

Gordon M. Thomas

Gordon M. Thomas is Executive Director, Government Affairs for Textron Inc. and is responsible for legislative and political activities affecting Textron corporate issues and the company's commercial business interests. Included are commercial aviation and aircraft, taxation, environment, manufacturing and finance. He is directly involved in the oversight and development of the Textron Political Action Committee.

Mr. Thomas is a member of the Textron Global Leadership Team. He has participated in the Textron Executive Development Program, administered by Harvard Business School, and in the Leadership Development Program of the Center for Creative Leadership in Brussels.

Mr. Thomas is a graduate of the Textron Executive Leadership Program sponsored by The Garvin School of International Management (Thunderbird Executive Education) in Arizona. He is a certified Textron Six Sigma Green Belt.

He serves as a member of the Working Group of the Textron Steering Committee on Corporate Compliance Programs, with primary responsibility for issues relating to business-government relations ethics issues, political campaign and finance issues, and lobbying disclosure. He was a member of the Textron Corporate Compensation Evaluation Project.

From 2000 to 2003, Mr. Thomas served as Washington Representatives Committee Chairman of The Business Roundtable's Health and Retirement Task Force, which was chaired by Textron's Chairman and CEO.

Mr. Thomas is a past Chairman (2003-2004) of the Public Affairs Council, which promotes effective participation in political, governmental and community affairs and enhances the value and skills of public affairs executives. He is a past Chairman (2002-2003) of the Foundation for Public Affairs, which is affiliated with the Council and conducts research on emerging issues and trends that affect the practice of public affairs.

He is also a past Chairman (2005) of The Bryce Harlow Foundation, a non-profit educational organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of professional advocacy and increasing the understanding of its essential role in the development of sound public policy. He participates in the Foundation's Faculty Forum program, which sponsors seminar programs on business-government relations for college and university students.

Mr. Thomas is a member of the Public Affairs Steering Committee of the National Association of Manufacturers. He served as Chairman of the Electronic Industries Association's Legislative Affairs Council and of EIA's Tax Legislative Committee. He is also a former Chairman of the Aerospace Industries Association's Washington Procurement Committee. In addition, he is active with the General Aviation Manufacturers Association and the National Business Aviation Association.

He is a guest lecturer on business-government relations issues at The George Washington University Graduate School of Political Management.

Mr. Thomas is a native of North Carolina. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from Guilford College in Greensboro, a Master of Public Affairs degree from North Carolina State University in Raleigh, and a Juris Doctor degree from The Catholic University of America in Washington.

He was employed as a research assistant to former Senator Sam J. Ervin, Jr. (D-NC) and the U.S. Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights, as Legislative Assistant to former Congressman L.H. Fountain (D-NC), and as Legislative Director for former Congressman Ike Andrews (D-NC). He was also associated with the Washington law firm of White, Fine and Verville.

Mr. Thomas is a member of the District of Columbia Bar and the Virginia State Bar. He is a former vice chairman of the Election Law Committee of the Federal Bar Association.

He is a former president of the North Carolina Democratic Club of Washington and the North Carolina Society of Washington. He initiated and served as first Chairman of The Tar Heel Circle, an organization of Washington representatives of North Carolina-based businesses and trade associations.

Mr. Thomas is married to the former Melodie Brown and is a resident of Arlington, Virginia where he serves on the Vestry of St. Mary's Episcopal Church and is a member of Washington Golf and Country Club. He is also a member of the Metropolitan Club in Washington, DC. He has two daughters, Elizabeth Thomas Marquardt and Mary Oliver (Mollie) Thomas. He and Mrs. Thomas are active volunteers at St. Patrick's Episcopal Day School in Washington, DC.

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