

Gephardt Government Affairs Expands Team

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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(WASHINGTON, DC) – The Gephardt Group Government Affairs today announced that Janice M. O’Connell, Joel Freedman and Catherine Goode will join the firm. Firm President and CEO and former House Majority Leader Richard Gephardt added, “Since the Gephardt Group Government Affairs’ doors opened in 2007, we have been uniquely-positioned to help clients address policy and legislative challenges. Janice, Joel and Catherine will fit nicely with our team and will complement our deep policy expertise.”

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“Janice’s 30 years experience in the Senate and knowledge of international economics and foreign policy legislation cannot be matched. Joel brings over 30 years experience in specialized insurance, legislative and regulatory affairs from the country’s most highly-regarded financial institutions. With Catherine’s background in public affairs, our team is helping clients communicate effectively in Washington,” said Tom O’Donnell, Managing Partner and firm co-founder.

Janice M. O’Connell. As a Senior Vice President, Ms. O’Connell will oversee international clients. Ms. O’Connell most recently served at Hogan & Hartson as a Senior International Advisor and concurrently as a Senior Advisor with the strategic consulting firm Stonebridge International, LLC. Ms. O’Connell brings 30 years experience in international economic and foreign policy legislation, having served as a professional member of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations and Banking Committees in roles such as the Senior Foreign Policy and National Security Advisor to Senator Christopher J. Dodd (D-Ct.), Chairman on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. She is widely recognized for her particular expertise in U.S.-Latin American relations.

Joel Freedman. As a Consultant, Mr. Freeman will oversee the firm’s financial services clients. Mr. Freedman brings over 30 years experience specialized in insurance, legislative and regulatory affairs. Mr. Freedman most recently served for 25 years as Senior Vice President, Associate General Counsel and Director of Government Affairs for The Hartford Financial Services Group, Inc. Prior to that position, he was The Hartford’s first Director of Federal Affairs in Washington, DC. Prior to joining The Hartford, Mr. Freedman was an Assistant Vice President at Connecticut General, and then, CIGNA, for four years. He also served as General Counsel of the Insurance Association of Connecticut for four years. Mr. Freedman began his career at a Hartford law firm and was counsel to the Connecticut Judicial Department. He earned both his bachelor’s and juris doctor degrees from the University of Connecticut.

Catherine Goode. As a Vice President, Ms. Goode will oversee strategic communications and join the international affairs team. Ms. Goode most recently served as a Director in the international practice at Quinn Gillespie & Associates. Ms. Goode began her career at the nationally-recognized crisis communications firm, Robinson Lerer & Montgomery in New York. Ms. Goode earned her master's degree at Georgetown University and bachelor's at McGill University in Montreal, Canada, and she is fluent in French.

The Gephardt Group Government Affairs was founded in 2007 by former House Majority Leader Richard Gephardt and clients include leading Fortune 50 companies. The Gephardt Group Government Affairs is a consulting firm focused on helping clients develop political and public policy strategies. You can learn more about us at our website: www.gephardtgroup.com.