
WilmerHale Expands Defense and National Security Practice Group

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WilmerHale is pleased to announce the return of Todd R. Steggerda as a Partner in the firm's Washington, DC office. Steggerda, former Chief Counsel to the John McCain 2008 Presidential Campaign, will join the Defense, National Security and Government Contracts Practice Group and the Regulatory and Government Affairs Department, where he will focus on investigations, civil litigation, government enforcement actions and other matters relating to national security and doing business with the US government.

Steggerda began his career more than twenty years ago with an Aerospace Engineering degree from the United States Naval Academy, and served in subsequent years as a Navy Flight Instructor and F-18 Pilot. Steggerda brings a deep understanding of the technical issues often lying at the heart of the investigations, litigation, and other controversies confronting companies in the defense/national security sector. Blending a strong technical capacity with nearly a dozen years of commercial and government litigation and investigations experience, Steggerda has assisted a wide range of regulated clients resolve an array of complex, high-stakes investigations and litigation, including several of the most notable ethics and compliance-related government inquiries over the last decade by, among others, the Department of Defense, the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Department of Transportation, the Department of Justice, and other agencies.

Steggerda's representations have also involved government contract audits, responding to government subpoenas, ethics and regulatory compliance requirements, government contract performance and termination disputes, False Claims Act inquiries, suspension and debarment matters, security clearances, and the regulatory aspects of domestic and international defense mergers and acquisitions.

"Todd brings a superior level of skill and experience that is a necessity in today's defense and homeland security environment, and we are excited about his return to the firm," said [Jamie Gorelick](#), co-chair of WilmerHale's Defense, National Security and Government Contracts Practice Group.

Drawing on the extensive experience of partners who have previously served in senior national security positions, WilmerHale's Defense, National Security and Government Contracts Practice

Group provides regulatory, legislative and transactional advice to companies that supply products and services to governmental customers and to clients whose commercial operations or strategic development are affected by changing security requirements and policies. In addition, this group represents clients in government enforcement actions, federal court litigation, government contract claims litigation, bid protests and other contested proceedings.

“We are excited to have Todd rejoin our team,” said William J. Perlstein, Co-Managing Partner. “His talents will bring an advanced level of expertise to our client service, and he is a great addition to our Defense, National Security and Government Contracts Practice Group.”

“I am absolutely thrilled to be rejoining my colleagues at WilmerHale,” said Steggerda. “It is very exciting to be back among such a talented and experienced group of attorneys, especially as we continue to expand our Defense, National Security and Government Contracts Practice to handle the many challenges now confronting our clients doing business in this critical sector.”

Steggerda is a member of the District of Columbia Bar, the Virginia Bar, and the Republican National Lawyers' Association. Steggerda also serves as Vice Chair of the DC Metro Chapter of Operation Homefront, a nationally-recognized charitable organization serving military families in need.