

NAME: Melanne S. Verveer

POSITION: Deputy Assistant to the
President and Deputy Chief of
Staff to the First Lady

EDUCATION: B.S., Georgetown University
(cum laude)
M.S., Georgetown University
(university fellow)

Melanne Verveer is currently Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy Chief of Staff to the First Lady. Verveer served as Special Projects Coordinator to Mrs. Clinton during the Presidential transition and as an issues adviser during the Clinton-Gore campaign. She previously served as Executive Vice President and Public Policy Director for People for the American Way.

Prior to joining People for the American Way, Verveer worked in a variety of positions on Capitol Hill and in the public interest community. She was Legislative Director to Representative Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio), Coordinator for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs at the U.S. Catholic Conference and Field Manager of Common Cause.

Verveer is a founding member of the Coalition on Human Needs and served on the Boards of Directors of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, the Advocacy Institute, Public Allies, and NETWORK, among others. In 1989, she was named to "Beachman's Guide to Key Lobbyists".

Verveer received her master's and undergraduate degrees at Georgetown University. She and her husband Philip, a Washington attorney, have three children.

MELANNE S. VERVEER

Business Address:

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& Public Policy Director
People for the American Way
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(202) 467-2390

Home Address:

3101 Rittenhouse Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20015
(202) 966-8612

• **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

1985-Present **Executive Vice President (1988-present) & Public Policy Director (1985-present), People for the American Way/PFAW Action Fund**
(leave of absence, fall 1992, Clinton-Gore campaign)

Direct PFAW's public policy work and advocacy on a broad range of issues before Congress and the Executive Branch; played a key role in the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1990, Civil Rights Restoration Act, National & Community Service Act, the Reauthorizations of the National Endowments of the Arts & Humanities, and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting; and on judicial nominations.

Share in the overall management of the 300,000-member national civil rights and civil liberties organization, including field operations, fundraising, program development and communications; instrumental in developing and activating national coalitions on issue priorities; organization spokesperson in media, frequent speaker at conferences and university forums; testify before Congress.

1983 - 1984 **Legislative Director, Office of Representative Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio)**

Managed Representative's legislative activities and supervised staff. Legislative priorities included unemployment compensation reform, emergency jobs legislation and food assistance, reordering federal budget priorities; drafted child care in public housing bill.

1981 - 1982 Coordinator, Civil Rights and Urban Policy, United States Catholic Conference

Developed public policy positions in areas affecting low-income Americans, economic policy, the federal budget, housing and civil rights. Drafted statements and testimony on behalf of the Catholic bishops; organized national grassroots campaign to gain passage of the Voting Rights Extension Act. Lectured frequently on federal budget policies and their impact on low-income Americans. Assisted in forging coalitions to support fair federal budget policies.

1980 Director, Cooperative Development for Voluntary Associations, National Consumer Cooperative Bank

Responsible for the bank's outreach to the non-profit community to promote investment partnerships through the bank's self-help fund designed to empower low-income Americans.

1975 - 1979 Field Manager, Common Cause

Supervised the "Washington Connection" which was responsible for activating the organization's grassroots lobbying activities across the country on legislative priorities, primarily campaign finance reform. Wrote weekly Common Cause report and organized national coalition to support campaign finance reform legislation.

1973 - 1975 Special Assistant, Senator George McGovern

Organized project on his presidential campaign archives.

• **PROFESSIONAL DISTINCTIONS & HONORS**

Board of Directors & Executive Committee, Leadership Conference on Civil Rights (1987-present)

Founding Member, Coalition on Human Needs (1981); Chair, Legislative Committee (1981-1982); Board of Directors (1987-1992)

Board of Directors, Advocacy Institute (1990-present)

Board of Directors, Public Allies: National Center for Careers in Public Life (1991-present)

- **PROFESSIONAL DISTINCTIONS & HONORS (Continued)**

Board of Directors, NETWORK, the National Catholic Social Justice Lobby (1984-1988)

Founding Member, Interreligious Campaign on Economic Justice (1981)

Board of Advisors, Center for Policy Alternatives (1990-present)

Board of Advisors, National Policy Center (1991-present)

District of Columbia Advisory Council on Community Services (1992-present)

Named to "Beachman's Guide to Key Lobbyists"

Profiled in *National Journal* and *National Catholic Reporter*

Co-author, chapter on "Citizen Participation," *The Citizen's Transition Projects*, 1992

Consulting Editor, *The Journal of Arts Management and Law*, 1990 - present

- **EDUCATION**

B.S. - Georgetown University, cum laude

M.S. - Georgetown University (university fellow)

Married, three children.