



Kristi Kennedy



During a seven year career on Capitol Hill, Kristi Kennedy served as Counsel to Senator Paul S. Sarbanes (D-MD) from 1999-2001, and as his Legislative Director from 2001 through 2006. As LD, Kennedy oversaw the senior Senator from Maryland's groundbreaking legislative agenda, coordinating with Committee and leadership staff to advance complex policy initiatives. Sarbanes then served as both the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee, and is widely known for the landmark Sarbanes-Oxley

legislation, which has had a major impact on the business community after numerous accounting scandals upset the financial services industry in 2001 and 2002. In the wake of the terrorist attacks of September 11th, Sarbanes drafted crucial money laundering and anti-terrorist financing provisions that were included in the Patriot Act, and wrote the legislation to provide for the continued availability of terrorism risk insurance. Kennedy was also responsible for advising the Senator on all pending legislation, the application of Senate procedural rules, and was the primary point of contact for coordinating caucus positions with other Democratic offices. She had a particular interest in judiciary, tax, federal employees, and judiciary issues, and counts among her accomplishments with the Senator:

- spearheading the legislative effort to a repeal a more than \$1 billion surcharge on federal employee retirement plans through legislation, coalition building, and the budget and appropriations processes
- devising and managing an effective external relations program, taking in all elements from State interest groups to regional press to constituent communications
- successfully blocking the shift of a federal Circuit Court seat from Maryland to Virginia, working in a bipartisan manner with Members of the Judiciary Committee, the State bar association, and public advocacy organizations