



Tom Williams/CQ Roll Call

# Inspired by VAWA

Ron LeGrand's goal, as he settles into his role of vice president of public policy for the National Network to End Domestic Violence, is to put himself and his colleagues out of work. That's the only way he'll know if they've really succeeded, he says.

A Washington veteran, LeGrand says he was inspired to fight domestic violence after working as the lead Democratic counsel on the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act signed into law in March 2013.

"Every now and then something comes across your desk and captures your interest," he says. "It awakens that passion, and that's what the Violence Against Women Act did for me."

LeGrand had been, since 2009, counsel for Democrats on the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security and Investigations. He focused particularly on intelligence, firearms and Homeland Security agencies.

LeGrand got his start on Capitol Hill working as chief investigator and counsel for the Senate Judiciary Committee from 1987 to 1989, under then-Chairman Joseph R. Biden Jr.

In between his time in Congress, LeGrand spent 11 years as director of minority affairs and business development at Nabisco and

five years as chief diversity officer at AARP.

In his new job, LeGrand hopes to use his past experiences to bridge the gap between elected officials and the constituents they represent. He says his time on the Hill will be a valuable asset, and that he hopes to challenge old colleagues to think about new ways to prevent domestic violence.

"When I announced my retirement [from the House] I told them I am not going far and I will be back," he says.

One area he wants to work on in particular is fostering more involvement from men on the issue. "I know that there are good men out here, fighting the fight on domestic violence and giving a voice to it, but I don't think there are enough," he says.

LeGrand says he is already preparing for the next effort to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act in 2018. The 2013 law was passed after a tough fight in Congress, with many Republicans opposed to provisions that provided new domestic violence protections to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender victims.

"We accomplished a lot in the last reauthorization," he says, "and there are things we will need to address in the next reauthorization."

— Shane Rogers

## TRANSPORTATION

### Jeffrey Boothe

**NEW JOB:** President of newly established Boothe Transit Consulting.

**OLD JOB:** Partner at the law firm Holland & Knight, where his portfolio included public transit projects.

**BEFORE THAT:** Aide to GOP Sen. Mark O. Hatfield focused on funding for a light rail system in Portland, Ore. Boothe says his hometown was "completely transformed" by the new system.

**QUOTE OF NOTE:** As a daily Orange Line commuter: "We do have a very good [Metro] system. It's always easy to bash the system in your hometown, but as you have a chance to go and visit other communities, you appreciate what you have in your community."



## FINANCE

### Matthew Beck

**NEW JOB:** Senior director of media relations at the Investment Company Institute, a global trade association promoting investment companies.

**OLD JOB:** Vice president of strategic communications at Glover Park Group. He also was communications director for Democrats on the House Ways and Means Committee and had press positions for Democratic Reps. Brian Baird of Washington, Robert T. Matsui of California and Sander M. Levin of Michigan.

**ORIGIN STORY:** A New York native with a background in international relations, he started on the Hill with Baird.

**QUOTE OF NOTE:** "I like the challenge of taking very complex issues and distilling them down into simpler messages that can resonate."

— Interviews by Brittany Zeman, Kaitlyn Ridel

