

PRESIDENT & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

TOGO D. WEST, Jr.

Togo D. West, Jr. has been President and Chief Executive Officer of the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies since December 1, 2004. He is its third president.

Prior to joining the Joint Center, he had held senior positions in three presidential administrations. Secretary West served in the administration of President Gerald R. Ford as Associate Deputy Attorney General in the U. S. Department of Justice. In the administration of President Jimmy Carter, he was General Counsel of the Navy, later the Special Assistant to the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense, and, thereafter, General Counsel of the Department of Defense. He served in President Bill Clinton's administration as Secretary of the Army. In the second Clinton administration he was Secretary of Veterans Affairs and a member of the President's Cabinet. While Secretary of the Army, he also served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Panama Canal Commission.

Secretary West received the Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering from Howard University in 1965, and in 1968, a degree in law from the same university, where he was Managing Editor of the Howard Law Journal, graduating cum laude and first in his class. He served as law clerk to Judge Harold R. Tyler, Jr., of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York. Secretary West practiced law with Covington & Burling in Washington, D.C., from 1973 to 1975, from 1976 to 1977, and from 2000 to 2005. In 1981, after a period of government service, he joined the New York law firm of Patterson, Belknap, Webb & Tyler as managing partner of its Washington office. In 1990, he became Senior Vice President for Government Relations of the Northrop Corporation, and served until his appointment as Secretary of the Army.

Secretary West is Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Washington Hospital Center; Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Mitretek Systems, Inc.; Chairman of the National Capital Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America; and immediate past Chairman of the Greater Washington Board of Trade. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations; the World Affairs Council; the Atlantic Council; and the Visiting Committee of the Memorial Church of Harvard University. He is a member of the Council of Trustees of the Association of the United States Army and of the Board of Trustees of the Center for the Study of the Presidency, and he serves on the boards of publicly listed corporations.

Secretary West was commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army Field Artillery Corps and served on active military duty in the Army's Judge Advocate General Corps. For his military service, he was awarded the Legion of Merit and the Meritorious Service Medal, and for his public service, he has received decorations for distinguished service from the Departments of Defense, Army, Air Force, Navy, and Veterans Affairs. An Eagle Scout with Bronze Palm, he has been named Distinguished Eagle Scout by the Boy Scouts of America and awarded the Silver Buffalo and Silver Beaver Awards for his national contributions to America's youth.

Secretary and Mrs. West, also a lawyer, live in Washington, D.C., and are members of St. John's Church, Lafayette Square, where he has served as senior warden, member of the standing committee of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington, and of the Board of Directors of the Protestant Episcopal Cathedral Foundation. They have two daughters, who are lawyers, and two grandchildren, who are not.

