

MEDIA MENTION

# Michael Toner Comments on Mitt Romney's Campaign Spending

*The Washington Post*

March 5, 2012

Michael Toner, co-chair of the Election Law & Government Ethics Practice, was interviewed by *The Washington Post* for a story on GOP presidential candidate Mitt Romney spending millions of dollars in consulting fees that have been billed to firms employing Mr. Romney's former staffers.

*The Post* reported that Republican political strategists said Mr. Romney's heavy use of outside consultants for fundraising is rare in a national political race. According to the Post, Mr. Romney paid a former aide's firm \$4.6 million for fundraising consulting. In comparison, President Barack Obama spent \$75,000 on the same expenditure.

The article added that President George Bush used a conventional approach by keeping most of his top aides in-house.

"That was the model that Bush followed, that [Robert J.] Dole followed," said Mr. Toner, former chairman of the Federal Election Commission and a campaign finance lawyer for the Bush team. "It was seen as cost-effective. You have really smart people working directly for the campaign who are 100 percent focused on the presidential race. Consulting costs can be minimized, and you have exclusive control."

## Related Professionals

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## Practice Areas

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