



MATT SCHLAPP

Matt Schlapp has more than twenty years of government, corporate and political experience and is a principal at Cove Strategies, a boutique government and public relations firm he and his wife, Mercy Schlapp, founded in 2009.

Matt's executive branch experience began in 2001 in President George W. Bush's first administration where he became a deputy assistant to the president and his political director. During his tenure at the White House, Schlapp advised the President, the Vice President, members of the cabinet, senior White House staff and maintained extensive contact with Members of Congress and federal agencies. Prior to working at the White House, Matt built a successful career on Capitol Hill beginning in 1994 and working for five years as a press secretary, chief of staff and campaign manager. He transitioned from the Hill to the presidential election in 2000 in Austin, where he served as a regional political director. Following the 2004 campaign cycle, Matt joined Koch Industries as Vice President of Federal Affairs at Koch Companies Public Sector, LLC. In this role he directed major federal public policy strategies on environmental and energy policies, financial markets, legal reform, and international and domestic tax issues.

Matt is a Contributor to The Hill, and hosts a weekly radio show called CPAC 365 with his wife Mercy on Sirius XM Patriot 125. He appears often as a political commentator on Fox News, MSNBC, NBC, CNN, Fox Business, PBS, ABC, and CBS. Matt is currently the chairman of the American Conservative Union and the American Conservative Union Foundation, which is known for its annual conference, CPAC. He currently serves on the board of The Boys and Girls Clubs of America, and on the Eisenhower Memorial Advisory Committee. He previous board service includes; the National Association of Manufacturers, The St. John Vianney Theological Seminary in Denver, The Hugo Wall School of Urban and Public Administration at Wichita State University, The University of Kansas Washington Intern Program, and The U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Political Affairs Committee.

A native of Wichita, Kansas, Matt earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Notre Dame and a master's degree in public policy from Wichita State University. He and his wife, Mercy, met while working at the White House, where she served as the Director of Specialty Media. Matt and Mercy have five young daughters.