

**George J. Terwilliger III**

**Curriculum Vitae**

**2025**

**Executive Summary**

Mr. Terwilliger's legal career spanned 46 years. He first spent fifteen years in the US Department of Justice, eight years as a career front-line prosecutor, then seven years as a presidential appointee, by two presidents. He left with the change in Administration in 1993 while serving as Acting Attorney General. In these roles Mr. Terwilliger conducted, supervised and reviewed numerous high-profile investigations, litigation and policy initiatives involving a wide range of matters including national security, regulatory and policy issues and as Deputy Attorney General managed the operations of the entire Justice Department and its agencies.

In thirty years of private practice Mr. Terwilliger advised US and foreign companies and their CEO's, General Counsels, Boards and Board Committees on matters of considerable consequence. As a nationally recognized senior Washington counselor, he also has often worked at the intersection of law and politics in matters of national interest. He was a lead lawyer for the Bush-Cheney campaign in the 2000 Florida recount, collaborating directly with former Secretary James Baker on litigation and making regular media appearances on behalf of the campaign. His representations have also included many significant political figures in matters of great controversy. These have included members of the House and Senate as well as Cabinet officers and senior White House advisors. Mr. Terwilliger also served as counsel to a Senate Committee investigating vote fraud allegations in a Senate election and as counsel to the National Gambling Commission.

In addition to this work, Mr. Terwilliger conducted litigation and internal investigations for corporate clients on a national and international basis, conducting inquiries in Europe, the Middle East, Central America and Asia, as well as domestically in the U.S.

## **Background Details**

### *Public Service*

During his tenure as a federal prosecutor, Mr. Terwilliger worked hand-in-glove with all major federal law enforcement agencies on matters of considerable significance. These included his work as the lead prosecutor of three members of a Middle East terrorist group that smuggled an improvised explosive device into the United States in 1986, believed to be the first such instance on record. He supervised one of the first prosecutions in federal court to use DNA evidence to convict a kidnapper who assaulted a college student repeatedly during interstate travel. Mr. Terwilliger was one of the youngest prosecutors assigned to the Major Crimes Division of the US Attorney's office in Washington on the day President Reagan was shot by John Hinckley and was assigned a number of responsibilities in response to the shooting that day, including to assist in preparing the search warrant for Hinckley's Washington hotel room.

While serving as United States Attorney in Vermont appointed by President Reagan and confirmed by the Senate, Mr. Terwilliger led several major initiatives designed to combat burgeoning drug trafficking and drug use. These included both law enforcement and wider community initiatives including a multi-disciplinary program begun in a State House proceeding with participation by community leaders, medical professionals, the Governor, US Senators, and state legislators. He also served on the US Attorney General's Advisory Committee concerning DOJ policy and operations. During the Persian Gulf Crisis and subsequent war to retake Kuwait territory from Iraq, Mr. Terwilliger was detailed to the Department of Justice where he served as liaison to the National Security Council on matters of terrorism and national security while also supervising nationwide law enforcement and counter-terrorism programs for the Office of the Deputy Attorney General. While in this senior position at DOJ Washington, Mr. Terwilliger also directed the federal investigation of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International.

Mr. Terwilliger was subsequently appointed by President George H.W. Bush and confirmed by the Senate to the Deputy Attorney General, where he became the manager of all Department of Justice operations, supervising the 93 United States Attorneys, the DOJ litigating Divisions, the FBI, DEA as well as numerous other DOJ offices, boards and divisions. He led an initiative that created the federal government's first "fusion" intelligence center where the intelligence functions of several federal agencies were joined to combat major transnational

criminal organizations. He concluded his public service by serving as Acting Attorney General at the close of the Bush I presidential administration.

### *Private Practice*

After leaving government, Mr. Terwilliger quickly became involved in litigation and other matters of public concern involving political affairs. He represented the RNC in litigation concerning demonstrator access to the 1996 convention in San Diego and served as counsel to the RNC rules committee for that convention. In that same period, he was engaged by then Senate Rules Chairman, John Warner, to serve as outside counsel to the Committee investigation of vote fraud allegations in the initial election of Mary Landrieu to the Senate. Mr. Terwilliger assembled a team of present and former FBI investigators and, under the aegis of Senators Warner and Wendell Ford, conducted an investigation and hearings in New Orleans concerning the allegation. He also served as counsel to the National Gambling Commission, which conducted hearings around the country concerning various aspects of the gambling industry and subsequently issued a public report.

In law practice, Mr. Terwilliger's clients in both civil and criminal matters included US and foreign financial institutions, major energy producers, international communications companies and original equipment manufacturers. He led teams of lawyers in matters of investigations, litigation and legislative inquiries. In his work for corporate clients, Mr. Terwilliger also conducted internal investigations on a global basis, often navigating the intricacies of foreign laws governing outside investigations. He also assisted major US and foreign companies in the design and implementation of programs to achieve compliance with US law and regulations, regularly working with C Suite executives, corporate boards and committees.

Because of his experience with law enforcement and credibility with law enforcement agencies at the federal, state and local level, Mr. Terwilliger assisted several presidential campaigns as to law enforcement policy matters and assisted in securing endorsements from rank-and-file law enforcement agencies for those candidates. He often appeared as a surrogate for candidates as well as providing invited testimony to congressional committees on matters of law enforcement and national security policies and operations.

Mr. Terwilliger includes among his individual clients a former Attorney General subject to intense DOJ investigation, a senior White House advisor in connection with the Valerie Plame investigation, a Senator in a Senate Ethics investigation concerning private investments connected to federal programs, an up-and-coming member of the House charged with official funds and campaign spending violations, a former White House Chief of Staff in various investigations and other similar clients in other non-public matters.

Mr. Terwilliger continues to practice as well as participate in other business and political matters of interest. He is the vice-chair appointed by Virginia Governor Youngkin to the Board of the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources. He lives in rural Virginia, some sixty miles from Washington DC, where he has investment interests in a farm-to-table restaurant and an upscale rural bakery, as well as being a strategic investor assisting a company developing a highly efficient and clean burning internal combustion engine. He also manages his family's Pleasant Vale Farm, raising beef cattle and hogs for commercial sale on 500 acres that was originally settled and farmed by English colonists in 1770.