# Politics

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## The Passion of McCain-Feingold

The painful death of campaign finance legislation

REFORM

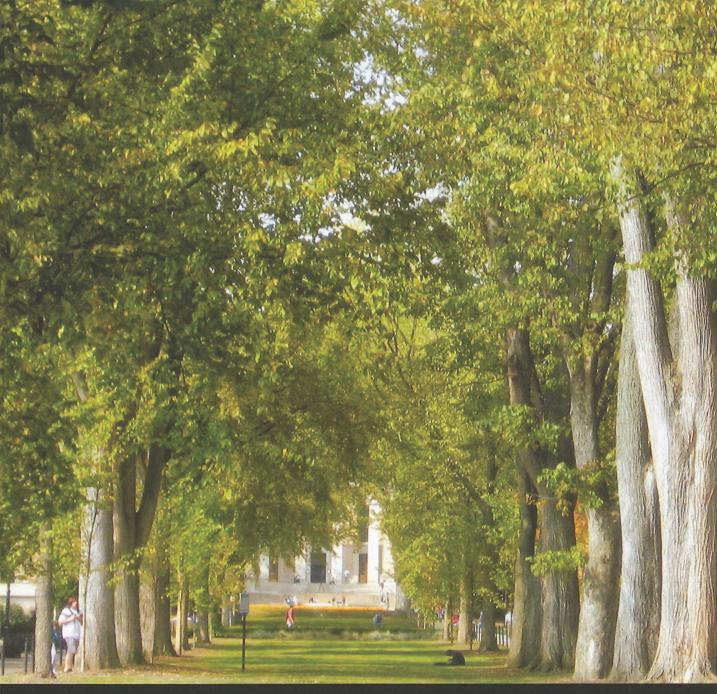
INSIDE:

30 Years of Campaigns & Elections

Redistricting: The Ten Year Storm

The Pennsylvania Influencers





## Pennsylvania Influencers

BY ALEX ROARTY AND SEAN COIT

The Pennsylvania Influencers list is made up of the Commonwealth's top business, legal and civic leaders, whose opinions are respected by peers and elected officials alike. The writers consulted with a wide variety of geographically and politically diverse individuals who helped identify these 100 people as the "insiders who insiders turn to when in need." The group is a mix of donors, organizers, confidants and consultants. These are the people whose opinions matter in the Keystone State.

Alex Roarty has covered politics in Pennsylvania for a variety of media outlets, including a stint as PolitickerPA's Harrisburg correspondent. He is currently an editor and staff writer for PoliticsPA, an online publication that focuses on the behind-the-scenes action in Harrisburg and for campaigns statewide. He put together the Republican list. Sean Coit, a graduate of St. Joseph's University, is an assistant editor and writer for PoliticsPA and has been published in the Philadelphia *Inquirer*. He put together the Democratic list.

#### PENNSYLVANIA INFLUENCERS

### TOP 10 DEMOCRATS

#### David L. Cohen

Cohen is first an executive VP at Comcast but is really much more. In November, Philadelphia Magazine said Cohen "wears more hats and wields more power than any Philadelphian in recent history." Tied to Rendell, Obama, the University of Pennsylvania, and others, Cohen knows and influences everyone.

#### **John Estev**

An attorney with Ballad Spahr, Estey is Rendell's former chief of staff and chairman of the Philadelphia Regional Port Authority. He's also out front for his law school classmate's campaign for governor (Dan Onorato). Estey's presence at Ballard Spahr ensures the firm's continued influence.

#### **Neil Oxman**

If you're running a statewide campaign in Pennsylvania, Oxman is the first person you call for advice on how to do it.

#### Ken Jarin

An attorney at Ballard Spahr, Jarin is also the chief labor negotiator for the Commonwealth and the city of Philadelphia and a must-know for anyone with political ambitions in Philadelphia or statewide.

#### **Matt Casey**

One of the most talented trial lawyers in Pennsylvania at his firm, Ross Feller Casey, Casey is young, extremely sharp, and connected. Plus, he is a very close adviser to his brother, Sen. Bob Casey.

#### **Shanin Specter**

A founding partner of Kline Specter, Shanin Specter is one of the most successful lawyers in the country and an opinion maker among Pennsylvania's powerful trial lawyers. He is also the closest adviser to his father, Sen. Arlen Specter.

#### **Bob Brady**

He's not on this list as a Member of Congress, but rather as the head of the Philadelphia Democratic Party. Little happens in Philadelphia politics without Brady's knowledge and approval.

#### Alan Kessler

Rendell named Kessler finance chair of the Pennsylvania Democratic Party, and with good reason. When Democrats need to raise money in Pennsylvania, Kessler is the first person called. Kessler is the chairman of the U.S. Postal Service Board of Governors, and is known as a strong advocate for clients.

#### Mary Isenhour

The Democratic Party executive director is as influential as she is well-liked throughout the commonwealth.

#### T.J. Rooney

As the Democratic chairman in a state with a Democratic governor, Democratic state House chamber, two Democratic U.S. senators and 12 Democratic U.S. House members, Rooney is a guy who knows everyone.

#### CHIP artners 110

We congratulate our partner

Richard W. Hayden

for being named one of the

Top 50 Influential Democrats in Pennsylvania

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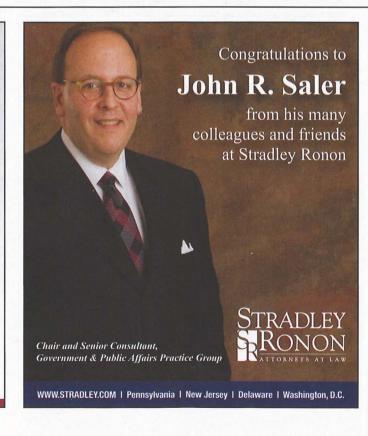
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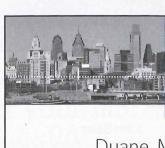
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on being named one of the top

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