



---

# Republican National Lawyers Association

P.O. Box 18965, Washington, D.C. 20036 • (202) 802-0437 tel • [www.rnla.org](http://www.rnla.org)

**For Immediate Release**  
**1/8/2015**

**Contact: Michael Thielen**  
**(202) 802-0437**

## **HELP FOR GOP PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES**

With 30-40 candidates considering a possible GOP Presidential bid and 10-20 likely candidates to make the field, the RNLA has committed to a project to level the playing field for all of them. In the past, one of the challenging hurdles for even the strongest candidates has been the legal technicalities of actually getting their name on the ballot in all 50 states and 6 territories. In fact, during the last cycle there was one state where only two candidates' names were on the ballot even though more viable candidates remained in the race.

RNLA Chairman Randy Evans and RNLA President Larry Levy have appointed Stefan Passantino and Peter Schalestock as co-chairs of the GOP Presidential Ballot Access Initiative. They will chair this committee designed to 'level the playing field' by providing as a resource information for potential GOP Presidential candidates interested in getting their names on the ballot during the nomination process.

Stefan Passantino heads McKenna Long & Aldridge's Political Law Team and has a nationwide practice focusing on representing corporations, interest groups, political figures, and other entities with respect to state and federal election law, campaign finance, pay-to-play, state and federal lobbying laws, and ethics issues. Stefan was Chief Counsel to Newt Gingrich's 2012 presidential campaign and has represented numerous Senate and House campaigns as well as party committees and independent expenditure committees in the last four election cycles.

Peter Schalestock has worked on election law matters including four statewide recounts for candidates and political parties at the state and national levels, as well as managing ballot access for the Rudy Giuliani Presidential Committee. From 2008-2014 he was counsel at the Committee on House Administration of the U.S. House of Representatives, responsible for campaign finance and election law policy. He was General Counsel of the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Any GOP Presidential campaign interested in learning more about the initiative can reach out to either [Stefan Passantino](#), Peter Schalestock, or [Justin Riemer](#) for more information. Anyone wishing to support the effort in assuring that every candidate has a road map for getting on the ballot should go to [RNLA.org](http://RNLA.org) and hit the "DONATE" button. Contributors will receive updates about the process and access to information as the election cycle progresses.

The RNLA is made up of over 5,000 lawyers and law students nationwide who are dedicated to the principle that elections should be open, fair and honest. Visit [www.rnla.org](http://www.rnla.org) for general information on the RNLA or follow RNLA at Twitter: @TheRepLawyer .