Walter B. Slocombe

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Walter B. Slocombe is a Senior Counsel in Caplin & Drysdale's Washington, D.C. office. Mr. Slocombe first joined the firm as an associate in 1971 and became a member in 1974.

Services

Mr. Slocombe focuses his practice primarily on complex litigation, defense trade, and exempt organizations. In his litigation practice, he has handled a variety of cases at both the trial and appellate levels. The cases have involved both tax and general law issues, including successfully arguing in the U.S. Supreme Court a case in which he had participated in all prior stages, including IRS appeal, Tax Court trial, and Fourth Circuit review.

Highlights

Mr. Slocombe's time at the firm has been interrupted by periods of service in the United States Department of Defense, most recently as Under Secretary of Defense for Policy from 1994 to 2001 and in 2003, as Senior Advisor for National Defense in the Coalition Provisional Authority for Iraq. In 2004, President Bush appointed him to the Commission on the Intelligence Capabilities of the United States Regarding Weapons of Mass Destruction.

Professional Activities

Mr. Slocombe was chairman of the subcommittees of the ABA Tax Section's Exempt Organization Committee that dealt with private foundations and the unrelated business income tax. He served as the Committee's representative to the Section's task force on integration of the corporate and individual income taxes. He has also been a member of various advisory or governing boards of several academic and defense analysis institutions.

Awards & Honors

- Listed in the 2010-2013 editions of The Best Lawyers in America in the specialty of Tax Law
- Awarded the Department of Defense's Distinguished Public Service Medal (1981, 1995, 1997, 2001, 2004) and the Joseph Kruzel Award for Distinguished Service in the Pursuit of Peace (2000)
- Named an Honorary Submariner by the Fleet Submarine Force
- Recognized for his international service by the Polish, German, and Korean governments

Practice Areas

Complex Litigation

Creditors' Rights

Exempt Organizations

Education

J.D., Harvard Law School, 1968, *summa cum laude, Note Editor of the Law Review*

Rhodes Scholar, Oxford University, 1965, *summa cum laude*

A.B., Princeton University, 1963, *summa cum laude*

Bar and Court Admissions

District of Columbia

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces

U.S. Supreme Court

U.S. Tax Court

District of Columbia Court of Appeals

Government Experience

Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, U.S. Department of Defense, 1994-2001

Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Policy, U.S. Department of Defense, 1993-1994

Director of U.S. Department of Defense Task Force on the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT), 1977-1981

Deputy Under Secretary for Policy Planning, U.S. Department of Defense, 1979-1981

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Security Affairs, U.S. Department of Defense, 1977-1979

National Security Council Staff, 1969-1970

Law Clerk to the Honorable Abe Fortas, U.S. Supreme Court, O.T. 1968