



For Immediate Release

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Venn Strategies Promotes Michael Spira to EVP and Elevates Other Key Team Members

WASHINGTON, DC – Venn Strategies, a nationally recognized public affairs and government relations firm twice named among the fastest-growing private companies in the United States (the “Inc. 5000”), announced the promotions of **Michael Spira** to the position of **Executive Vice President**. Spira, who has been with the firm for 8 years, is a senior lobbyist in the firm’s Healthcare practice, working on matters ranging from improving access to opioid alternatives to promoting patient access to innovative therapies and devices. He was formerly Chief of Staff for former Congresswoman Carolyn McCarthy (D-NY) and Deputy Chief of Staff for Congressman Ed Perlmutter (D-CO), and was a top lobbyist with the American Pharmacists Association. The firm also announced the promotion of **Noah Schloegel** to Senior Associate. Schloegel joined Venn in 2023 from the Department of Justice and at Venn he is a key part of the firm’s Tax and Financial Services practice.

“These promotions are a testament to the remarkable talent, dedication and expertise that drive Venn’s success,” said Venn Strategies founder and CEO Stephanie Silverman. “As they step into these elevated roles, I’m confident they will continue to inspire, lead and bring outstanding value across the firm and to our clients.”

The firm also elevated the levels of the following team members in recognition of their achievements:

- **Bennett Resnik** is a Senior Vice President in the firm’s critical infrastructure practice, leading many Congressional and Executive Branch initiatives in the transportation, manufacturing and energy sectors. He is an attorney who has joined Venn from a boutique federal affairs firm, and has also worked on Capitol Hill and at the U.S. Department of Energy.
- **Dr. Shanta Whitaker-Toney** is a Senior Vice President in the firm’s Healthcare practice, where she provides stakeholder counsel and advocacy services focusing on public health access. A Ph.D. microbiologist by training, Whitaker-Toney was previously a consultant at LMI.
- **Emma Bishop**, a Vice President with the firm’s critical infrastructure team where she is an expert in policy priorities in the clean energy and transportation sectors, including critical mineral supply chains, battery manufacturing, and heavy-duty electric vehicles. She worked previously at the energy company Enviva and in the office of Representative Judy Chu (D-CA).

- **Doug MacGillivray**, a Vice president in the critical infrastructure team who works across energy, infrastructure, transportation, tax and budget policy matters. He previously was with the American Public Gas Association and the American Energy Alliance.
- **Claire Onyechi**, a Vice President in the firm's healthcare practice, who leads stakeholder engagement initiatives across the team. Before joining Venn, she worked for former Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid and then-Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer as Associate Director for the Democratic Steering and Outreach Committee.
- **Garrett Lukken**, a Senior Associate with the firm's critical infrastructure team who previously was an advisor to Congressman Ed Perlmutter (D-CO).
- **Malik Ross** is a Senior Associate in the firm's Healthcare practice. A Mississippian who has also worked in other government affairs firms, Ross previously was a health policy analyst on the Democratic staff of the House Committee on Homeland Security.
- **Leigh Kelly**, a Client Services Associate who joined the firm after working as an editorial intern at *The Hill* and on a House campaign.

These most recent promotions are in addition to three other new Vice Presidents announced this past November: Jakara Eason was promoted to **Vice President** in the health care team, **Niaz Siasi** was promoted to **Vice President** for Operations and Programs, and **Justin Livesey** was named **Vice President** in the Tax and Financial Services practice.

About Venn Strategies

Twice recognized among the fastest-growing private companies in the United States, Venn Strategies is a full-service, bipartisan government relations, and public affairs firm. The firm's expertise lies in matters of economic policy, health care, critical infrastructure and oversight, and investigations, offering clients a wide range of deliverables in advocacy, issue management, coalition management, and strategic advisory services from former top aides in the White House, Congress, leading industry advocacy groups and Fortune 500 corporations. Visit <http://www.vennstrategies.com> for more information.