

# SPEAKERS

## **Congressman Andy Barr (KY-6)**

**1427 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515**

**Phone: (202) 225-4706**

Andy Barr has served as the U.S. Representative for Kentucky's Sixth Congressional District since January, 2013. He is a Member of the Committee on Financial Services, and is the Chairman of the Monetary Policy and Trade Subcommittee. Barr is focused on strengthening Kentucky's signature bourbon, equine, coal, agriculture and manufacturing industries, and serves as co-chair of the bipartisan Congressional Horse Caucus. He is fighting for policies that will save the country from bankruptcy, increase government accountability, and that would restore the balance of powers as intended by the founders of our nation. Congressman Barr graduated from Lexington's Henry Clay High School in 1992, earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Government and Philosophy from the University of Virginia in 1996, and received his law degree from the University of Kentucky in 2001. Congressman Barr is also a 2007 graduate of Leadership Lexington. **COMMITTEES:** Financial Services Committee; Republican Study Committee.

## **Pamela Brown**

**Justice & Supreme Court Correspondent**

**CNN**

Pamela Brown is based in CNN's Washington, D.C. bureau and serves as the network's Justice and Supreme Court correspondent covering law enforcement, as well as issues related to the Department of Justice and the U.S. Supreme Court. Brown also serves as a key fill-in anchor for CNN Newsroom. Since joining the network in 2013, Brown has reported on several breaking news stories including the Boston marathon bombings, the Cleveland kidnappings, the historic Supreme Court same-sex marriage ruling and the San Bernardino and Brussels terrorist attacks. In 2015, Brown reported from Paris on the investigation into the terrorist killing rampage that began at the headquarters for the French newspaper, Charlie Hebdo. From Düsseldorf, Germany, she reported on the criminal investigation into the ill-fated Germanwings Flight 9525. Before shifting to the justice beat, Brown was a national correspondent reporting on a variety of topics for the network and contributed to CNN's morning program, New Day. Brown began her career at ABC7/WJLA-TV and NewsChannel8 in Washington D.C., where she became a Sunday evening anchor and an Emmy®-nominated special projects reporter covering several national and international stories. She grew up in Lexington, Ky. and holds a B.A. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in broadcast journalism.

## **Elaine Chao**

**U.S. Secretary of Transportation**

Secretary Elaine L. Chao is currently the U. S. Secretary of Transportation. This is her second cabinet position. She served as U.S. Secretary of Labor from 2001-January 2009, and is the first Asian American woman to be appointed to the President's cabinet in American history. Early in her career, she specialized in transportation financing in the private sector. She began her executive career in public service working on transportation and trade issues at the White House. She then served as Deputy Maritime Administrator, U. S. Department of Transportation; Chairman of the Federal Maritime Commission; and, Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation. Prior to the Department of Labor, Secretary Chao was President and Chief Executive Officer of United Way of America. Secretary Chao earned her MBA from the Harvard Business School and an economics degree from Mount Holyoke College.

## **Congressman James Comer (KY-1)**

**1513 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515**

**Phone: (202) 225-3115**

Upon his election to Congress in November 2016, James Comer came to Washington ready to fight on behalf of the people of the 1st Congressional District. Comer grew up in rural Monroe County and later attended Western Kentucky University to study his lifelong passion: Agriculture. Upon graduation in 1993, Comer entered the business world, taking out a loan to purchase his first farm and dive into his career. Today that business, Comer Family Farms, is one of the largest farming operations in south central Kentucky. After his first election in 2000, Comer served for six terms as a member of the Kentucky State House. Upon being elected Kentucky's Commissioner of Agriculture in 2011, Comer cleaned up the Kentucky Department of Agriculture and promoted rural economic development by spearheading the successful effort to legalize industrial hemp and developed new branding initiatives for Kentucky farmers. **COMMITTEES:** Agriculture; Oversight and Government Reform; Small Business.

## **James C. Duff**

**Director of Administrative Office of the United States Courts**

Mr. Duff was appointed to the position of Director by Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr., and assumed the office on January 5, 2015. As Director, Duff also serves as secretary to the Judicial Conference of the United States and as a member of the board of the Federal Judicial Center. He previously served as president and CEO of the Freedom Forum and the Newseum. Before that, he served as the Director of the AO from July 2006 to September 2011. Duff is former chairman of the U.S. Supreme Court Fellows Commission and a board member of the U.S. Supreme Court Historical Society. Previously, Duff was managing partner of the Washington office of Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz. Duff has represented the University of Kentucky's federal interests. As an undergraduate at Kentucky, he was a walk-on member of the basketball team. He graduated from Kentucky in 1975 magna cum laude with a bachelor's degree, Phi Beta Kappa, and with High Distinction in its honors program. He received his law degree at Georgetown University Law Center in 1981 and attended the University of Edinburgh in Scotland.

## **Ron Eidshaug**

**Vice President, Congressional and Public Affairs**

**U.S. Chamber of Commerce**

As vice president of the U.S. Chamber's Congressional and Public Affairs Division, Ron Eidshaug helps oversee a team of 15 full-time Capitol Hill lobbyists. Eidshaug is a sought-after speaker providing an insider's perspective of Congress. He appears at engagements with governors, senators, members of Congress, administration officials, and business leaders across the United States, and he speaks to a wide range of international audiences. Eidshaug is also the Chamber's chief lobbyist on environmental, energy, and regulatory reform issues. He joined the Chamber team in 1999 and has served in a variety of roles. A native New Yorker, Eidshaug worked in the New York State Governor's Office of Regulatory Reform from 1995 to 1999 during the George Pataki administration. Eidshaug has both a master's and a bachelor's degree in political science from the State University of New York at Albany.

## **Rob Engstrom**

**Senior Vice President & National Political Director**

**U.S. Chamber of Commerce**

As senior vice president and the national political director at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Rob Engstrom is responsible for directing the Chamber's national political, grassroots, and election-related activities. He manages all member activities for the Chamber's Federation, which includes thousands of state, local, and metro chambers of commerce and hundreds of trade and professional associations. He oversees the Association Committee of 100, the most prestigious group of association CEOs and executives in the country; the Chamber of Commerce Committee of 100, an elite group of the nation's leading chamber CEOs; the Institute for Organization Management, the nation's premier nonprofit executive training program; and the Chamber's Accreditation Program. Previously, Engstrom served as senior vice president of Political and State Affairs for the U.S. Chamber Institute for Legal Reform (ILR). Before joining the Chamber, he was director of the Division of Political Education at the Republican National Committee. In 2013, Engstrom was recognized as one of the top 50 Influencers of the 2014 election cycle by *Campaigns & Elections: The Magazine for People in Politics*.

## **Congressman Brett Guthrie (KY-2)**

**2434 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515**

**Phone: (202) 225-3501**

Congressman Brett Guthrie represents Kentucky's 2nd Congressional District. Congressman Guthrie serves on both the House Energy and Commerce (E&C) Committee and the House Committee on Education and the Workforce for the 115th Congress. Recognized for his proven leadership, he was also appointed to serve as an Assistant Whip within the Republican Conference and as a regional representative to the Republican Policy Committee. Guthrie graduated in 1987 from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point with a degree in economics and went on to serve as a Field Artillery Officer in the 101st Airborne Division – Air Assault at Fort Campbell. Guthrie earned a Master's Degree from Yale University in Public and Private Management. Following his military service, he joined Trace Die Cast, the Bowling Green-based manufacturing business that was started by his father. First elected to public office in 1998, Guthrie represented the 32nd District in the Kentucky Senate. **COMMITTEES:** House Energy and Commerce (E&C) Committee; House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

**Congressman Thomas Massie (KY-4)**  
**2453 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515**  
**Phone: (202) 225-3465**

U.S. Representative Thomas Massie entered Congress in November 2012 after serving as Lewis County Judge Executive. Congressman Massie attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology where he earned a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering and a Master's Degree in Mechanical Engineering. During school, he invented a technology that enabled people to interact with computers using their sense of touch, and leveraged that technology to found SensAble Technologies, Inc., which raised over \$32 million of venture capital, created 70 jobs, and obtained 29 patents. The hardware and software he developed is now used to design automobiles, jewelry, shoes, dental prosthetics, and even reconstructive implants for wounded soldiers. He lives on a cattle farm in Kentucky. **COMMITTEES:** Transportation & Infrastructure; Oversight & Government Reform; and Science, Space & Technology.

**U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell**  
**Senate Majority Leader**  
**317 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510**  
**Phone: (202) 224-2541**

Mitch McConnell is the Senate Majority Leader. Elected to that position unanimously by his Republican colleagues first in 2014 and again in 2016, he is only the second Kentuckian to ever serve as Majority Leader in the U.S. Senate. Senator McConnell previously served, again by the unanimous vote of his colleagues, as the Republican Leader from the 110th through the 113th Congresses and as the Majority Whip in the 108th and 109th Congresses. McConnell also served in leadership as chairman of the National Republican Senatorial Committee during the 1998 and 2000 election cycles. First elected to the Senate in 1984, McConnell is Kentucky's longest-serving senator and was elected to a record sixth term in 2014. McConnell graduated with honors from the University of Louisville College of Arts and Sciences, where he served as student body president. He also is a graduate of the University of Kentucky College of Law, where he was elected president of the Student Bar Association. McConnell is married to Secretary Elaine L. Chao, the 18th U.S. Secretary of Transportation. **COMMITTEES:** Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry; Appropriations; and Rules & Administration.

**Kyle McGowan**  
**Director of External Affairs**  
**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services**

As the Director of External Affairs at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Kyle McGowan works across all HHS staff and operating divisions to listen to and coordinate with external groups. He works closely with Dr. Price's communications team to amplify and spread the Secretary's priorities for HHS directly to individual groups. Before joining the Department of HHS, Kyle served as the Deputy Chief of Staff to Congressman Tom Price, M.D. Kyle helped the Congressman develop a comprehensive strategy to promote Dr. Price's priorities to constituents, local business leaders and other elected officials. Kyle has worked for multiple members of Congress, and has run several Congressional and statewide campaigns. He is a graduate of the University of Georgia.

**Senator Rand Paul**  
**167 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington DC, 20510**  
**Phone: (202) 224-4343**

Elected to the United States Senate in 2010, Dr. Paul has proven to be an outspoken champion for constitutional liberties and fiscal responsibility. As a fierce advocate against government overreach, Dr. Paul has fought tirelessly to return government to its limited, constitutional scope. Dr. Paul is a devoted husband and father of three that is currently living with his family in Bowling Green, Ky., where Dr. Paul owned his own ophthalmology practice and performed eye surgery for 18 years. He grew up in Lake Jackson, Texas, and attended Baylor University. He graduated from Duke Medical School in 1988. Dr. Paul completed a general surgery internship at Georgia Baptist Medical Center in Atlanta, Ga., and completed his residency in ophthalmology at Duke University Medical Center. In 1995, Dr. Paul founded the Southern Kentucky Lions Eye Clinic, an organization that provides eye exams and surgery to needy families and individuals. **COMMITTEES:** Foreign Relations; Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP); Homeland Security and Government Affairs; Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

**Scott Pruitt**  
**U.S. EPA Administrator**

On February 17, 2017, the United States Senate confirmed Scott Pruitt as the 14th Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Most recently, Pruitt served as the Attorney General for Oklahoma, where he worked with neighboring state Arkansas to reach agreement to study the water quality of the Illinois River. Pruitt also led an historic water rights settlement between Oklahoma, Oklahoma City and the Choctaw and Chickasaw Tribal Nations that preserved the ecosystems of scenic lakes and rivers on native lands. He has dedicated his career to creating policy that serves the people and led the state's legal challenges against property rights intrusion, while protecting Oklahoma's natural resources and environment. Before being elected attorney general, he served eight years in the Oklahoma State Senate. After earning his Bachelor's Degree from Georgetown College and graduating from the University of Tulsa College of Law, Pruitt went into private legal practice, specializing in constitutional law.

**Congressman Hal Rogers (KY-5)**  
**2406 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515**  
**Phone: (202) 225-4601**

Serving Kentucky's Fifth Congressional District since 1981, Hal Rogers is currently in his 19th term representing the people of southern and eastern Kentucky, and is the longest serving Kentucky Republican ever elected to federal office. Focused on economic development, job creation, fighting illegal drug use and preserving the natural treasures of Appalachia, Rogers has a reputation for listening to his constituents and fighting for the interests of the region where he was raised. Congressman Rogers served as Chairman of the powerful House Appropriations Committee from 2011 to 2016. With more than 30-years of experience on the Appropriations Committee, he has served on eight different subcommittees, including leadership roles as Chairman or Ranking Member of three. Rep. Rogers remains committed to being a strong voice in Congress for fiscal responsibility, economic development, a strong national defense, and a prosperous future for America. **COMMITTEES:** House Appropriations; and House Republican Steering Committee.

**Jeffrey Rosen**  
**Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation**

Jeffrey A. Rosen is the 21st Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation. In this role, he advises and assists the Secretary in leading the Department's operating Administrations and more than 50,000 employees, and acts as the Department's Chief Operating Officer. Among other responsibilities, the Deputy Secretary serves as Chair of DOT's Council on Credit and Finance, as Chair of DOT's Intelligent Transportation Systems Management Council, as a member of FAA's Management Advisory Council, as DOT's representative to the Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council, and as a member of the President's Management Council. He also serves as Chair of DOT's Safety Council and as DOT's Regulatory Reform Officer. Before assuming his current position as Deputy Secretary, Jeff Rosen was a Senior Partner at Kirkland & Ellis LLP. Mr. Rosen received a B.A. in economics with Highest Distinction from Northwestern University and a J.D. Magna Cum Laude from Harvard Law School.

**Congressman John Yarmuth (KY-3)**  
**131 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515**  
**Phone: (202) 225-5401**

U.S. Representative John Yarmuth represents Kentucky's 3rd Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives. Now in his sixth term, Congressman Yarmuth serves as the top Democrat on the House Budget Committee. He has been recognized for his work to improve education, expand access to affordable health care, and revitalize manufacturing in Louisville. Born and raised in Louisville, Kentucky, Congressman Yarmuth graduated from Atherton High School and Yale University. **COMMITTEES:** Budget Committee.