

# Keith J. Pemrick

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Keith J. Pemrick is a founding member and managing partner of Commonwealth Strategic Partners (CSP). Keith brings over 18 years of experience to CSP having worked in both the public and private sectors.

In his leadership role at CSP, Keith provides his clients with government relations expertise, including advice and support on a wide range of legislative and regulatory issues. Keith serves as the point person in Washington, DC for the Governor of Pennsylvania, Tom Wolf, and his staff; secured language in the FAA Extension, Safety, and Security Act of 2016 to mandate drug and alcohol testing and background checks of foreign repair station employees; and procured language in the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act recognizing the critical role of private engineering firms and encouraging State and local agencies to partner with private engineering firms.

## Career Highlights

- Managing Partner, Commonwealth Strategic Partners
- Adjunct Professor, American University
- Director of Environment & Energy Programs, American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC)
- Legislative Director, Congressman Tim Holden (D-PA)

## Awards/Affiliations

- Patrick Henry Award, National Guard Association of the United States (2006)
- Congressional Security Scholar, Truman National Security Project (2011)
- American University Congressional Alumni Career Committee (2007-2013)
- Board Member, Pennsylvania Society of Washington, DC

## Education

- Johns Hopkins University, M.A., Public Management
- American University, B.A., Political Science
- National Defense University, National Security Strategy Course
- American University, Campaign Management Institute

Prior to forming CSP, Keith served as Director of Environment & Energy Programs for the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC), leading the private engineering industry's pursuit on Capitol Hill and within the Administration of robust and innovative water infrastructure funding and an "all of the above" energy strategy. During negotiations and passage of the Water Resources & Reform Development Act of 2014 (WRRDA), Keith won the inclusion of Qualifications-Based Selection (QBS) for the first time in the Clean Water Act State Revolving Fund (CWSRF), as well as engineering contracting-out language and levee liability protections.

From 2000-2012, Keith served on the staff of Congressman Tim Holden (D-PA), with the final seven years as Legislative Director. In this position, he advised the Congressman in all legislative areas, assisted in the development of policy positions and legislative initiatives, and managed and supervised the Congressman's legislative staff. Working for a Democrat in a majority-Republican district, Keith forged relationships in both parties to advance Congressman Holden's efforts to best represent his constituents' interests.

As Legislative Director, Keith was responsible for all of the Congressman's federally directed appropriations, securing over \$80.4 million from FY07 through FY10 for critical projects in the congressional district. Chief among these projects was the creation of the Cancer Institute at Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center. Separate of the appropriations process, Keith also procured over \$32.4 million for fire companies in the congressional district through the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (AFGP).

Responsible for the Congressman's Transportation & Infrastructure Committee portfolio, Keith was the point person in bringing nonstop service from Harrisburg International Airport (HIA) to Denver International Airport (DIA) through the Small Community Air Service Development Grant Program; wrote the legislative language included in MAP-21 that allows for state autonomy for culvert pipe selection; and led the Pennsylvania delegation's effort against de-combining air traffic control facilities at seven Pennsylvania airports.

Bringing his knowhow to the classroom, Keith is an adjunct professor at American University in Washington, DC. He is a member of the faculty in the School of Public Affairs, Government Department.

Keith holds a Master of Arts in Public Management from Johns Hopkins University and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from American University in Washington, DC