



U.S. SENATOR • ARIZONA

JOHN McCAIN

<http://mccain.senate.gov>

PRESS RELEASE

Wednesday, March 27, 2002
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
CONTACT:
Nancy Ives 202-224-7130
Ari Geller 224-8657
Katie Levinson 225-5541
Bridger McGaw 225-3411

McCain, Feingold, Shays, Meehan Announce Campaign Finance Reform Legal Team

Washington, DC –U.S. Senators John McCain and Russ Feingold, and Representatives Christopher Shays and Marty Meehan announced today that they will move to intervene in the lawsuits filed by Senator Mitch McConnell and the National Rifle Association challenging the landmark campaign finance legislation signed into law this morning by President Bush.

The Department of Justice has the primary responsibility for defending the constitutionality of statutes enacted by Congress. In order to assist in the defense, the four Members of Congress, the principal sponsors of the legislation, will intervene in the cases filed today under a section of the law that provides a statutory right for Members of Congress to intervene as parties.

"We're confident the landmark campaign finance reform bill signed into law today by President Bush will stand up to any constitutional challenge in court. We look forward to providing whatever assistance we can to the Department of Justice, and we are pleased to have a talented legal team to help in the defense of the reforms just passed by Congress after a seven-year legislative effort," the Members said.

The Members announced that the legal team representing them will be led by Seth Waxman, former Solicitor General of the United States in the Clinton Administration, and currently a partner at Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering, and Burt Neuborne, former Legal Director of the ACLU, and currently the Legal Director of the Brennan Center for Justice at NYU Law School.

As Solicitor General, Waxman won the last two Supreme Court cases dealing with the constitutionality of campaign finance laws. Waxman successfully argued *Nixon v. Shrink Missouri Government PAC* decided in 2000, in which the Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of campaign contribution limits, and wrote the successful United States brief in *FEC v. Colorado Republican Federal Campaign Committee* decided in 2001, in which the Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of limits on political party spending coordinated with the party's candidates.

Burt Neuborne, a nationally renowned civil liberties defender, scholar and law professor at NYU Law School, has litigated a wide range of landmark cases in the U.S. Supreme Court.

Other members of the legal team include three nationally regarded law firms, the Washington based firm of Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering, led by Roger Witten and Randy Moss, which will manage the team; the Los Angeles based firm of Munger, Tolles and Olson, led by Bradley Phillips; and the San Francisco-based firm of Heller, Ehrman, White & McAuliffe led by Charles Curtis, Jr. and David Harth; the Brennan Center for Justice, led by Josh Rosenkranz; Trevor Potter, General Counsel of the Campaign and Media Legal Center; and Fred Wertheimer, President of Democracy 21. Don Simon, General Counsel of Common Cause also will participate in the legal defense of the new law.

###

| [Home](#) | [Arizona](#) | [Biography](#) | [Legislation](#) | [Press Releases](#) |
| [Committees](#) | [Washington Offices](#) | [Federal Websites](#) |