

# MEHLMAN CASTAGNETTI

## — ROSEN & THOMAS —

A senior strategist with 15 years of political, government and business experience, CR advises Mehlman Castagnetti's clients on a wide variety of corporations and trade associations on the policy and politics of the federal government. A campaign veteran at heart, he approaches his clients' issues with the same singular focus and drive of a campaign manager. From mergers and acquisitions to tax, trade, health care, and the Federal budget, CR has a strong grasp of a broad set of issues, making him a tremendous resource for clients. Whether his client is a small company hoping to build a presence in Washington or one of the biggest trade associations in the country, CR uses his unique perspective and deep experience to tackle every challenge head-on.

CR also serves as the Deputy Director of The Technology CEO Council (TCC), the information technology industry's leading advocacy organization comprised exclusively of CEOs from America's top information technology companies. He advises these CEOs on topical issues such as immigration and trade, but also helps them to envision the future of innovation in a constantly evolving public policy landscape.

CR came to Mehlman Castagnetti in 2013 from the strategic communications firm Purple Strategies, where he provided counsel to a variety of clients, including a leading global energy company, major financial institutions, and a motor sports association. For much of his time at Purple, he lived and worked in London advising a major corporation doing business in the United States and around the world.

CR has a long history with the Democratic Party and Congressional leadership, and is intimately familiar with the inner workings of Washington. He has served as Chief of Staff for two Members of Congress and directed a House Leadership office. Most recently, he was Chief of Staff to Maryland Congressman Chris Van Hollen. Prior to that, he worked with then-Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and Congressman Van Hollen to set up and direct the Member Services operation for the Democratic majority in the House. In this role, he served as a strategic advisor to more than 60 new and vulnerable Members of Congress, helping them understand the policy and navigate the politics of landmark legislation, including the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, and the Affordable Care Act of 2010. CR also served as Chief of Staff to New York Congresswoman Louise Slaughter when she served as Chairwoman of the House Rules Committee.

In addition to his government service, CR has worked on political campaigns in dozens of states and districts across the country. In 2008, he ran the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee's successful "Frontline Program," serving as the Committee's Director of Incumbent Retention. During this time, he led a team that ushered more than 95 percent of incumbent House Members to successful re-election, enabling Democrats to add over 20 seats to their majority in what was expected to be a difficult cycle for the party. In 2004, he worked for the Democratic National Committee and managed political operations in seven states for John Kerry's Presidential bid. Prior to that, he worked in four states for then-Vice President Al Gore's 2000 Presidential campaign, starting with the New Hampshire primary and ending in the pivotal state of Florida for the general election and the historic recount.

CR is a graduate of Saint Joseph's University. He is a native Washingtonian and lives in Bethesda, MD with his wife and 3 young children.



**CR WOOTERS**  
Principal

### EDUCATION

B.A. - Saint Joseph's University