

BEN GIELOW, ESQ.

WORK EXPERIENCE

GENERAL COUNSEL AND SENIOR GOVERNMENT RELATIONS MANAGER

The Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International (AUVSI)

Arlington, VA

(January 2011 to Present)

Primary in-house legal counsel involving all issues related to the operation of AUVSI, which is an international, multi-million dollar trade association, with 30 full-time employees. As Government Relations Manager, I am responsible for creating and implementing the association's international advocacy policy, including integrating unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) into the civilian airspace. My duties include:

- Providing legal advice to AUVSI's Board of Directors and AUVSI's President and CEO
- Monitoring U.S. and international legislation and industry regulations on all issues affecting the air, ground, and maritime unmanned systems industry, both military and civilian
- Drafting proposed legislative language and commenting on official rulemaking
- Participating on an FAA Aviation Rulemaking Committee Working Group
- Participating on a National Academies of Science Transportation Research Board Panel
- Writing weekly news articles for trade publications and online media
- Meeting with and educating Members of Congress, executive branch officials, and their staff on the importance of unmanned systems
- Forging and maintaining industry coalitions
- Creating grassroots industry advocacy strategies for our 27 chapters
- Staffing AUVSI's dedicated UAS Advocacy Committee, and its subcommittees
- Reviewing day-to-day legal documents and ensuring compliance with antitrust laws
- Reviewing and drafting internal policies and procedures

Frequent public speaker at legislative and regulatory hearings, conferences, and events around the country on unmanned aircraft, including safety and privacy related issues. Frequently published in trade journals, and have given over 200 television, print, and radio interviews, and quoted in numerous publication, including: CBS This Morning, The New York Times, USA Today, Fox Business, Washington Post, Associated Press, Dayton Daily News, Forbes, Bloomberg, Politico, The Hill, Popular Science, C-SPAN, Washington Journal, CNN, Air Force Times, Fox News, Capitol Insider (multiple times), BusinessWeek, San Francisco Chronicle, Breaking Defense, Reuters, LA Times, CBS DC, ABC DC, Knoxville News Sentinel, Portland Herald, Government Matters, and many more.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

Congressman Vernon J. Ehlers (MI-03)

U.S. House of Representatives

Washington, D.C.

(September 2005 to 2011)

Primary adviser on all legislative issues involving transportation, defense, homeland security, judiciary, intelligence, foreign affairs, tax, trade, veterans affairs, Great Lakes, and agriculture. My duties included:

- Staffing the Congressman in his senior position on the **House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee**, including the **Subcommittees on Aviation, Coast Guard, and Water Resources and Environment** (this encompasses work on the FAA reauthorization bill, the multi-year surface transportation bill (Safetea-Lu), and the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) bills)
- Primary staffer for the **House Aerospace Caucus** and the **House General Aviation Caucus**; organizing caucus events, including briefings and receptions; coordinating with industry representatives and trade associations; disseminating relevant information to

- caucus Members and staff; and drafting caucus letters and legislation
- Handling the following annual appropriations bills, including Member project requests: Defense; Transportation; Homeland Security; Commerce, Justice, Science; State and Foreign Operations; Military Construction and Veterans Affairs; Energy and Water; Agriculture; and the War and Emergency Supplementals
- Drafting legislation, Floor statements, testimony, and speeches
- Providing voting recommendations and summaries of bills and amendments
- Office liaison to the White House and executive agencies, including the Departments of Defense, Transportation, State, Justice, Treasury, Homeland Security, and Commerce
- Responding and meeting with lobbyists and constituents on all assigned issues
- Accompanying and briefing the Congressman on official fact-finding missions

CIVILIAN LEGAL AID

The State Judge Advocate General (JAG)

Office of the General Counsel

Michigan National Guard

Lansing, Michigan

(January to April 2005)

The Office of the General Counsel supervises contracting, personnel law administration, and the administration of military justice for Michigan's three air bases, two Army posts, and over 50 armories. As a civilian legal aid in this office, my duties included:

- Providing legal opinions for the General Counsel in addition to advising senior military leaders on legal issues, statutory construction, and Army regulations
- Providing direct legal aid and counsel for servicemembers and their families, including answering legal services inquiries, processing conscientious objector applications, filing claims, and responding to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests

PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR

Proulx Professional Research

Brookfield, Wisconsin

(June to August 2001)

As a state-licensed private investigator for a large private investigation firm, my duties included:

- Performing comprehensive video surveillance
- Conducting background investigations and researching public records

EDUCATION

THOMAS M. COOLEY LAW SCHOOL, LANSING, MICHIGAN

Juris Doctor, *cum laude* (2005)

OHIO UNIVERSITY, ATHENS, OHIO

Bachelor of Arts in History Pre-Law; minor in Philosophy (2002)

BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS

- STATE OF MARYLAND (2005)
- DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA (2009)
- UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT (2010)
- COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA CORPORATE COUNSEL (2011)