

Michael Chertoff
Chairman & Founder

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Michael Chertoff is Chairman & Founder of the Chertoff Group, a security and risk management advisory firm with offices in Washington, D.C., New York, and Menlo Park. He is the Chairman of the Board of Directors of BAE Systems, Inc., the U.S.-based subsidiary of BAE Systems plc. Judge Chertoff is also senior of counsel at Covington & Burling and is the Co-Chair on the [Global Commission on the Stability of Cyberspace](#)

Most recently, Mr. Chertoff served as Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. As Secretary, he led a 218,000 person department with a budget of \$50 billion. Mr. Chertoff developed and implemented border security and immigration policy; promulgated homeland security regulation; and spearheaded a national cyber security strategy. He also served periodically on the National Security and Homeland Security Councils, and on the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States.

Prior to his appointment to the Cabinet, Mr. Chertoff served from 2003 to 2005 on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. Before becoming a federal judge, Mr. Chertoff was the Assistant Attorney General for the Criminal Division of the U.S. Department of Justice. In that position, he oversaw the investigation of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, and formed the Enron Task Force, which produced more than 20 convictions, including those of CEOs Jeffrey Skilling and Kenneth Lay.

Mr. Chertoff's career includes more than a decade as a federal prosecutor, including service as U.S. Attorney for the District of New Jersey, First Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of New Jersey, and Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York. As a federal prosecutor, Mr. Chertoff investigated and personally prosecuted significant cases of political corruption, organized crime, and corporate fraud.

From 1994-2001, Mr. Chertoff represented major corporations and individuals in numerous white collar investigations and trials. Among other matters, he successfully represented the nation's largest hospital company in a four year, multi-jurisdictional criminal and civil investigation, represented major corporations in corruption scandals, and obtained acquittals at trial for individual criminal defendants.

Mr. Chertoff has received numerous awards including the Department of Justice Henry E. Petersen Memorial Award (2006); the Department of Justice John Marshall Award for Trial of litigation (1987); NAACP Benjamin Hooks Award for Distinguished Service (2007); European Institute Transatlantic Leadership Award (2008); and two honorary doctorates. His trial experiences have been featured in over half a dozen books and many news articles.

Education

- Harvard Law School, J.D., 1978
 - *magna cum laude*
- Harvard College, B.A., 1975
 - *magna cum laude*

Clerkships

- Hon. William Brennan, Jr., U.S. Supreme Court, 1979-1980
- Hon. Murray Gurfein, U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit, 1978-1979

Bar Admissions

- District of Columbia
- New York
- New Jersey