womble Carlyle) in Washington, DC. At both Kelley Drye and Womble Carlyle, Mr. Cohen advised corporations, partnerships, political action committees, and other political organizations on federal and state campaign finance, lobbying, and government ethics matters. Additionally, Mr. Cohen represented PACs before the Federal Election Commission and state agencies.

Previously, Mr. Cohen served as a government affairs executive for a publicly traded technology company and trade associations. He also served as Counsel on the U.S. Senate Committee on Small Business and as Assistant Chief Counsel, Office of Advocacy, and U.S. Small Business Administration.

Mr. Cohen is a graduate of Brandeis University and Emory University School of Law.