

## Duane R. Thompson



Duane Thompson is president of Potomac Strategies LLC, a legislative and media relations consulting firm in the Washington, D.C. area. He also serves as Senior Policy Analyst at fi360. Previously he was managing director of the Financial Planning Association's Washington office.

Thompson has 20 years of experience lobbying on business issues in both Washington and more than two dozen state capitals around the country. As FPA's chief lobbyist, Duane was responsible for developing and managing a combined lobbying, public relations and litigation campaign that successfully challenged the SEC's controversial "Merrill Lynch" rule. The rule created a loophole in securities regulation that Wall Street exploited for seven years by allowing stockbrokers to compete on an unlevel playing field with financial planners in providing fee-based advisory services. A federal appeals court agreed with FPA and overturned the rule in 2007, requiring investment banks to transfer some \$300 billion in 1 million brokerage accounts to the fiduciary protections of adviser regulation.

Before joining FPA, Thompson worked for the International Franchise Association, primarily on state legislative issues. Previous to that he worked on congressional staff as a press secretary and in the Reagan White House press office.

Thompson holds the Accredited Investment Fiduciary® designation, a Master's in journalism from the University of Missouri, and a Bachelor of Arts in history and studio art from Principia College in Illinois. He resides in Kensington, Maryland, with his two children.