

WWEMA VIRTUAL 47TH WASHINGTON FORUM SPEAKER BIOS

Martin Durbin, President, Global Energy Institute, U.S. Chamber of Commerce



Martin (Marty) Durbin is President of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Global Energy Institute (GEI). Durbin leads GEI's efforts to build support for meaningful energy action through policy development, education, and advocacy, making it a go-to voice for commonsense energy solutions.

Previously, Durbin was the Executive Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer at the American Petroleum Institute (API), where he integrated API's broad advocacy capabilities in pursuit of the organization's and the industry's public policy priorities. He returned to API after serving for nearly three years as President and CEO of America's Natural Gas Alliance (ANGA), representing North America's leading independent natural gas exploration and production companies. There he oversaw ANGA's market expansion efforts with industry, government, and consumer stakeholders. At the end of 2015, he guided ANGA's ultimate combination into API to better achieve the mission of both organizations.

Before joining ANGA, Durbin served as Executive Vice President of Government Affairs at API. Subsequently, Durbin served as Vice President of Federal Relations at the American Chemistry Council (ACC). Prior to the merger of the ACC and the American Plastics Council (APC) in 2002, Durbin directed Federal and International Affairs for APC, serving as a liaison to sister organizations in Canada, Europe, Japan, Mexico, and South America. Earlier in his career he served as a legislative assistant for Sen. Alan J. Dixon (D-IL) and for Rep. Rick Boucher (D-VA).

Durbin serves as Chairman of the Board for A Wider Circle, a grassroots nonprofit organization dedicated to ending poverty for one individual and one family after another. He received a B.A. in government and politics from the University of Maryland, College Park. He is married and has three children.

Adam Krantz, CEO, National Association of Clean Water Agencies



Adam Krantz is currently CEO of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA), where he has served in a number of positions since May 2001. Mr. Krantz directs an unparalleled team in Washington, DC, that advocates on behalf of the nation's public clean water agencies on an array of regulatory, legislative, legal, and communication initiatives geared toward ensuring sustainable clean water agencies and a move toward the Utility of the Future.

Prior to his position at NACWA, Mr. Krantz was an Associate Editor/Reporter at Inside Washington Publishers where his work focused on covering the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's and Congress's national water quality initiatives. Before entering the environmental arena, Mr. Krantz worked as an attorney in the Washington, D.C. law firm, Dickstein, Shapiro, Morin & Oshinsky on litigation matters.

Mr. Krantz served three years as the President of the Federal Water Quality Association and also served as the first Vice President of the Clean Water America Alliance (now the U.S. Water Alliance). Mr. Krantz has degrees from Columbia University in New York City, the American University's Washington College of Law in Washington, D.C., and the University of Chicago. He is a member of both the District of Columbia and Maryland Bar.

John Manzella, Founder, Manzella Trade Communications



John Manzella, Founder, Manzella Trade Communications, is a world-recognized speaker, author of several books, and a nationally syndicated columnist on global business, trade policy, labor, and the latest economic trends. His valuable insight, analysis, and strategic direction have been vital to many of the world's largest corporations, associations, and universities preparing for the business, economic, and political challenges ahead.

John's views have appeared in *The Wall Street Journal*, *New York Times*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Bloomberg*, *NPR*, *Newsday*, *Houston Chronicle*, *Denver Post*, and other publications in China, Singapore, Mexico, and across the globe.

His books include *Global America: Understanding Global and Economic Trends and How To Ensure Competitiveness*, *Grasping Globalization: It's Impact and Your Corporate Response*, and *Mexico & NAFTA: The Real Impact*, among others.

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[John Manzella, Founder, Manzella Trade Communications \(continued\)](#)

John is founder of both the ManzellaReport.com, a premier source for global business and economic analysis, and Manzella Trade Communications, Inc., a public affairs, publishing, and consulting firm. He also is chair of the Upstate New York District Export Council, a position appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Commerce; Chief Strategy Officer of Ignition Life Solutions, a global enterprise risk management consulting firm; former Executive Director of goTRADE New York, an advocacy coalition sponsored by the Washington, D.C.-based Business Roundtable; and former President and CEO of World Trade Center BN.

[Michael O'Brien, Assistant Vice President, Advocacy, National Association of Manufacturers](#)



Michael O'Brien is Assistant Vice President, Advocacy for the National Association of Manufacturers, the largest industrial trade association in the United States. He is responsible for grassroots and field advocacy programs, issue advocacy campaigns, third-party engagement strategies, and other member services. He previously served as Director of Public Affairs for the Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM). He started his career in media, working for The Hill and NBC News, and is a graduate of the University of Michigan.

[Eric Sapirstein, Founder and President, ENS Resources, Inc.](#)



Eric Sapirstein founded ENS Resources, Inc., in 1986, after leadership positions at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Washington-based consulting firms. For more than three decades, his firm has focused on legislative and regulatory affairs consulting for public and private sector interests engaged in water sector policy issues. His work on behalf of local and regional governments as well as national organizations that serve the public's interests in safe and reliable water supplies is a centerpiece of the firm's priorities. From water infrastructure financing to developing policy responses to address emerging needs of climate resiliency, his firm has worked with policymakers in Congress, the Federal bureaucracy and throughout the stakeholder community to fashion solutions that deliver improved water quality and supply.

Throughout his career, Mr. Sapirstein has been a recognized leader in environmental protection and innovative energy policy issues. Prior to establishing ENS, Mr. Sapirstein was a Policy and Governmental Affairs Analyst with JSCF, Inc. He focused on regulatory and legislative initiatives related to Appropriations, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, the Clean Water Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, and forestry management.

He also represented the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency before Congress. He advised senior Agency officials on strategies regarding waste management, radioactive materials, and clean water policy issues, and he represented the Agency with members of Congress, Congressional staff, and federal and state agencies. Mr. Sapirstein received two Special Achievement Awards, recognizing superior work that helped ensure passage of the Superfund Act.

Mr. Sapirstein earned a Master's of Public Administration (MPA), with a concentration in public finance, budgeting, and urban administration, from The George Washington University. He was nominated and selected to compete as a Presidential Management Intern. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from Boston University.

[Ken Simonson, Chief Economist, Associated General Contractors of America](#)



Ken Simonson has been Chief Economist for the Associated General Contractors of America, the leading trade association for the construction industry, since 2001. He provides insight into the economy and what it implies for construction and related industries through frequent media interviews, presentations, and the Data DIGest, his weekly one-page e-newsletter that goes to over 50,000 subscribers.

Ken has more than 40 years of experience analyzing, advocating, and communicating about economic and tax issues. He currently serves on the Census Bureau's Scientific Advisory Committee. He is a Fellow and past President of the National Association for Business Economics, and he is co-director of the Tax Economists Forum, a professional meeting group he co-founded in 1982.

Ken has a BA in economics from the University of Chicago, and an MA in economics from Northwestern University.