



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2006-19

June 9, 2006

Contact: OMB Communications, (202) 395-7254.

OMB Director Portman Names Jeffrey A. Rosen as General Counsel

WASHINGTON – Today, Director Rob Portman moved rapidly to fill a top position in the agency by announcing Jeffrey A. Rosen as the new General Counsel and Senior Policy Advisor for the White House Office of Management and Budget. Mr. Rosen currently serves as the General Counsel for the U.S. Department of Transportation.

“Jeff is a distinguished lawyer with a proven record of legal expertise both in his public service and private practice,” said Portman. “His steady and insightful counsel will be a tremendous asset to OMB, and I welcome him as a key addition to my senior leadership team.”

Jeffrey A. Rosen

After being nominated by President Bush and confirmed unanimously by the Senate, Jeffrey A. Rosen was sworn in as the General Counsel of the U.S. Department of Transportation on December 15, 2003. As that Department’s Chief Legal Officer, he had final authority within the DOT to resolve all legal questions arising within or referred to the Department. The General Counsel oversees the activities of more than 400 lawyers in the Transportation Department and its operating administrations. He also had responsibility for DOT’s regulatory program, enforcement and litigation activities, legal issues relating to international activities involving transportation, coordination and clearance of legislative matters, and he acted as counsel to Secretary Norm Mineta. At DOT, Mr. Rosen has testified on behalf of the Administration before various committees of Congress on ten occasions. In addition, he has served as the Secretary’s designated member of the Amtrak Board of Directors.

Before joining the Department of Transportation, Mr. Rosen was a senior partner in the Washington, D.C. office of the national law firm of Kirkland & Ellis LLP, where he also served on the firm’s management committee. He is a member of the D.C. Bar, as well as the bars of the U.S. Supreme Court, U.S. Courts of Appeal for the District of Columbia, Federal, Third, Fourth, Sixth, and Eleventh Circuits; and the U.S. District Courts for the District of Columbia, Eastern District of Michigan, and Northern District of Illinois.

During his more than 21 years at Kirkland & Ellis, his practice principally involved complex business litigation matters involving contracts, antitrust, securities, RICO, business torts, government enforcement actions and product liability, including class actions. He was previously involved in litigation before federal and state courts in more than 20 states, including jury trials, bench evidentiary hearings, arbitrations and appellate arguments. Until joining DOT, he also was an adjunct professor at Georgetown University Law Center.

Mr. Rosen graduated from Northwestern University, where he received a B.A. with Highest Distinction in economics in 1979. He then enrolled in Harvard Law School and graduated magna cum laude in 1982. Since then, he has been a long-time resident of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

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