



Legal Eagle: Thomas Hale Boggs, Jr.

Thomas Hale Boggs, Jr. was born on the 18th of September in 1940 in New Orleans, LA to Hale and Corinne Claiborne Boggs. His education began with a basic high school degree at the Georgetown Preparatory School. Upon graduation, Boggs proceeded to Georgetown University where he obtained his bachelor’s of arts and law degrees. Afterwards, he worked as an economist and a lobbyist for a number of different companies.



In 1966, Thomas Hale Boggs, Jr. joined the firm now known as Patton Boggs. This move was not favored by his father because Patton was a noted Republican. Boggs wanted to earn his own keep, however, and took the job despite stern protests from his parents. In this position, he was driven to be more than just a simple lobbyist. He wanted to become a good lawyer and know what the practice of law truly was. One of his first clients wanted to pay much

lower than a typical fee. However, Boggs did not turn away this client, appreciative of the opportunity. Many individuals who knew Boggs, even those who disliked him, all noted that Boggs was wholly ethical.

Over the years, Boggs, Jr. worked to take the firm and transform it into the nation’s top practice. The firm primarily assists clients within the intersection of business and government. Ever since the National Law Journal formulated its list of the top hundred lawyers, Thomas Hale Boggs, Jr. has made the list. In his practice, the advice that Boggs gives is with respect to the laws and regulations surrounding taxes, trade, telecommunications, health care, and so on. His peers consider him to be a highly effective and surprisingly creative lawyer, all thanks to his unique ability to take the client’s position, analyze all of the possible options available in each case, and develop strategies in proceeding before Congress, the White House, and many other federal agencies. Before joining the firm, Boggs, Jr. was an economist with the Joint Economic Committee, and he served as the coordinator of the National Defense Executive Reserve in the Executive Office of the president. In addition to this, Boggs served on the board

of directors for several corporations and served on the Board of Regents of Georgetown University.

Job seekers in the law field have quite the lawyer to model themselves after when it comes to Thomas Hale Boggs, Jr. Once Thomas Hale Boggs graduated from law school, he proceeded to apply himself to the best of his ability at all times. He used every ounce of his creativity and reasoning ability to approach every single problem and find a unique solution for each.

After working as a political lobbyist, he realized it was not the only way he could affect change. Then, after joining Patton Boggs, he proceeded to work towards his goal of changing the name of the game. To achieve his goal, he was greatly appreciative of whatever opportunities came his way, including taking work below his standard pay.

It is through his complete dedication that Boggs has such achievements as the following - designed and acquired approval in 1979 from Congress for a Chrysler Corporation bailout in the amount of \$1.5 billion. This was the largest bailout in US history, before the 2008 bailout. Boggs’ regular clients consist of over fifty corporations, trade associations and state and federal governments.

Thomas Hale Boggs, Jr. was a man of extremely strong ethics. He saw the value of credibility in ones’ actions. He ensured his credibility showed in every encounter. Boggs was a thinker and strategist above everything else. This is perhaps his biggest lesson: strike strategically by weighing all options and proceed to follow the path that meets your virtues as well as those that best achieve your client’s goals.

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