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Former Top Cornyn, Schumer Aides Unite to Launch New Bipartisan Lobby Firm

*Matt Johnson and Izzy Klein Are Longtime Hill Leadership, Committee Staffers
Oracle Hails Klein/Johnson Group as ‘Lobbying Dream Team’*

Washington, DC: Today, veteran Senate leadership aides Matt Johnson and Izzy Klein announced the formation of a new bipartisan lobby and public policy shop, the Klein/Johnson Group. The firm boasts ties to top Senate leaders of both parties: Johnson was previously chief counsel to Senate Majority Whip John Cornyn (R-TX) and Klein was communications director to Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY).

Johnson and Klein have worked both sides of Capitol Hill across a dozen committees and the Senate and House Leadership teams; with numerous Trump and Obama administration officials, regulatory agencies; and with leading think tanks and advocacy groups inside and outside the Beltway. Johnson is a veteran of Podesta Group and McBee Strategic Consulting while Klein was most recently Managing Partner at Roberti Global: Irizarry Klein Roberti and before that, a senior principal with the Podesta Group. The Klein/Johnson Group founders are high-impact, versatile, trusted advisers who construct bipartisan game-plans for public policy challenges, and they achieve results.

The Klein/Johnson Group launches with clients that include Oracle, First Data and the Civitas Capital Group.

Johnson and Klein met and collaborated on multiple clients at their previous firms, where they provided legislative and political strategy to clients looking to move legislation, shape regulatory actions, manage reputational crises, and develop and educate champions. Both have represented scores of Fortune 500 companies, startups, trade associations, and non-profits.

Ken Glueck, SVP of Oracle, said: *“The Klein/Johnson Group is a lobbying dream team for Oracle. For almost a decade, Matt and Izzy have delivered for us—successfully navigating Congress and the Administration. They are among the best bipartisan strategists and political minds inside the Beltway.”*

Daniel J. Healy, CEO of Civitas Capital Group, said: *“I thought all lobbyists were the same when Civitas Capital began its efforts in DC. But after I started working with Matt three years ago, I discovered that he sets a much higher standard for how lobbyists operate. Civitas has been lucky to rely on Matt over the years and we look forward to continued success with him and his new firm, the Klein/Johnson Group.”*

Kim Ford, SVP of First Data, said: *“I’ve worked with Izzy in many roles over the years and he consistently brings tremendous value to our government affairs operation. There are many ‘shoe leather’ lobbyists in town, but Izzy provides much more than that. He serves as part of our team, providing strategic counsel on our advocacy strategy and helping us execute every step of the way. We are excited to be working with the Klein/Johnson Group.”*

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The current times are turbulent, filled with constant breaking news, frenzied legislative action, fast-moving regulatory activity, and unprecedented political uncertainty. The Klein/Johnson Group maintains a level-headed disposition and offers clear-eyed, creative, and comprehensive strategies. They help organizations and their leaders tune out the noise and focus on what's truly important to their bottom lines.

Matt Johnson At a Glance:

- *Hometown:* Houston, Texas
- *Education:* Medill School of Journalism, Northwestern University; Notre Dame Law School
- *Campaigns:* statewide races in Illinois for Senate and governor, and Bush for President 2000
- *Capitol Hill:* top policy aide/chief counsel for Senate Majority Whip John Cornyn (R-TX). Had hand in development of over 50 bipartisan bills in Congress
- *K Street:* Led Podesta's Tech, Telecom & IP practice, representing over a dozen innovative global tech companies.
- *Writing:* profiled by *National Journal*, *The Hill*, and the *Washington Post*; quoted in *the Wall Street Journal*, *USA Today*, *Legal Times*, *The Atlantic*, and *Techdirt*.
- *Life now:* Chevy Chase, MD; with his wife, Kate, and four children
- *Rooting Interests:* Houston Astros, Northwestern Wildcats, Notre Dame Fighting Irish

Izzy Klein At a Glance:

- *Hometown:* West Orange, New Jersey
- *Education:* Georgetown University (Government and Theology double major)
- *Campaigns:* Fundraiser for fmr. House Minority Leader, Dick Gephardt (D-MO) and Rep. Ed Markey (D-MA); finance committee member for Democratic House and Senate campaigns
- *Capitol Hill:* Communications Director for Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY), now-Senator Ed Markey (D-MA); Deputy Staff Director for Joint Economic Committee
- *K Street:* Managing Partner at Roberti Global; senior principal at Podesta Group; created/led FinTech coalition during Dodd-Frank Act; quarterbacked effort to pass 2012 JOBS Act
- *Writing:* Op-eds on Bitcoin regulation and the CFIUS process; profiled in *CQ Weekly*, *National Journal*, *Boston Globe* and *Morning Consult*; quoted by *The New York Times*, *Politico*, *Bloomberg News*, *Wall Street Journal*, and other media outlets.
- *Life now:* Chevy Chase, MD; with wife, Sarah, twins, and a large fluffy dog
- *Rooting interests:* NY Yankees, NY Football Giants, Georgetown Hoyas

More information can be found at the new Klein/Johnson website: www.kleinjohnson.com.

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