

KATE CHRISTENSEN MILLS



Kate Christensen Mills brings significant experience in politics and policy to Monument Advocacy. With a demonstrated record of achievement as a former administration official and a congressional staffer and a thorough understanding of the legislative process, she helps Monument's clients navigate the landscape of Capitol Hill and federal agencies. Kate's practice at the firm focuses on homeland security, immigration, travel, and information technology issues.

Prior to joining Monument in 2015, Kate served for over five years as the Assistant Director, and before that Deputy Assistant Director, for the Office of Congressional Relations, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). At ICE, Kate advised the Director of ICE on a wide range of issues, including immigration, intellectual property enforcement, border security, cyber security, human smuggling, human trafficking, money laundering, narcotics enforcement, counter-proliferation, counterterrorism, and visa security. Kate was responsible for promoting a greater understanding of ICE operations, policies, programs and initiatives with Congress. Additionally, she managed the Senate confirmation preparations for the Director of ICE and prepared senior leadership for Congressional hearing and briefings. During Kate's tenure at ICE, the agency tripled its interaction with Congress, leading to a more productive relationship and several legislative successes, including the Jaime Zapata Border Enforcement Security Task Force (BEST) Act and the first piece of legislation authorizing ICE outside of appropriations.

Before joining the Obama Administration, Kate served as Senior Legislative Counsel to Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren (D-CA). She focused on key issues including homeland security, election law, cyber-security, technology, tax, and labor. In particular, Kate oversaw the Congresswoman's work on the House Committee on Homeland Security and worked closely with staff from the House Judiciary Committee, Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security and International Law, of which she chaired.

Prior to her work with Congresswoman Lofgren, Kate was the Associate Director of the University of Maryland Center for Health and Homeland Security (CHHS). At CHHS, she managed the day to day operations, policies and projects, including Federal, state, and local contracts and a full legal staff. Kate was responsible for a U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) grant to provide Continuity of Operations training nationwide, and is a certified DHS Instructor. Working with top emergency responders, she developed plans, polices, and strategies to ensure the safety of citizens in the event of natural or man-made catastrophes. She regularly lectured on the issue of emergency management, served as an expert for the media, and testified before the state legislature.

After graduating from law school, Kate clerked for Commissioner Danny L. McDonald at the Federal Election Commission, where she provided legal and policy advice on the Federal Election Campaign Act, the Bipartisan Campaign Finance Reform Act, the Presidential Election Campaign Fund Act, and the Presidential Primary Matching Payment Account Act. Additionally, Kate has volunteered on multiple state, federal and local campaigns, with a specific focus on election protection.

Kate has been honored by the state of Maryland for her work with its international partners and was named one of *The Daily Record's* Leading Women for 2014. Kate is a member of the American Bar Association, the Maryland State Bar Association, Women in Homeland Security, and Women in Government Relations.

Kate received her J.D. from the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law, where she is currently the President Emeritus of the Alumni Board, and her B.A. from Notre Dame of Maryland University. While she is proud to be from St. Louis, Kate and her husband live in Annapolis, Maryland with their two children and dog, Truman.