

**MBA**<sup>®</sup>

MORTGAGE BANKERS ASSOCIATION

## MBA SPEAKERS BUREAU



### **John T. Mechem**

Vice President of Public Affairs  
Mortgage Bankers Association

John T. Mechem serves as the Vice President of Public Affairs in the External Relations group of the Mortgage Bankers Association. In this capacity, he manages public affairs activity for the association, including media relations, speechwriting, social media, and member and executive communications. He is responsible for strengthening and increasing MBA's voice on public policy positions and research data and analysis on the residential and commercial/multifamily real estate finance markets. He also develops overarching industry messages and helps define and develop key messaging related to industry issues.

Additionally, he oversees MBA's digital news outlets, including the MBA Newslink daily and weekly email news publications, as well as MBA Insights, an online outlet with in-depth features and articles on industry trends and issues.

Prior to joining MBA in 2006, John spent five years as Director of Communications for the American Forest & Paper Association where he served as spokesman and oversaw public outreach for the association's forestry group. In that role, he managed both paid and earned media campaigns to promote the industry's public policy agenda and created and implemented strategies to promote the industry's "best practices", including defending the industry and members from marketplace campaigns and public relations attacks from environmental groups.

John began his career in public affairs on Capitol Hill, serving as Deputy Press Secretary for U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell (R-KY), managing Senator McConnell's state media outreach. In 1998, he was tapped by newly-elected Senator (and baseball Hall of Famer) Jim Bunning (R-KY) to run his press operation. Among his first duties upon assuming his job was managing the Senator's media and communications surrounding the impeachment proceedings against President Bill Clinton.

John graduated from Colby College in Waterville, ME with a degree (BA, 1993) in Government and American Studies.

The Mortgage Bankers Association (MBA) is the national association representing the real estate finance industry, an industry that employs more than 280,000 people in virtually every community in the country. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., the association works to ensure the continued strength of the nation's residential and commercial real estate markets, to expand homeownership, and to extend access to affordable housing to all Americans. MBA promotes fair and ethical lending practices and fosters professional excellence among real estate finance employees through a wide range of educational programs and a variety of publications. Its membership of over 2,200 companies includes all elements of real estate finance: mortgage companies, mortgage brokers, commercial banks, thrifts, REITs, Wall Street conduits, life insurance companies, and others in the mortgage lending field. For additional information, visit MBA's Web site: [www.mba.org](http://www.mba.org).