

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Dorothy Andrews is the Senior Behavioral Data Scientist and Actuary for the National Association of Insurance Commissioners. She has more than 25 years of actuarial and statistical modeling experience with life insurance companies, property and casualty insurance companies, reinsurance companies, international consulting firms, and government agencies. She serves as adjunct faculty at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte in the Mathematics and Statistics Department, teaching predictive analytics. Dorothy is an Associate of the Society of Actuaries, a Member of the American Academy of Actuaries, and a Certified Specialist in Predictive Analytics (CSPA). She holds a Ph.D. in Media Psychology. Her research focus is on how big data and algorithms are altering our perceptions of risk, differentially and adversely impacting communities of color, and undermining human autonomy with automated decision-making systems. Dorothy believes that because insurance is becoming mediated more and more by mobile, wearable, and AI technologies, human oversight is critical to ensuring these technologies are operating ethically and with transparency to prevent disparate impacts on those segments of society who lack the privilege and resources to avert their ill effects.

Les Bernal is the National Director of Stop Predatory Gambling, a 501c3 nonprofit advocacy network of individuals and partner groups from all political stripes with members in all 50 states. Its mission is to reveal the truth behind commercialized gambling to advocate for those who have suffered harm, to prevent more victims, and to champion policy reforms that stop predatory gambling. He has been National Director since 2008 when the national network grew into the organization of Stop Predatory Gambling. Les has spoken and written extensively about commercialized gambling operators and their business practices, including regional casinos, state lotteries, online gambling, and commercialized sports betting. He has testified before Congress and more than thirty state legislatures. He has been cited by more than 700 newspapers and magazines including The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, The Economist, The Washington Post, and The Atlantic. He has appeared on national television and radio including 60 Minutes, PBS NewsHour, CNN, Fox News Channel, National Public Radio, CNBC, The BBC, and MSNBC. He has also spoken before more than 1000 business organizations, college audiences and faith groups across the nation. The national edition of The Deseret News named Les as "one of its seven heroes who made a difference in America this year." Prior to joining Stop Predatory Gambling, Les served as a Chief of Staff in the Massachusetts State Senate and worked as a campaign strategist for more than forty federal and state campaigns. He is also a former high school and college men's basketball coach, founder of the Robert Frost Foundation in Lawrence, Massachusetts - the hometown of America's favorite poet - and a past chairman of the city's Planning Board. He is a member of St. Patrick Parish, a Roman Catholic community in Lawrence. Les graduated from Ithaca College with a B.A. in English and earned a M.P.A. from Suffolk University.

Lydia Beyoud is a financial regulation reporter for Bloomberg News. She focuses her reporting on the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, as well as other agencies that intersect with capital markets. Her X handle is @ElleBeyoud.

William Birdthistle joined the Law School in April 2024. His scholarship focuses on investment funds, financial regulation, and corporate governance. Before joining the Law School, he served as Director of the Division of Investment Management at the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission from 2021-2024. He is the author of *Empire of the Fund: The Way We Save Now* (Oxford University Press, 2016) and co-editor of the *Research Handbook on the Regulation of Mutual Funds* (Elgar, 2018). Prior to the SEC, Birdthistle was Professor of Law at Chicago-Kent College of Law. Earlier in his career, Birdthistle clerked for the Honorable Diarmuid O'Scannlain on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and practiced law at Ropes & Gray in Boston for five years as an attorney in the firm's investment management practice. He received his JD from Harvard Law School in 1999, where he served as managing editor of the *Harvard Law Review*; an MA in history from the University of Chicago in 2021; and a BA summa cum laude in English and psychology from Duke University in 1995.

Elizabeth Bond is a Visiting Tech Fellow at Duke University Sanford School of Public Policy and leads transformation efforts at the North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles. She previously served as Senior Advisor for Emerging Technology at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, where her work focused on the intersection of technology, finance, and consumer protection. She led efforts to examine how gaming platforms were increasingly drifting into banking through the use of in-game currencies and embedded financial infrastructure, particularly for minors and young adults navigating the early stages of their financial lives.

Peter Dean is Director of UHAB National at the Urban Homesteading Assistance Board, where he leads the National Incubator for Permanently Affordable Co-op Homeownership - a program with more than 100 alumni and cohort organizations working to develop and sustain permanently affordable cooperative homeownership across the country as well as city consultancies to develop affordable housing co-op ecosystems. Peter's career in cooperative development spans nearly five decades, beginning with supporting the lobbying effort for the National Consumer Cooperative Bank Act as a college student and running through cooperative housing development in Milwaukee, Baltimore, Denver, and Central America, to co-founding and operating a nationally recognized naturally affordable rental housing company that earned SatisFacts' Best Small Landlord in America award in 2015. He serves as Treasurer of the Grounded Solutions Network and Vice Chair of the Development and Preservation Committee of the National Association of Housing Cooperatives.

Keisha Deonarine Bros is a national leader advancing racial equity through economic justice, public finance, and legislative strategy. She serves as Director of Opportunity, Race, and Justice at the NAACP, where she leads the organization's national Inclusive Economy and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion agenda, translating Black community priorities into actionable policy solutions at the federal, state, and local levels. In her role, Keisha drives policy development and advocacy focused on economic mobility, access to capital, workforce development, and institutional accountability. She works at the intersection of research, coalition-building, and legislative engagement to advance policies that dismantle structural racism and expand opportunity for Black and Brown communities. Prior to joining the NAACP, Keisha held executive leadership roles in community finance and philanthropy. As an executive at a Kentucky-based Credit Union, she helped secure over \$5 million in federal grants and \$122.5 million in secondary capital, strengthening community-based financial infrastructure. She also led successful efforts to obtain Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) certification and advocated nationally for equitable capital deployment in historically marginalized communities. Keisha previously served in senior philanthropic and public-sector roles, overseeing grantmaking strategies aligned with public health and economic equity outcomes. Her work has contributed to more than \$200 million in project investments and the creation of 6,000+ jobs, leveraging public-private partnerships to drive measurable policy impact. In addition to her institutional leadership, Keisha maintains a consulting practice KDB Consulting, providing services in economic development, CDFI strategy, strategic planning, diversity, equity, and inclusion implementation, and equity implementation. Keisha's leadership has been recognized nationally, including selection as an ABFE Connecting Leaders Fellow, Business First Forty Under 40, and Today's Woman DE&I Leader. She graduated Summa Cum Laude (4.0) and Valedictorian with a Bachelor's in Entrepreneurship and Organizational Leadership from Simmons College of Kentucky. Keisha is currently attending the Florida State University College of Law to earn her Juris Master's degree with a concentration in financial regulation.

Congressman Greg Casar represents Texas's 35th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives, which runs down I-35 from East Austin to Hays County to the West Side of San Antonio. Congressman Casar was sworn into office in January 2023 and serves as the Chair of the Congressional Progressive Caucus, composed of more than 100 members of Congress standing up for progressive ideals in Washington and throughout the country. A labor organizer and son of Mexican immigrants, he is fighting to raise wages for millions of American workers, expand immigrant rights, restore abortion rights and voting rights, protect veterans and seniors, and tackle the climate crisis. Prior to being elected to Congress, he served on the Austin City Council for seven years. There, he championed and passed progressive policies including protections for renters from corporate abuse, bold affordable housing programs, and paid sick leave ordinances in Austin, Dallas, and San Antonio. In the U.S. House, Congressman Casar has pledged to build a government that works for working people. In his first term in Congress, Congressman Casar successfully pushed for the introduction of the first-ever federal heat rule, which will protect over 30 million American workers facing extreme heat on the job. Additionally, he authored legislation to connect the Texas grid to neighboring power grids that would save billions and prevent future mass blackouts.

Corey Frayer is the Director of Investor Protection for the Consumer Federation of America. Corey leads the CFA's efforts protecting retail investors, their retirement accounts, and overseeing the regulation of America's \$125 trillion capital markets. Corey has nearly 20 years of experience in the House, Senate and at the Securities Exchange Commission advising on financial regulatory issues ranging across consumer protection, bank regulation and supervision, financial stability, fintech policy, and application of the securities laws to crypto assets. Prior to joining the CFA, Corey was Senior Adviser to SEC Chair Gary Gensler on both Crypto Markets and Financial Stability, where he also served as an SEC Deputy on the Financial Stability Oversight Council. Prior to that, Corey served 15 years in Congress for Representative Brad Miller, on the House Financial Services Committee for Representative Maxine Waters, and on the Senate Banking and Housing Committee for Senator Sherrod Brown. Corey received his bachelor's degree in Science and Business Administration with a concentration in economics from The Catholic University of America.

Grace Gedy is a policy analyst at Consumer Reports, focusing on artificial intelligence and issues including algorithmic bias, accuracy, independent testing, safety, impersonation, and more. Prior to CR, Grace was a reporter with CalMatters, a nonprofit news organization in California. She covered economic and tech policy in the state, writing about everything from tax proposals to social media regulation. Previously, she was an editor and writer at the Washington Monthly in D.C., a policy magazine where she wrote and edited pieces on a range of subjects, including technology and antitrust. Grace has a B.A. in politics from Pomona College.

Thomas Gremillion is the Director of Food Policy at the Consumer Federation of America. He oversees the research, analysis, advocacy and media outreach for the group's food policy activities, and monitors food safety activities at USDA, FDA and in Congress, where he advocates for strong food safety protections for consumers. He also coordinates the Safe Food Coalition, a group of consumer, trade union, and foodborne illness victim organizations dedicated to reducing foodborne illness by improving government food inspection programs. Prior to joining CFA in 2015, Gremillion practiced environmental law at Georgetown University Law Center's Institute for Public Representation, where he represented community groups and advocacy organizations in litigation against polluters and government regulators. He also served as an associate attorney at the Southern Environmental Law Center, where he specialized in transportation and land use issues. A graduate of Harvard Law School, Gremillion is a member of the D.C. and North Carolina bars. He graduated magna cum laude from the University of South Carolina with a B.S. in mathematics, and served as a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar in Quito, Ecuador, where he received an M.A. in International Relations from La Universidad Andina Simón Bolívar.

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Kellan Grenier is Director of Strategy at Underdog Sports Holdings, Inc. ("USHI"), where he leads cross-functional strategy across business development, fundraising, partnerships, public affairs, and talent acquisition. Mr. Grenier concurrently serves as an Associated Person at UDM LLC, USHI's CFTC-registered Futures Commission Merchant. Since joining Underdog in September 2024, Mr. Grenier has substantially focused on the firm's prediction market positioning, specifically the DCM/DCO acquisition strategy and federal regulatory positioning across the event-contract landscape. Mr. Grenier is also a co-founder of Parcl, a financial technology company he helped launch in December 2021. Previously, Mr. Grenier spent nearly two years as an Analyst at Force Hill Capital Management LP, a buy-side investment firm, covering semiconductors, semiconductor capital equipment, electric vehicles, and the broader TMT hardware supply chain. Prior to Force Hill, Mr. Grenier spent approximately three years at Nomura Securities in equity research, progressing from Equity Research Associate to Vice President, with coverage spanning semiconductors and semi cap equipment, high-performance computing, AI/machine learning, autonomous systems, enterprise and subscription software, electric vehicles, and consumer gaming hardware. Before Nomura, Mr. Grenier spent three years as an Analyst at CfK, where he analyzed proprietary point-of-sale data covering the global wireless component and semiconductor supply chain. Mr. Grenier received his Bachelor of Science in Economics from Northeastern University in 2013. Mr. Grenier holds the FINRA Series 86/87, Series 63, and Series 3 licenses and has passed Level I of the CFA Program. Mr. Grenier specializes in derivatives market structure, exchange design, and regulatory strategy under the CFTC DCM/DCO framework.

Courtney Griffin is the Director of Consumer Product Safety for the Consumer Federation of America. She advocates for consumer product safety in Congress and at regulatory agencies, communicates policy positions to the public and press, provides educational tools for consumers, and works with other advocates and key stakeholders on consumer product safety. Courtney has a decade of experience litigating difficult cases. Prior to joining the CFA, Courtney worked in private practice at Chaffin Luhana LLP, a plaintiffs-only law firm with a national practice. She represented injured victims in complex product liability, pharmaceutical, and medical device litigation. Courtney also has a long history of volunteer service. She worked with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central California for many years and now volunteers with an organization that sends reading and educational materials to incarcerated people. Courtney is a member of the California and Pennsylvania bars. She is a graduate of the University of San Diego School of Law, and she received her B.A. from the George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

Douglas Heller is CFA's Director of Insurance and is a nationally recognized insurance expert. During two decades of work on public policy and regulatory matters related to property-casualty insurance, Heller has authored op-eds, articles, and reports on auto insurance pricing in the United States, overseen regulatory challenges to insurance company rates and practices, provided expertise in insurance-related litigation, and, for nine years, served as the Executive Director of the national consumer advocacy organization, Consumer Watchdog. His work has saved policyholders hundreds of millions of dollars on insurance premiums and helped curb unfair auto insurance pricing practices. In addition to conducting research for and providing expertise to consumer rights organizations, Heller is a member of U.S. Department of Treasury's Federal Advisory Committee on Insurance, an appointee of California's Insurance Commissioner, serving as a board member of the California Automobile Assigned Risk Plan (CAARP), which oversees that state's innovative Low-Cost Auto Insurance Program for low-income drivers, and he serves on the Executive Board of the Coalition Against Insurance Fraud. Heller holds a B.A. in Political Science from the University of California, Berkeley and a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of Southern California, where he has also taught courses on Strategic Planning for Non-Profits and Public Agencies.

Lori Murphy Lee serves as PJM's liaison to the District of Columbia, Delaware, Tennessee and West Virginia. In this role, she interacts with utility commissions, government agencies and legislative bodies regarding complex issues related to PJM's operation of the electric grid and wholesale electricity markets. Prior to joining PJM Ms. Lee was the President and CEO of LML Consulting, LLC, specializing in federal and state relations. Before she established her consulting practice, Ms. Lee served as a Commissioner for the Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia. During her tenure on the Commission, she oversaw the implementation of smart grid in the District and led the Commission's consumer education efforts; she also advocated for and promoted the utilization of diverse businesses, increasing the number of green jobs and affordable renewable energy. As a Commissioner, Ms. Lee readily established herself as a skilled policy maker with a recognized balance approach to issues and was tapped for several leadership positions in prominent national and regional organizations. Ms. Lee served on the Board of Directors and as Chair of the Subcommittee on Education and Research for the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners. Ms. Lee was treasurer for the Organization of PJM States, Inc. and a Board member of the National Regulatory Research Institute. Prior to joining the Commission, Ms. Lee served as a senior attorney-advisor with the United States Department of Justice where she practiced appellate law for 12 years. Before joining the Federal Government she was an associate in private practice. Ms. Lee received a Bachelor of Arts from Duke University and a Juris Doctor from George Washington University Law School. She is a member of the Bar of Maryland. PJM Interconnection, founded in 1927, ensures the reliability of the high-voltage electric power system serving 61 million people in all or parts of Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia. PJM coordinates and directs the operation of the region's transmission grid, which includes over 81,000 miles of transmission lines; administers a competitive wholesale electricity market; and plans regional transmission expansion improvements to maintain grid reliability and relieve congestion.

Brooke Lierman is the 34th Comptroller of the state of Maryland and the first woman to be independently elected to one of our state's constitutional offices. After running a strong, policy-focused and grassroots-led campaign, she was elected with over 60% of the vote in November 2022. She is an attorney by training, practicing as a civil rights and disability rights lawyer for many years, and prior to her election as Comptroller, she served for 8 years a member of the House of Delegates representing part of Baltimore City. While in the House, she spent time in leadership roles on both the Appropriations Committee and the Environment and Transportation Committee. She chaired the Oversight Committee on Pensions. As Comptroller, she is leading an agency of 1,200 dedicated Maryland public servants in 12 offices around the state. She has focused on making government work better by modernizing the agency's aging IT infrastructure and staff structure, and she has created an office of public engagement and taxpayer advocate to ensure that the resources of the agency are shared with Maryland businesses and residents. The office has published new and important research reports on Maryland's economy, and Brooke's acts as a fiscal watchdog on the Board of Public Works, focused on achieving best value for the state and meeting our MBE goals. Under her leadership, the office of the Comptroller is working to create a Maryland that is more equitable, more resilient, and more prosperous so that all Marylanders can reach their full potential. Brooke grew up in Montgomery County and now lives in Baltimore City with her husband two school-age children.

Emma Lurie is a public interest technologist and interdisciplinary researcher who focuses on the intersections of platforms, democracy, and law. She combines algorithm auditing, empirical research, and legal analysis to address how platforms and tech policy can promote democratic values and protect civil liberties. She is currently a postdoctoral researcher in Computer and Information Science at the University of Pennsylvania, working with Professors Danaé Metaxa (UPenn) and Sorelle Friedler (Haverford) on civil rights-focused audits of AI systems. She recently completed her PhD in Information Science at UC Berkeley and JD at Stanford Law School. Previously, Emma has had the opportunity to work with teams at the Knight First Amendment Institute, CISA's Office of General Counsel, Stanford Internet Observatory, ACLU of Northern California's Technology and Civil Liberties team, Plaintext Group, Wellesley College Cred Lab, MIT Election Data and Science Lab, and the U.S. Census Bureau. During law school, she also represented clients through the Stanford Criminal Defense Clinic. Emma has a BA in Computer Science and Chinese Language & Culture from Wellesley College.

Rachel Lyons is the Legislative Director for the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union (UFCW), where she leads federal and state legislative strategy and advocacy for 1.2 million members. Since joining in 2017, she has advanced policy priorities across agriculture, trade, immigration, labor standards, cannabis, and retirement security while working closely with lawmakers and coalition partners. Previously, she held advocacy roles at the National Partnership for Women and Families and several national organizations, and holds degrees from the University of Colorado at Boulder and George Washington University.

Karim D. Marshall is the Director of Climate and Energy Policy at the Consumer Federation of America, where he protects vulnerable and marginalized communities by advocating for policies which advance an affordable and responsible economy. Karim is a seasoned leader with nearly two decades of expertise in environmental law, policy development, and strategic program management across federal, state, and local levels. As the Senior Advisor for Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights at the United States Environmental Protection Agency in the Biden-Harris Administration, Karim drove the integration of equity principles into national programs, ensuring fairness and inclusivity in public service delivery and access to federal resources. With a proven track record of spearheading transformative initiatives, he has built and led national programs, managed multi-billion-dollar real estate portfolios, and authored groundbreaking policies in energy, climate, and environmental justice. Mr. Marshall has represented the U.S. government on the global stage and developed innovative stakeholder engagement frameworks and equity-focused solutions, bridging strategic vision with operational execution. Karim is a third-generation Washingtonian, a graduate of Dartmouth College and the Washington College of Law at American University (WCL). He teaches Environmental Justice at WCL & Howard University's School of Law and is admitted to practice in the District of Columbia and Maryland.

Tom McBrien provides expertise to policymakers at both the state and federal level to advance strong privacy, platform governance, and AI oversight laws. He also helps coordinate amicus brief strategy and regularly files amicus briefs on a broad range of topics including surveillance pricing, the First and Fourth Amendments, and Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act. Tom is a graduate of New York University School of Law, where he served as the student fellow coordinator for the Privacy Research Group, as the co-president of the school's chapter of National Lawyers Guild, and as a trained mediator in the Bronx small claims court. While in school, Tom interned at the Brennan Center for Justice and the ACLU, and he spent a year in NYU's Technology Law and Policy Clinic. He holds a B.S. in Biology and English from the University of Michigan.

Joshua Miller is the Director of Congress Watch at Public Citizen, where he leads the organization's legislative advocacy strategy and oversees a multi-issue policy team working across healthcare, budget and appropriations, financial regulation, artificial intelligence, and government accountability. In this role, he also coordinates the Clean Budget Coalition, a national alliance of labor, environmental, consumer, and civil rights organizations working to eliminate harmful policy riders and protect critical public investments. Before joining Public Citizen, Joshua held senior roles in public policy, government relations, and research, with experience spanning Congress, federal agencies, and nonprofit advocacy organizations. His work has focused on advancing economic justice, strengthening democratic institutions, expanding access to healthcare, and challenging corporate concentration and abusive market practices. Joshua brings a coalition-driven approach to advocacy, emphasizing strategic alignment and relationship-building across ideological and institutional lines. He is committed to ensuring Public Citizen's legislative work remains grounded in its mission to take on corporate power and deliver tangible benefits for the public.

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Aaliyah Nedd serves as Director of Government Relations for the National Cooperative Business Association (NCBA). In this role, she leads NCBA's federal, state, and local outreach and advocacy work to develop, advance and promote cooperative enterprise. Prior to joining NCBA CLUSA, Aaliyah worked on a variety of policy issues at the National Association of Counties (NACo). Most recently she served as the Associate Legislative Director for Agriculture/Rural Affairs and Immigration. Aaliyah holds degrees in International Studies and Russian and is a graduate of the University of Florida.

Amy Nelson (she/her) is the Executive Director of the Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana (FHCCI) having joined the FHCCI in October 2011. The mission of the FHCCI is to facilitate open housing for all people by ensuring the availability of affordable and accessible housing; promoting housing choice and homeownership; advocating for an inclusive housing market; working toward stable and equitable communities; and eradicating discrimination within Central Indiana, the State of Indiana, and nationally. The FHCCI has a service area of 24 counties in Central Indiana reaching a population of over 2.5 million. The FHCCI works to ensure open housing for all through its Counseling, Education, Inclusive Communities, and Public Policy Programs. Amy believes that all people deserve safe, affordable, accessible housing that is free from discrimination. She has managed nonprofit fair housing organizations and programs since 1997 working previously at the Fair Housing of the Dakotas and Housing Opportunities Made Equal of Virginia. She has previously been a member of the boards of the Indiana Coalition for Human Services and Prosperity Indiana, and serves as the Fair Housing Liaison to the board of directors of the Central Indiana Realist Association. Amy received a Bachelor of Science degree in International Business and Political Science from Minnesota State University-Moorhead of Moorhead, Minnesota and received her Master of Business Administration from Averett College of Danville, Virginia.

Emily Peterson-Cassin is a public interest advocate and policy leader with deep expertise in antitrust, privacy, surveillance, tax policy, and corporate accountability. As the Director of Competition and Market Fairness, she leads advocacy initiatives across Congress, federal agencies, and states. Before CFA, she served as the policy director at Demand Progress and an advocate at Public Citizen. Emily's work and expertise have been featured in outlets including The New York Times, NPR, The Washington Post, Wired, Politico, and Bloomberg. She holds a J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center and a B.A. in History from University of Missouri.

Tracy Rezvani is the Administrator of the Howard County Office of Consumer Protection, where she leads the County's efforts to protect and educate consumers, answer consumer complaints, and enforce consumer laws. Tracy has 30 years' legal experience in consumer protection law. During her career, she has authored numerous consumer protection publications, volunteered her time to advance consumer protection issues, and managed law firms representing consumers, non-profits and small businesses. Tracy holds a B.S. in Business & Management from the University of Maryland, College Park, and a J.D. from George Washington University Law School. She is a member of the Bar in both Maryland and the District of Columbia. Tracy serves as a volunteer Director of the D.C. Consumer Rights Coalition, and a volunteer Deputy Director for the Eastern Region for the National Association of Consumer Protection Investigators.

Congresswoman Deborah Ross is a civil rights advocate, a clean energy champion, a lawyer, and a proud North Carolinian. She was sworn into the House of Representatives on January 3, 2025, for her third term representing North Carolina's Second Congressional District, which includes most of Wake County. In Congress, Deborah is fighting for equality, justice, and progress. She serves on the House Judiciary Committee and the House Committee on Space, Science, and Technology. She is also a member of House Democrats' leadership team, serving as a Chief Deputy Whip and on the Steering and Policy Committee. In her first two terms, Deborah became a leading voice on issues ranging from women's health and health care access to immigration reform and clean energy technology. Since taking office, 13 pieces of Deborah's legislation have been signed into law, including bills to increase funding for sexual assault nurse examiners, hold perpetrators of child sexual abuse accountable, enhance judicial ethics and transparency, and bolster North Carolina's offshore wind energy potential. She also secured crucial federal funding for affordable housing, public safety, and water systems throughout Wake County. This Congress, Deborah continues to fight for legislation to advance real solutions for North Carolinians and people across the country. She is the lead sponsor of comprehensive legislation to help end sexual abuse and violence in sports by strengthening the U.S. Center for SafeSport. She is also spearheading critical legislation to protect legal immigration options that are under attack by the Trump administration. She proudly introduced a bill to protect Documented Dreamers, the children of long-term visa holders who come to the United States legally and live in many North Carolina communities. Deborah grew up in a small town. The proud daughter of an Air Force veteran and an early childhood education teacher, her parents instilled in her the belief that with opportunity comes responsibility and that through public service she could help others and make a difference. She graduated from law school at UNC-Chapel Hill and entered public service in 2002, when she ran for and won a seat representing Wake County in the North Carolina House of Representatives, where she went on to serve for more than a decade. As a Representative in the General Assembly, Deborah worked to protect voting rights, fund transit and transportation projects, increase access to affordable housing, and protect and expand healthcare. Deborah was named as one of Wake County's most effective legislators for her ability to work across the aisle to deliver results for the people of North Carolina. Prior to serving in public office, Deborah worked as a civil rights lawyer, helping to pass the South's first anti-racial profiling law and reforms to the state's juvenile justice laws. Later, in private practice, she worked to build North Carolina's clean energy future, helping to create thousands of jobs in the renewable energy sector. Deborah and her husband Steve live in Raleigh with their dog Wylie.

Adam Rust is the Director of Financial Services at the Consumer Federation of America, a non-profit association of nearly 250 national, state, and local pro-consumer organizations. His portfolio covers non-bank credit, payments, and banking oversight. He advocates for the interests of consumers in areas at the nexus of emerging technology and finance, including the use of artificial intelligence and digital assets. In his role, he has responsibility for coordinating regulatory and legislative activities. Most recently, Adam was a Senior Policy Advisor at the National Community Reinvestment Coalition, where he pursued the organization's policy agenda for fintech, consumer lending, and payments. From 2005 to 2020, he was Director of Research at Reinvestment Partners (RP), an advocacy and community development non-profit organization in Durham, North Carolina. While at Reinvestment Partners, he led a socially responsible LLC that enrolled over one thousand workers into FDIC-insured bank accounts. He has served two terms on the Board of Directors of the US Faster Payments Council. After publishing a book on community development policy for manufactured housing, he represented consumers on the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Manufactured Housing Consensus Committee. He has master's degrees in Journalism from the University of Missouri (1997), City and Regional Planning from UNC-Chapel Hill (2003), and Finance from Indiana University (2016).

Yevgeny Shrago served as Senior Counsel and Policy Advisor to Commissioner Christy Goldsmith Romero of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission before joining CSBS. Yevgeny has also worked at the CFPB, the Department of the Treasury, and the White House. Yevgeny received his JD from Harvard Law School and a BA from the University of Michigan.

Michael Spratt is an Associate General Counsel at the Investment Company Institute, with responsibility for a range of legal and regulatory issues affecting registered investment companies and their investors. Before joining ICI, Michael worked at the Securities and Exchange Commission for nearly 15 years. At the SEC, he was an Assistant Director in the Disclosure Office in the Division of Investment Management, where he led a team responsible for reviewing fund filings and providing advice on disclosure-related policy. Michael also served as counsel to Commissioners Elisse Walter and Kara Stein, where he provided advice on all aspects of asset management issues, including rulemakings, enforcement actions, and policy. Before working at the SEC, Michael was an associate in the asset management group at Willkie Farr & Gallagher, LLP. He received his B.A. from Johns Hopkins University and J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center.

Aaron Stephens is a Senior Legislative Strategist with the Progressive Change Campaign Committee's lobbying team, P Street, and focuses on reigning in corporate power, enhancing consumer protection laws, and banning congressional stock trading. Previously, Aaron was the mayor of East Lansing, Michigan. At 24 years old, he was the youngest mayor in America at the time, after previously being elected to the city council at age 21. He also has extensive campaign and communications experience, having worked multiple cycles for various elected officials and issue campaigns. He holds a Master of Public Policy Degree from the Harvard Kennedy School.

Brian Stromberg has been working in housing policy for well over a decade, with a particular passion for community land trusts and other models of shared equity homeownership. After a stint in HUD's Office of Policy Development & Research, he worked as the National Policy Director at Grounded Solutions Network, where he advocated for shared equity homeownership on the Hill and throughout DC.

Ted Trabue was appointed to the Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia by Mayor Muriel Bowser and was confirmed by the Council of D.C. on December 20, 2022. His current term ends June, 30, 2026. Commissioner Trabue previously served as the Managing Director of the District of Columbia Sustainable Energy Utility (DCSEU) from 2011-2022. Prior to that, he was the Vice President for District of Columbia Affairs at Pepco, worked at the Greater Washington Board of Trade as Staff Director for Critical Issues for the District of Columbia and Maryland, and served as Chief of Staff for former Council of DC Chairman Linda Cropp. Commissioner Trabue served on the District of Columbia State Board of Education for more than five years, including as President from 2010-2012 and as Vice President in 2009. Commissioner Trabue is a fourth generation Washingtonian and, like his mother and grandmother, he attended District of Columbia Public Schools. He received a degree in Economics from Dartmouth College and holds a law degree from Howard University School of Law.

Michael Tiger is the General Counsel at the New York City Department of Consumer and Worker Protection ("DCWP"). In that role, Mr. Tiger manages a 90-person-plus Division, including multiple units of enforcement attorneys and counsels the Agency including the Office of Labor Policy and Standards ("OLPS") and the Office of Financial Empowerment ("OFE"). During his tenure, DCWP has secured \$32 million in restitution and debt relief for consumers and has brought several high-profile cases using the City's Consumer Protection Law, including ones against several of New York City's largest used car dealers, two of New York State's largest for-profit colleges, and the national insurance companies that hired the City's most complained-about bail bond agent. Prior to working at DCWP, Mr. Tiger was a partner at Hughes Hubbard & Reed, where he led large teams as national counsel in multi-jurisdiction products liability and environmental litigations. He also partnered with the Legal Aid Society in a case challenging the adequacy of New York State's housing subsidies to families on public assistance, which led to the development of the FHEPS Program. Mr. Tiger is a graduate of Columbia Law School and Cornell University.

Kevin Vermillion serves as Director of the Office of Consumer Protection at the Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia, where he leads the office's efforts to enforce the District's consumer protection laws and safeguard residents from unfair and deceptive business practices. The office investigates and litigates a broad range of consumer protection matters, advances policy initiatives aimed at strengthening consumer rights and protections, and develops public education programs to help District residents understand their rights and avoid fraud.

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Ethan Weiland is a Research Associate at The Consumer Federation of America, where he leverages data – conducting statistical analysis, designing surveys, creating interactive maps – to advance the consumer interest. He works across all issue areas in collaboration with advocates and the America Saves/Veteran Saves team. Ethan is a firm believer in the power of data science to inform policies that prioritize consumers, not big corporations. Prior to joining CFA in 2024, Ethan earned his M.S. in Applied Statistics and M.A. in Sociology from Indiana University Bloomington, where he taught Introduction to Sociology. Ethan is also a graduate of The Ohio State University, where he earned his B.A. in Sociology and Philosophy. He lives in Maryland with his partner, Sarah, and cat, Fish.

Susan Weinstock is the CEO of the Consumer Federation of America. Previously, she was vice president of financial resilience programming at AARP, responsible for the overall strategic direction of AARP programs and education competencies to improve the financial security of persons age 50 and older. Prior to AARP, Susan worked at the U.S. Department of the Treasury. As the director of the office of consumer policy, she focused on emerging trends and the growing use of technology and data in the provision of consumer financial products and services. Previously, she directed The Pew Charitable Trusts' Consumer Banking Project, which advocates for policies that protect American consumers and their money. As the lead on Pew's efforts to improve the safety and transparency of consumer banking products, she directed a team of researchers who identified current practices and consumer needs to inform and promote policy solutions. Prior to Pew, Susan was the financial reform campaign director at the Consumer Federation of America, leading media, coalition, public education, and grassroots efforts to promote consumer financial protection in the Dodd-Frank Act. She has more than 20 years of advocacy, communications, research, grassroots and legislative experience working to protect consumers.

Herb Weisbaum, The ConsumerMan, is one of America's leading consumer journalists. He's been protecting and empowering consumers nationwide for more than 45 years. Herb is a Contributing Editor at Checkbook.org, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping people find quality service and fair prices. He also hosts Checkbook's Consumerpedia podcast. A five-time Emmy winner, Herb has covered the consumer beat for CBS News, NBC News, and The TODAY Show. He was the first recipient of CFA's Betty Furness Consumer Media Award. Herb's ConsumerMan.com website is loaded with helpful information.

Marceline White serves as the Executive Director of Economic Action Maryland (formerly Maryland Consumer Rights Coalition) where she leads the coalition's 12,000 supporters in promoting economic rights, equity, and housing justice throughout Maryland. Marceline has led the coalition's efforts in passing five first-in-the-nation bills related to for-profit colleges, medical debt, and debtors prisons. She's authored three first-in-the-nation state-level reports on for-profit colleges, debt settlement, and debt collection practices and served as the co-chair of the Consumer Protection committee of former AG Frosh's COVID-19 Task Force. In 2020, Marceline received the inaugural Woodside Award from the CASH Campaign, given to an individual for their work on addressing systemic economic equity issues. In 2017, Marceline won the National Association of Consumer Advocates' "Advocate of the Year" award for her work advancing economic rights and consumer protection at the state level. In 2017, Marceline also received an Excellence in Advocacy award from the tri-state Common Cents Conference, as well as the Lorraine Sheehan Award for Excellence in Advocacy from the Community Development Network (with the CASH Campaign of Maryland) for their work ending predatory payday loans in Maryland. In 2014, Marceline won a national award for best community film from the National Community Reinvestment Coalition for her work as producer of the consumer education film "Stealing Trust". She has served as president of the board of directors of the Consumer Federation of America and as a member of the board of the National Community Reinvestment Coalition. She holds a Masters of Public and International Affairs from the University of Pittsburgh and a Bachelor's in Journalism from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Jackie Wong serves as the chief visionary and strategist for NRDC's advocacy to fight climate change and advance clean energy. In particular, Wong leads NRDC's work at both the federal and subnational levels in four critical sectors: Power, Transportation, Buildings, and Industrial. Before assuming this role, Wong led NRDC's Industrial division and focused on the decarbonization of the industrial sector, the responsible deployment of green hydrogen in targeted applications, the mitigation of non-CO2 greenhouse gases, and the development and commercialization of emerging technologies. Previously, she was a senior advisor for energy and climate change at the White House during the Obama administration. In that capacity, she focused on securing the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol to address hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), reforming the federal coal program, and ensuring protections in the Outer Continental Shelf. Wong also has experience working on international clean energy cooperation at the U.S. Department of Energy and in the private sector at Bain Capital and McKinsey & Company. Wong holds a bachelor's degree in economics and English from Yale University and an MPA with a concentration in economics and public policy from Princeton University. She is based in Washington, D.C.

Edward Yim currently leads a team of attorneys and experts providing pro bono legal and technical assistance to support community-led clean energy deployment for local and state governments, tribes, territories, and nonprofits. Edward has worked in the private sector and served at every level of government as a policy expert and legal counsel on clean energy and resilient infrastructure. At the U.S. Department of Energy, Edward supervised program guidance and compliance for IRA-funded home energy rebate programs designed to reduce household energy costs and improve resilience. For the government of the District of Columbia, he led the development of D.C.'s energy plans, including the initial Solar for All plan and studies aimed at lowering home energy costs and mitigating wholesale market price impacts. He also led interventions in key utility proceedings to help design effective low-income discount programs and advance non-wire and non-pipe alternative investments. As legal counsel to a Pennsylvania legislative committee on energy, Edward drafted legislation to protect Pennsylvania residents and utility ratepayers.