

## STAFF BIOS



**LOUIS BAER**  
DIRECTOR AND  
ASSISTANT COUCIL  
(ENVIRONMENT  
AND ENERGY)

**Louis Baer** joined PCA in August 2017 as the Director and Assistant Counsel, Government Affairs and handles environment and energy regulatory issues for PCA. He has significant regulatory experience consulting for industrial facilities and government agencies on environmental regulatory compliance and policy experience working for lobbying and trade organizations. Prior to PCA, He worked at consulting firms, where he advised government agencies and private industry on environmental and regulatory compliance, including performing environmental auditing, training, and risk assessments. Also, he worked for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce conducting advocacy efforts on environment & energy issues.

Louis is a native of Portland, Oregon and holds a B.A. in political science and history from Washington University in St. Louis and a J.D. from Washington University School of Law. Louis is also a Certified Professional Environmental Auditor and is a member of the American Bar Association, participating in the Section on Environment, Energy & Resources and volunteering as a Programs Vice Chair on the Air Quality Committee.



**BARBARA BURCHETT**  
PUBLIC POLICY  
CONSULTANT  
(GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS)

**Barbara Burchett** serves as the public policy consultant and Washington Government Affairs Representative for the Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute (CRSI) the authoritative resource for information related to steel reinforced concrete construction.

Barbara's government affairs professional representation began as a senior staff member to a U.S. Senator and later working for a prominent D.C. law firm representing corporations and non-profit organizations. She helped shape the firm's government affairs program into an established client service practice. Her major clients at Wiley Rein LLP included international electric and gas services company Aquila, steel producer Nucor, building products manufacturer Owens Corning, and the Midwest Research Institute responsible for the National Renewable Research Laboratory of the Department of Energy.

Prior to her tenure at the law firm, Barbara was the National Affairs Director for Hallmark Cards, Inc. working on environmental, trade and tax policy.

Barbara Burchett received her B.A. in Political Science from the University of California and has lived in four foreign countries.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

**RACHEL DERBY**, Vice President of Government Relations  
Portland Cement Association  
PHONE: 202.679.8223 EMAIL: [rderby@cement.org](mailto:rderby@cement.org)



**RACHEL DERBY**  
VICE PERSIDENT  
(LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS)

## STAFF BIOS

**Rachel Derby** joined the Washington, D.C. PCA office in late October 2015. Derby serves as Vice President of Government Affairs. In this position, she plans and directs PCA's legislative advocacy efforts, including working with Members to formulate legislative policy and strategy; cultivates working relationships with members of Congress and their staffs; and, develops and maintains functional relationships with Members, coalition partners, and industry allies with regard to legislative matters. Rachel also administers the PCA's CEMENT PAC.

Derby comes to PCA from the Toy Industry Association, where she was Senior Director of Federal Government Affairs. In that role she managed outreach with the White House, Congress, and other regulatory agencies and led the organization's strategies on environmental sustainability, chemical regulations, and social responsibility. Prior to her work at TIA, Derby was Director of Government Affairs with the National Association of Police Organizations, and served on the staffs of Senator George LeMieux (R-FL) and Senator Mel Martinez (R-FL).

Derby is a native of Florida and holds a bachelor of science in business marketing from Florida State University and an MBA from American University. She currently serves on the Washington, D.C. Advisory Council for the Salvation Army.



**JON DEUSER**  
SENIOR VICE PERSIDENT  
AND COUNSEL

**Jon Deuser** joined The Smith-Free Group in May, 2005. A 14-year veteran of Congress, Deuser originally came to Washington in 1987 to join the staff of his hometown mentor, U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell. He worked as a Personal Assistant and Legislative Aide on the McConnell staff before matriculating to the University of Virginia School of Law.

After graduating and passing the Bar, Deuser was hired as a Legislative Assistant by then-Congressman Jim Bunning, a member of the tax-writing Ways & Means Committee, in 1993 to focus on the Clinton health care proposal. Promoted to Legislative Director in 1995 when Republicans took control of Congress, he expanded his portfolio to include tax, trade, and financial services issues. He was also responsible for policy formulation and management of Bunning's successful Senate campaign in 1998.

Deuser was promoted to Chief of Staff in 2000, and was responsible for managing the legislative and press staff, as well as assembling and overseeing the 2004 campaign team that helped Senator Bunning become only the second Kentucky Republican in nearly a half-century to win two statewide elections.

Deuser graduated cum laude with a B.A. in English and History from Indiana University in 1987, and holds his J.D. from University of Virginia Law School where he worked as Notes Editor for the Journal of Law and Politics. He currently lives in Alexandria, Virginia with his wife, Jane, and has three teenage children – Kelly, Caterina and Jack.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

**RACHEL DERBY**, Vice President of Government Relations  
Portland Cement Association  
PHONE: 202.679.8223 EMAIL: [rderby@cement.org](mailto:rderby@cement.org)

## STAFF BIOS



**CHARLES FRANKLIN**  
VICE PERSISTENT AND  
COUNSEL  
(REGULATORY AFFAIRS)

**Charles Franklin** is the Vice President and Counsel for Government Affairs at the Portland Cement Association (PCA), where he works with PCA Member Companies to develop and implement regulatory advocacy strategies involving federal environmental, mining, health and safety, and infrastructure regulation. Prior to joining PCA, Mr. Franklin spent fourteen years advising and representing companies, associations, and individuals on environmental regulation, litigation, transactions, and pro bono matters at a leading international law firm. Before that, Mr. Franklin served for thirteen years as a government regulator and manager at the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), working on waste, chemical, and pesticide issues.

Mr. Franklin earned his law degree, cum laude, from the Georgetown University Law Center (JD), and his Masters of Public Policy from the University of Maryland School of Public Affairs (MPP). He earned his Bachelors' Degree from the University of Michigan. He is an active member of the American Bar Association (ABA) Section on Environment Energy and Resources and a frequent author and presenter on chemical, energy, manufacturing, and product regulatory issues. He is a former chair of the ABA SEER Pesticides, Chemical Regulation, and Right to Know Committee and the Special Committee on Congressional Relations.



**ED GRABER**  
CONSULTANT

**Ed Graber** has been directly involved in every major infrastructure bill in Washington for the past 35 years. He has been a key figure in successfully advocating funding increases in federal-aid highway bills, as well as the favorable promotion of infrastructure policy. Ed's work on behalf of major transportation-related groups has had a positive impact on the transportation and infrastructure industry.

In 1993, he started his own transportation consulting business, which has grown to represent a wide variety of clients and interests before Congress, the Executive Branch, and state and local governments. The firm was active on the TEA-21, SAFETEA-LU, MAP-21 and the FAST Act authorization bills on behalf of various transportation-related entities, including the American Concrete Pipe Association, the roadbuilders, other cement/concrete-related groups and several localities.

Prior to this, Ed was the lead public works lobbyist at the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC). During his 12 years at AGC, he became their principal advocate on Capitol Hill for transportation, environmental and other infrastructure-related issues.

A native of Cincinnati, Ohio, and a graduate of Miami University (Ohio), Ed currently resides in Fairfax City Virginia and is the father of two grown daughters.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

**RACHEL DERBY**, Vice President of Government Relations  
Portland Cement Association  
PHONE: 202.679.8223 EMAIL: [rderby@cement.org](mailto:rderby@cement.org)

## STAFF BIOS



**KATY HARTNETT**  
DIRECTOR  
(TRANSPORTATION AND  
INFRASTRUCTURE)

**Katy Hartnett** has more than ten years' experience working on transportation and infrastructure policy for members of Congress and non-profit organizations. She comes to the Portland Cement Association from PeopleForBikes, where she worked on mobility, trade, and other issues of importance to the bicycle industry. Prior to that she served as Director of Government Affairs and Outreach at Smart Growth America, where she worked on federal policy related to transportation and infill development.

Katy previously worked as Legislative Director for Rep. Russ Carnahan (D-MO), where she oversaw his work on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. She began her career with Rep. Bart Gordon (D-TN). Katy is from Boston, Massachusetts and holds BA in International Relations from Connecticut College. She spent a semester studying in Nantes, France.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

**RACHEL DERBY**, Vice President of Government Relations  
Portland Cement Association  
PHONE: 202.679.8223 EMAIL: [rderby@cement.org](mailto:rderby@cement.org)



**ROBERT W. HICKMOTT**  
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

## STAFF BIOS

**Bob Hickmott** has worked with The Smith-Free Group since 1999. His diverse and extensive experience in government, politics and the business community has continued to provide our clients with effective and knowledgeable political insight and strategy.

Prior to his work at The Smith-Free Group, Bob served in the Clinton-Gore Administration as a senior political advisor for two Federal agencies, the legislative branch for five Senators, and has practiced law, legislative strategy and public affairs for two major corporations. More recently, he served on the EPA's Superfund Policy Task Force.

Hickmott served as Counselor to HUD Secretary Andrew Cuomo, where he was the senior advisor to the Secretary on intergovernmental relations and external constituencies, as well as a member of the President's Council on Sustainable Development and Vice President Gore's Brownfields Showcase Communities Selection Committee. He was also an advisor on the Department's Brownfields program, which combined economic development with environmental clean-up in America's cities, including projects in Chattanooga, Cleveland, Syracuse, and Newark, Delaware.

Before HUD, Bob served as Associate Administrator for Congressional Affairs for EPA Administrator Carol M. Browner. He was also the principal advisor on all congressional and legislative issues and helped to develop and implement the Administration's environmental agenda on Superfund, Clean Water Act, Brownfields, and issues such as food safety and drinking water.

Bob began his career as Director of Alumni/Admissions Programs at Boston University's Alumni Affairs Office (1976-1978) and then as Public Affairs Counsel at E.I. DuPont Company in Wilmington, Delaware. Following those positions, he was the Executive Director for the National Business Council at the Democratic National Committee (1980-1983) and later the Political Affairs Director for Congoleum Corporation (1983-1984). Subsequently, Hickmott served as Deputy Chief of Staff for U.S. Senator Timothy E. Wirth, working on banking and securities issues (1987-1989), and then an associate with the law firm of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher and Flom. Prior to joining the Clinton Administration, he was the Deputy Executive Director for the Democratic Senatorial Campaign.

Hickmott graduated summa cum laude from Boston University's School of Public Communications, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Public Communications in 1976. He received his Juris Doctorate from Georgetown University Law Center in 1988. A native of Wilmington, Delaware, Bob, his wife Diane Dewhirst, and their three children reside in the District of Columbia.



**CHRISTIAN A. KLEIN**  
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS  
AND LEGAL COUNSEL

## STAFF BIOS

**Christian A. Klein** is an experienced public affairs, political communications, association management, and legal professional. For more than 20 years, Klein has represented trade association clients in Washington, D.C. as a registered lobbyist, managed association government affairs programs and political action committees, overseen economic research and strategic planning projects, developed and executed public relations campaigns, served as his clients' primary media spokesperson, and provided legal counsel services to nonprofit organizations. Klein has been a managing member and head of Obadal, Filler, MacLeod & Klein, P.L.C.'s advocacy practice group since the firm's creation in 2003. He currently serves as executive vice president of the Aeronautical Repair Station Association, the trade association for the global aviation maintenance industry, and as counsel and registered lobbyist for the American Concrete Pressure Pipe Association, which represents drinking water pipe manufacturers. In May 2018, he was appointed to the Transportation Security Administration's Aviation Security Advisory Committee. Klein is also a longstanding member of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Transportation Infrastructure & Logistics Committee.

From 2004 to 2017, Klein served as the first-ever vice president of government affairs for Associated Equipment Distributors, the international trade association from the heavy construction equipment industry, having served for the previous seven years as AED's associate Washington counsel. In those positions he built the association's public policy program and significantly increased AED's political visibility, effectiveness and grassroots engagement. He also served for a decade as executive secretary of the National Stone, Sand & Gravel Association's Pulverized Minerals Division.

Since 2006, Klein has been a member of the adjunct faculty at the University of Virginia where he teaches courses in political public relations, PR ethics and law, and PR writing and has helped educate and develop a generation of communications professionals. He is also a member of the advisory board and first vice president of the College of William and Mary's Public Policy Program.

Klein earned a juris doctorate and a master's degree in congressional politics from the Catholic University of America in 1995; a Bachelor of Arts degree with honors in international relations from William and Mary in 1992; and a post-graduate certificate in public relations from the University of Virginia in 2005. Klein is admitted to the bars of the Commonwealth of Virginia, District of Columbia, State of North Carolina (inactive), U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces, and U.S. Supreme Court. He resides in Falls Church, Virginia with his wife Lona, a member of the faculty at the Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, and their two school-aged daughters. His weekends are spent dragging his kids to lacrosse and soccer practices and games, cooking, cheering for Arsenal in the English Premier League, availing himself of Northern Virginia's diverse landscape of ethnic restaurants (the spicier the better) and, when he gets the opportunity, brewing beer and mead. He and his wife also have a family farm in Southside Virginia.



**ERIN MORRIS**  
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS  
COORDINATOR



**RANDALL PENCE**  
CAPITOL HILL  
ADVOCATES

## STAFF BIOS

**Erin Morris** joins the Portland Cement Association as the Government Affairs Coordinator after having worked for the National Association of Drug Court Professionals. While a training coordinator at NADCP, Erin was responsible for the management of multi-million dollar training and technical assistance grants aimed at creating a smarter, more effective criminal justice system. Prior to moving to the Washington area, Erin worked in account services for a top digital marketing firm in Kansas City, Missouri and completed a government affairs internship with Ash Grove Cement in Overland Park, Kansas. Erin is a native of Springfield, Missouri and a graduate of the School of Journalism at the University of Missouri.

**Randall Pence** is a Washington lobbyist with more than 35 years' professional experience in Washington D.C., both as a senior-level U.S. Senate staffer and as the legislative, regulatory, and political representative for business clients with issues before the U.S. Federal Government. Pence served two U.S. Senators in senior positions and, unique in Washington D.C., across both political parties. Pence has driven multiple legislative and regulatory efforts that have created law or have otherwise influenced government policy. Pence is skilled in all aspects of federal government issues advocacy. The National Concrete Masonry Association is a client.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

**RACHEL DERBY**, Vice President of Government Relations  
Portland Cement Association  
PHONE: 202.679.8223 EMAIL: [rderby@cement.org](mailto:rderby@cement.org)



**PATRICIA POWER**  
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT  
FEDERAL RELATIONS



**JOSH REINER**  
DIRECTOR  
ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY,  
AND APPROPRIATIONS

## STAFF BIOS

**Patricia Power** represents corporations, local and tribal governments, and universities before Congress and the Administration, including the Departments of the Defense, Interior, Agriculture, Energy, HUD, and the Environmental Protection Agency, on a broad range of topics, with a focus on environmental, energy, and natural resource issues. Power works with her clients to create effective strategies designed to efficiently solve their problems and meet their goals.

Prior to establishing her practice, she served in the Office of Senator John Heinz (R-PA) as a legislative assistant for environmental and energy issues. Power also worked for the US Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of Water and Office of Legislation as an attorney-advisor, drafting legislation and regulations affecting the Clean Air Water Act implementation and toxic tort studies required under Superfund, and as a consultant to EPA on solid and hazardous waste regulations. Power is licensed to practice law in Pennsylvania and Washington, DC.

Power graduated from American University, Washington College of Law. She holds a B.A. in economics and political science, *magna cum laude*, from Adelphi University. Power was recognized for 20 years of work with the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force.

**Josh Reiner** joined PCA in 2017 and is responsible for energy, environment, tax and appropriations issues. He comes to PCA from the American Public Works Association (APWA) where he managed the association's environmental and tax issues. He also managed the Association's crisis response to the Flint Water Disaster. Before joining APWA, Josh served as a Legislative Assistant in the House of Representatives for Congressman Wally Herger (R-CA) handling the natural resources portfolio and then as Senior Policy Advisor to Congressman Gus Bilirakis (R-FL) where he oversaw his Energy & Commerce Committee responsibilities.

Josh is from Houston, Texas. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from Southwestern University and a Master's degree in Political Management from George Washington University.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

**RACHEL DERBY**, Vice President of Government Relations  
Portland Cement Association  
PHONE: 202.679.8223 EMAIL: [rderby@cement.org](mailto:rderby@cement.org)

## STAFF BIOS



**ANDREW TYRELL**  
EXECUTIVE VICE  
PRESIDENT  
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

**Andrew Tyrrell** joined NRMCA in January 2017 and serves as Executive Vice President of Government Affairs. In that position, Andrew represents the ready mixed concrete industry's legislative agenda on Capitol Hill, advocating for policies important to the industry on behalf of NRMCA's member companies and managing NRMCA's political program through CONCRETEPAC.

Prior to joining NRMCA, Andrew worked for Rep. Daniel Webster (FL-10) handling a portfolio of federal legislative issues. In addition to spending six years on Capitol Hill, Andrew has extensive political experience running political campaigns. Andrew holds a BA in Government from Patrick Henry College and an MBA from George Washington University.



**LEIF G. WATHNE**  
EXECUTIVE VICE  
PRESIDENT  
AMERICAN CONCRETE  
PAVEMENT  
ASSOCIATION

**Leif Wathne** is Executive Vice President of the American Concrete Pavement Association where he is responsible for various technical, policy and federal/state agency-issues related to highway funding, concrete pavements and stewardship. His experience includes 25 years of experience with concrete materials and engineering.

Prior to joining ACPA, Leif served for nearly a decade as a project engineer in FHWA's Office of Pavement Technology in Washington DC, and as a concrete research engineer at FHWA's Turner-Fairbank Highway Research Center in McLean, Virginia.

Leif is a registered professional engineer (PE), and holds a Master of Science degree from Pennsylvania State University and a Bachelor of Science degree from University of Connecticut. He has authored of over two dozen peer-reviewed papers and journal articles.

Leif serves regularly on National Academy of Sciences research panels, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Technical Groups, and is on the Board of Directors of the International Society for Concrete Pavements (ISCP).

### CONTACT INFORMATION

**RACHEL DERBY**, Vice President of Government Relations  
Portland Cement Association  
PHONE: 202.679.8223 EMAIL: [rderby@cement.org](mailto:rderby@cement.org)

## STAFF BIOS



**ROBERT WHITMORE**  
VICE PRESIDENT  
COMMUNICATION AND  
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

**Robert Whitmore** serves as the vice president for Communication and Government Affairs for the National Precast Concrete Association, a trade association representing manufacturers of precast concrete products with members all 50 states, eight Canadian provinces and 13 other nations.

In his current position, he has responsibility for NPCA's government affairs activities, including serving as liaison to the National Alliance of Concrete Associations, monitoring federal, state and local legislation and communicating key issues to NPCA members.

Before joining NPCA in 2001, Robert held a variety of public relations, marketing and editing positions in the insurance industry, with a local governmental agency and with a community newspaper. He has a master's degree in communication and a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

**RACHEL DERBY**, Vice President of Government Relations  
Portland Cement Association  
PHONE: 202.679.8223 EMAIL: [rderby@cement.org](mailto:rderby@cement.org)