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Moe Vela's diverse career and experience uniquely positions him at the epicenter of where law, politics, business and finance intersect. Mr. Vela is the President and CEO of The Vela Group, LLC, a global business development consulting firm with clients in the U.S. and Latin America.

Through this venture, he brings an international network of high profile leaders and decision makers to his various clients.

In addition to running his firm, Mr. Vela is Of Counsel at the law firm of Stein Mitchell Cipollone Beato and Missner. He was previously a partner at the international law firm, Holland & Knight. Mr. Vela's areas of experience include business development, public policy, government relations and Latino advocacy and outreach. He is also an adjunct professor at American University Washington College of Law.

Mr. Vela is a longtime Washington insider. Mr. Vela's leadership and counsel have been sought by some of the country's top political and business leaders. Mr. Vela served in President Obama's administration as the Director of Administration and Senior Advisor in the Office of Vice President Joe Biden.

The stint was the second White House appointment for Mr. Vela, who served as Chief Financial Officer and Senior Advisor on Hispanic Affairs for Vice President Al Gore. **Mr. Vela holds the distinction of being the first Hispanic American and gay American to serve twice in a senior executive role in the White House.**

A proud Texan, Mr. Vela earned his undergraduate degree at the University of Texas at Austin and his law degree from St. Mary's University School of Law.

Mr. Vela comes from a family devoted to public service, with his father and uncle both serving as judges. His cousin, Filemon Vela, is currently a U.S. Congressman representing Texas' 34th congressional district.

Mr. Vela's entrepreneurial tenacity and organizational prowess have been well-established throughout his career. Mr. Vela is highly respected for his 30+ years of political experience and knowledge and has advised numerous candidates on grassroots organizing, messaging, communications, as well as national campaign strategies. Vela has been selected to be a floor whip at the 2016 Democratic Convention in Philadelphia.

Mr. Vela is frequently invited to be keynote speaker at events and serve on panels. He has been featured in several national publications and has been named one of the "Top 100 Hispanics in America" by "Hispanic Business" magazine and was twice named as one of the "101 Most Influential Latinos" by "Latino Leaders" magazine, as well as, one of Washington's Top 300 Insiders by the "National Journal." He is the author of "Little Secrets. Big Dreams" – a tale of his life's journey.

Honors

- Top 100 Hispanics in America [2009]
- Top 101 Latino Leaders, Latino Leaders Magazine [2010, 2011]
- Top 300 D.C. Insiders, National Journal

Memberships

- American Bar Association
- National Council of La Raza
- Hispanic National Bar Association
- NAACP

Affiliations

- Women's Business Enterprise National Council Equality [Maryland]
- Latin America Coalition of North Carolina [Advisory Board]
- Adjunct Law Professor, American University College of Law



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