



**EDWARD GILLESPIE JOINS SARD VERBINNEN & CO
AS CHAIRMAN OF NEW PUBLIC AFFAIRS PRACTICE**

New York and Washington, D.C., June 5, 2018 – Sard Verbinen & Co (“SVC”) announced today that Edward Gillespie, former chairman of the Republican National Committee, Counselor to the President during the Presidency of George W. Bush, and senatorial and gubernatorial candidate in Virginia, has joined SVC as a Managing Director and Chairman of the firm’s newly launched public affairs practice, SVC Public Affairs. Ed will be based in SVC’s new Washington, D.C. office and work with clients in the U.S. and globally.

The firm’s Washington, D.C. office is co-headed by Ambassador and former Deputy U.S. Trade Representative Miriam Sapiro and Purple Strategies Co-Founder Bruce Haynes, who both were recently named SVC Managing Directors and SVC Public Affairs Vice Chairs. The new practice will support client needs for fully integrated public affairs counsel on transformative high-stakes events that affect reputation and value, including M&A (CFIUS, anti-trust and other regulatory matters), crises, government oversight and investigations, issues management, and policy positioning.

Mr. Gillespie has served at the highest levels of the U.S. government, both in the White House and on Capitol Hill. He previously founded several successful public affairs businesses, including the bipartisan Quinn Gillespie & Associates, which from 2000-2014 was one of Washington’s top public affairs firms.

SVC Chairman & Chief Executive Officer George Sard and President Paul Verbinen said, “Ed’s unparalleled experience in business, politics and government will be an important asset to SVC’s clients. In addition to his expertise in public affairs, he has advised clients on M&A and crisis situations and counseled CEOs and Boards through significant transitions and corporate challenges.”

“I’m excited to join one of the most respected and successful strategic communications firms,” Gillespie said. “SVC’s client relationships are second to none, and I look forward to building on the multidisciplinary suite of services the firm provides. I am excited to work with Miriam, Bruce and all of my new colleagues across SVC’s global platform in providing strategic communications advice to our clients in the U.S. and around the world.”

In April, Gillespie completed a residential fellowship at the Harvard Kennedy School’s Institute of Politics. He serves on the Boards of the University of Chicago’s Institute of Politics and America’s Kids Belong, a non-profit foundation that helps to encourage adoption and foster care.

About Sard Verbinen & Co

SVC is an independent strategic communications firm focused on supporting companies through complex, high stakes situations affecting reputation and value, including transactions, proxy contests, IPOs, litigations and crises. Headquartered in New York, SVC has offices in Washington, D.C., Chicago, Houston, San Francisco, Los Angeles, London and Hong Kong. The Firm has over 200 employees,

including 19 partners. SVC has been widely recognized for its leadership in its focus areas. Mergermarket ranked SVC the #1 Global and U.S. PR Firm by deal volume and value in 2017. The Firm was also named Financial PR Agency of the Year by The Holmes Report in 2018. For more information, please visit sardverb.com.

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