



An official website of the United States government  
[Here's how you know](#)

[Home](#) › [About the FEC](#) › [Leadership and Structure](#) › [All Commissioners](#) › [Steven T. Walther](#)

## Steven T. Walther

---



*Vice Chair*

Independent

*Currently serving*

### CONTACT



**Email**

[swalther@fec.gov](mailto:swalther@fec.gov)

### Biography

Steven T. Walther was first sworn in as an FEC Commissioner on January 10, 2006, as a recess appointee. Although his name was placed before the Senate for confirmation in June, 2007, his recess term expired on December 31, 2007, before the Senate acted. On June 24, 2008, he was confirmed unanimously by the Senate and sworn in by Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg on June 27, to resume the balance of his statutory term. Mr. Walther served as Vice Chairman of the FEC for the balance of 2008 and served as the Commission's Chairman in 2009 and 2017.

- [Transcript of June 13, 2007, Hearing of Senate Committee on Rules and Administration on Nominations to the Federal Election Commission](#)
- [Opening Statement of Steven T. Walther at June 13, 2007, Hearing of Senate Committee on Rules and Administration on Nominations to the Federal Election Commission](#)
- [July 6, 2007, Letter from Steven T. Walther to Senate Committee on Rules and Administration Regarding Hearing on Nominations to the Federal Election Commission and Responses to Post-Hearing Questions](#)
- [February 6, 2008, Senate Floor Statement by Majority Leader Harry Reid Regarding Pending Nominations to the Federal Election Commission](#)

Prior to joining the FEC as a Commissioner, Mr. Walther practiced law in the Reno, Nevada law firm of Walther, Key, Maupin, Oats, Cox & LeGoy, now known as Maupin, Cox & LeGoy which he co-founded in 1972.

During his legal career Mr. Walther has been active in professional legal and judicial organizations and activities, as well as numerous civic activities. He is a former member of the Board of Governors of the American Bar Association and currently serves as co-chair of the ABA Center for Human Rights. He has been active in ABA initiatives focusing on international relations, human rights and the rule of law. He was appointed by the ABA President to serve as the ABA Representative to the United Nations. He served on the Executive Board of the ABA Central European and Eurasian Law Initiative (CEELI), which oversees the ABA's democracy building programs in over 21 countries—programs which promote development of fair and open election laws. He has

been a member of the Board of Trustees and lecturer for the National Judicial College, both in the United States and in Russia. Mr. Walther has lectured extensively, both domestically and internationally (principally in Russia), on rule of law, human rights, litigation and international law issues. He is a member of the American Law Institute and the International Bar Association.

Mr. Walther is a former president of the State Bar of Nevada, the Western States Bar Conference, and the National Caucus of State Bar Associations. He is a past chair of the 6,000 member Fellows of the American Bar Foundation, the legal research arm of the ABA. From 1971 until his FEC appointment, Mr. Walther served as a member of the Nevada State Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

He received his J.D. degree from Boalt Hall School of Law, University of California, Berkeley in 1968, and recently served as president of the Boalt Hall Alumni Association. He received his undergraduate degree, with a major in Russian, from the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana, in 1965.

## Statements and opinions

### Draft 40 Year Report

- [Draft 40 Year Report and Tally Vote Certification, December 10, 2018 \[PDF\]](#)

### Advisory opinions

- [Statement Regarding Proposal to Rescind Advisory Opinion 2006-15 \(TransCanada\) and to Open a Rulemaking to Ensure that U.S. Political Spending is Free from Foreign Influence, September 15, 2016 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Statement on Advisory Opinion 2014-11, Health Care Service Corporation Employees' Political Action Committee, October 17, 2014 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Advisory Opinion 2014-02, Make Your Laws PAC, Inc., May 8, 2014 \(PDF\)](#)

- [Advisory Opinion 2013-18, Revolution Messaging, LLC, February 27, 2014 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Advisory Opinion 2012-11 \(Free Speech\), May 8, 2012 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Advisory Opinion 2011-23 \(American Crossroads\), December 1, 2011 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Advisory Opinion 2010-25 \(RG Entertainment, Ltd.\), October 27, 2010 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Advisory Opinion 2010-19 \(Google\), December 16, 2010 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Advisory Opinion 2010-09 \(Club for Growth\) & Advisory Opinion 2010-11 \(Commonsense Ten\), July 22, 2010 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Advisory Opinion 2010-08 \(Citizens United\), June 10, 2010 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Advisory Opinion 2010-07 \(Yes on FAIR\), July 8, 2010 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Advisory Opinion 2010-03 \(National Democratic Redistricting Trust\), May 7, 2010 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Advisory Opinion 2007-28 \(McCarthy/Nunes\), December 31, 2007 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Advisory Opinion 2006-31 \(Casey\), October 25, 2006 \(PDF\)](#)

## Audits

- [Statement on Final Audit of Utah State Democratic Committee, January 14, 2016 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Statement on Final Audit of the South Dakota Democratic Party, March 25, 2015 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Statement on Final Audit of the Kentucky State Democratic Central Executive Committee \(PDF\)](#)
- [Statement on Final Audit of the Democratic Party of Wisconsin, March 25, 2015 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Statement on Final Audit of the Nebraska Democratic Party, August 14, 2014 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Statement on Final Audit of the Democratic Party of Illinois, October 23, 2014 \(PDF\)](#)

- [Statement on Final Audit Reports of the Vermont Democratic Party, Dallas County Republican Party, Democratic Party of South Carolina and Republican Party of Iowa, March 18, 2014 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Statement on Final Audit Report of the Republican Party of Iowa, March 18, 2014 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Audit of McCain-Palin 2008, Inc., February 1, 2013 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Statement on Final Audit Report for the National Campaign Fund, November 6, 2012 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Audit of Bush-Cheney '04, Inc., March 21, 2007 \(PDF\)](#)

## Enforcement

- [MUR 7263, Allen Lucas "Luke" Messer, et al. and Theodore "Ted" Rokita, et al., June 20, 2019](#)
- [MURs 6661, Robert E. Murray, et al., May 20, 2016 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MURs 6485 \(W Spann LLC, et al.\), 6487 & 6488 \(F8, LLC, et al.\), 6711 \(Specialty Investments, Inc., et al.\), and 6930 \(Prakazrel "Pras" Michel, et al.\), April 1, 2016 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6391, Commission on Hope, Growth & Opportunity, March 21, 2016 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6471, Commission on Hope, Growth & Opportunity, March 21, 2016 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6294, Americans for Job Security, May 15, 2015 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6795, Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington, February 4, 2015 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6660, Americans Elect, et al., February 4, 2015 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6396, Crossroads Grassroots Policy Strategies, December 30, 2014 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MURs 6538 and 6589, American for Job Security and American Action Network, July 30, 2014 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6722 & 6723, House Majority PAC, et al., April 4, 2014 \(PDF\)](#)

- [MUR 6396, Crossroads Grassroots Policy Strategies, January 10, 2014 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6540, Rick Santorum for President and Nadine Maenza in her official capacity as Treasurer, et al., August 22, 2013 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6529, Gloria Negrete McLeod, et al., July 3, 2013 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6616, Steelman for U.S. Senate, et al., June 14, 2013 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6421, Benishek for Congress, March 5, 2013 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6501, John Brunner, March 4, 2013 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6623, William A. Bennett, February 1, 2013 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6611, Friends of Laura Ruderman, February 1, 2013 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6368, Friends of Roy Blunt, January 31, 2013 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6570, Berman for Congress, et al., January 4, 2013 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6315, Alvin M. Greene, et al., January 2, 2013 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6459, Iowa Faith and Freedom Coalition, et al., November 1, 2012 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6441, Unknown Respondents, August 15, 2012 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6502, Nebraska Democratic Party, et al., August 15, 2012 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6344, United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO, August 7, 2012 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6357, American Crossroads, February 27, 2012 \(PDF\)](#)
- [ADR 592, Committee to Re-elect Gary Jensen, February 27, 2012 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6431, New Hampshire Republican Senate Majority Committee, January 13, 2012 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6415, Kristi for Congress, December 16, 2011 \(PDF\)](#)

- [MUR 6137, Informed Catholic Citizens, November 21, 2011 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6346, Cornerstone Action and Friends of Kelly Ayotte, October 21, 2011 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6386, Steve Fincher for Congress, July 21, 2011 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6371, Our Country Deserves Better PAC-TeaPartyExpress.org, et al., June 27, 2011 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6345, Chris Nwasike for Congress \(Supplement\), March 28, 2011 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6345, Chris Nwasike for Congress, March 28, 2011 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6348, David Schweikert for Congress, March 11, 2011 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6038, Doug Lamborn, September 16, 2010 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 5908, Duncan Hunter, August 23, 2010 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 5625, Aristotle International, Inc., May 19, 2010 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6044, Musgrove for U.S. Senate, July 14, 2009 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6047, Vernon Jones for Georgia, May 22, 2009 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6096, Americans for Limited Government Research Foundation, et al, May 22, 2009 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 5993, Ed Fallon for Congress, et al, May 13, 2009 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6013, Friends of Peter Teahen, May 12, 2009 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6020, Nancy Pelosi for Congress; Alliance for Climate Protection, et al, May 8, 2009 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 5988, American Future Fund, April 30, 2009 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MURs 5694 and 5910, Americans for Job Security, Inc., April 23, 2009 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 5974, New Summit Republicans, April 14, 2009 \(PDF\)](#)

- [MUR 5964, Schock for Congress, March 17, 2009 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 6029, Missouri Republican State Committee, March 10, 2009 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 5919, Rhode Islanders for Jobs and Tax Relief, Inc., September 27, 2007 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 5711, Senator Barbara Boxer, et al, September 20, 2007 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 5770 Laffey US Senate, September 12, 2007 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 5855 NEA Fund for Children and Public Education, June 19, 2007 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 5604 William D. Mason, et al, March 13, 2007 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 5597 John McConnel Wolfe Jr. for Congress, et al, March 9, 2007 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 5518 Democratic Party of Hawaii, March 8, 2007 \(PDF\)](#)
- [ADR 289 Melissa Bean for Congress, March 7, 2007 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 5556 Porter for Congress, December 11, 2006 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 5526 Graf for Congress, November 27, 2006 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 5651 Joseph Gallagher, et al, September 21, 2006 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 5600 Michigan Democratic State Central Committee, et al, June 30, 2006 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 5721 Lockheed Martin Employees' PAC, June 12, 2006 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 5641 Robert Shrum; John Kerry for President, Inc., et al, May 10, 2006 \(PDF\)](#)
- [MUR 5595 World Class Gun Shows, Inc., et al, April 7, 2006 \(PDF\)](#)

## Policies, procedures and directives



- [Statement of Commissioner Steven T. Walther on Disclosure of Documents and Information in the Enforcement Process, May 27, 2011 \(PDF\)](#)

## Rulemaking and litigation

- [Statement of Commissioner Steven T. Walther on the 2014 Citizens United Rulemaking, October 9, 2014 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Statement on Rulemaking in Response to \*McCutcheon v. FEC\*, October 9, 2014 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Statement on Petition for Rulemaking on Electioneering Communications Disclosure Regulations, March 7, 2013 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Statement on \*Van Hollen v. FEC\* and Judicial Option to Commence Rulemaking on Electioneering Communications Disclosure Regulations, October 4, 2012 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Statement regarding Notices of Proposed Rulemakings to Address \*Citizens United\*, December 15, 2011 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Dissenting Statement of Commissioner Steven T. Walther Regarding Coordinated Communication, August 26, 2010 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Statement of Chairman Walther regarding Campaign Travel Regulations, November 19, 2009 \(PDF\)](#)
- [Statement of Chairman Walther Regarding Decision in \*EMILY's List v. FEC\*, September 24, 2009 \(PDF\)](#)

## Statements

- [Remarks to the FEC Staff by Chairman Steven T. Walther and Commissioner Ann M. Ravel, February 23, 2017 \(Video\)](#)

}