

# John R. Saler

## Chair, Government & Public Affairs

Philadelphia, PA  
Washington, DC  
Harrisburg, PA

215.564.8709

jsaler@stradley.com



John Saler provides government and media relations services to Fortune 500 companies, privately held firms and nonprofit organizations. His work for clients includes legislative lobbying, regulatory lobbying, business development and crisis management. John's clients span numerous industries, including telecommunications, financial services, utilities, pharmaceuticals, health care, insurance, real estate, construction, publishing, gaming and information technology. He is a registered lobbyist in Pennsylvania and Washington, D.C.

His wide array of credentials in the fields of politics, media, finance and civic affairs, along with his distinguished career as a campaign strategist, fundraiser and political commentator render him a unique asset to our clients.

John's political involvement spans decades and includes associations with numerous campaigns. He has vigorously supported and advised a diverse group of elected officials including governors, senators, representatives, attorneys general, mayors and two U.S. presidents. John has been ranked as one of the "Top 50 Influential Democrats in Pennsylvania" by *Politics Magazine*, and was also recognized by *Philadelphia Magazine* as one of its "People to Watch." In 1994, John was a candidate for Lieutenant Governor of Pennsylvania. Applying his extensive political experience and knowledge, he also provides political analysis and commentary for television and radio news shows, as well as public affairs programs.

John also has an impressive and diverse background in media, journalism and entertainment. A 1980 graduate of George Washington University, he began his professional career at the *Washington Post* as a Metropolitan Desk staff member. John then moved into television as an anchor/reporter and talk show host for ABC network affiliates in Virginia. He eventually moved to New York to become Vice President of Motion Picture and Television Development for The Susskind Company, where he was responsible for project acquisitions, contract negotiations and casting. John Saler added yet another dimension to his career when he entered the financial services industry as Senior Vice President of Government Relations for Karr-Barth Associates, a unit of AXA-Equitable. There, he oversaw government finance operations, placing investments for closely held companies and pension funds.

In 1996, John returned to the entertainment industry and co-produced a feature film as the Executive Vice President of East West Film Partners, Inc., a California-based motion picture production and distribution company. "Good Luck" is a

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### FOCUS

Government & Public Affairs  
Energy & Regulatory  
Environmental  
Real Estate  
Special Situations

### EDUCATION

B.A., George Washington University

### MEMBERSHIPS

The Academy of Music Board of Trustees  
The Academy of Music Anniversary  
Concert and Ball Co-Chair (2012)  
Pennsylvania Association for  
Government Relations  
Philadelphia International Airport  
Advisory Board (Former Chairman and  
Board Member)  
Philadelphia Orchestra Association  
Board of Directors  
The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia  
Corporate Council  
Washington Representatives



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critically acclaimed comedy, starring Gregory Hines, Vincent D’Onofrio and James Earl Jones.

His distinguished career has earned him numerous awards and citations, including the Philadelphia Liberty Bell Award for civic involvement, the Equitable National Leader Corps Award, the Project Rainbow Service Award, the Order of Kentucky Colonel’s Citation for public service, the Sigma Delta Chi Award for a co-authored news series in the Washington Post and the American Cancer Society Merit Award.

*Not a member of the bar.*

## RECOGNITIONS

- *Politics Magazine*, “Top 50 Influential Democrats in Pennsylvania”
- *Philadelphia Magazine*, “People to Watch”
- Philadelphia Liberty Bell Award for civic involvement
- Equitable National Leader Corps Award
- Project Rainbow Service Award
- Order of Kentucky Colonel’s Citation for public service
- Sigma Delta Chi Award for a co-authored news series in the *Washington Post*
- American Cancer Society Merit Award
- Who’s Who in America
- Who’s Who in American Politics

## IN THE COMMUNITY

John currently serves as a member of the Philadelphia Orchestra Association board of directors and the Academy of Music board of trustees. He is also a member of the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) Corporate Council, a group of civic leaders who act as public ambassadors for CHOP and are committed to advancing the hospital’s research, teaching, clinical priorities, innovative research initiatives and programmatic activities. John served on the Philadelphia International Airport Advisory Board for a total of 20 years, eight of which he was chairman of the board.

John also served as a commissioner and executive committee member of the Pennsylvania Public Television Network (PPTN) Commission, nominated by the Governor and unanimously confirmed by the Pennsylvania Senate. In addition, he completed his tenure as a member of the Wawa Welcome America board of directors and executive committee, as well as serving as finance chair of the Nutter Inaugural Committee.

John was a charter member of the Democratic Leadership Council board of directors and as a commissioner of the Philadelphia Criminal Justice Coordinating Commission. He also was a board member of the Drueding Center/Project Rainbow, a transitional housing organization for homeless women and their children.

