

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS



Mike Braham Chief Executive Officer, Trapollo

As CEO of Trapollo, a Cox Business Company, Mike Braham is responsible for profit & loss performance and leading all aspects of strategy and execution of the Trapollo business plan.

Braham retains a unique blend of strategic and operational experience in healthcare, telecommunications, and crisis management industries. He has extensive expertise in building highperformance teams, and has been a leader in public and private enterprise level organizations as well as smaller venture capital-backed firms.

Prior to Trapollo, Mike was responsible for revenue growth, profit and loss performance, and led the development and execution of the sector's strategic and operating plans that included over 1,500 employees across 300 facilities in 13 countries at Magellan Federal, a division of Magellan Healthcare. Mike lead the acquisition of a \$130 million target that doubled employees and revenue to over \$300 million.

Before his leadership role at Magellan Health, Mike served as chief of staff, head of strategy and innovation and head of member engagement and digital assets for Aetna's \$8 billion Medicare division. Focused on operational execution and enhancements, he championed several strategic initiatives including the design of a new member engagement strategy and the transformation of Aetna Medicare's web-based enrollment capabilities.

Mike also spent seven years with Cox Business as vice president of the company's Hampton Roads market. In this role, he worked closely with CXOs at healthcare provider organizations, medical schools, and major universities to create new delivery and monitoring capabilities for chronically ill and aging constituents in both urban and rural underserved communities through emerging telemedicine applications. His strategic work in the health care vertical produced several of Cox Business' largest customers and helped pave the path to the company's overwhelming success in this strategic vertical market.



Sarah Buck

Public Affairs Manager, Cox Virginia

Sarah Buck is part of the Government and Public Affairs Team for Cox Virginia. By title, she is a Public Affairs Manager; by function she gets to play in the sandbox with great people inside and outside of the Cox organization including the media, business leaders, local government officials and community partners. Her focus is working towards building a better future through corporate social responsibility, digital equity programs and business development opportunities.

Prior to Cox, Sarah worked for SUPERVALU, supporting public, community and government relations for the Farm Fresh Food & Pharmacy and Shoppers Food and Pharmacy grocery chains.

Sarah is currently serving as President of the Hampton Roads Chapter of PRSA (Public Relations Society of America) and volunteers her time in the community supporting several nonprofits including the Girl Scouts and Step Up for Down Syndrome. She is also fortunate to have many opportunities to volunteer in support youth education programs through her employer.

Sarah has a Bachelor's Degree in Communication Studies from Virginia Tech and is a graduate of the WICT (Women in Cable Telecommunications) Rising Leaders Program and Georgia Institute of Technology's Management Development Program. In 2016, Sarah was recognized as one of Hampton Roads' Top 40 Under 40 by Inside Business and was recently named as a Future Famous Former by the Girl Scout Council of Colonial Coast.

Rick Cimerman



Vice President, External and State Affairs, National Cable and Telecommunications Association

Rick is Vice President of External and State Affairs at NCTA – The Internet & Television Association. His primary responsibility is to aid State Cable Associations and cable companies in working with state regulators, legislators and policymakers. He is also responsible for outreach to think tanks, the academic community and various policy advocacy organizations and directs NCTA's Telecom Working Group and Pole Attachments Working Group.

Rick is a member of the Board of Directors of the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) Foundation, the Internet Education Foundation, and the Advisory Council for New Mexico State University's Center for Public Utilities. He previously served as President of the National Coalition for Technology and Education in Training (NCTET), co-chair of the Congressional Internet Caucus Advisory Committee's Broadband Task Force, a member of the Program Committee of the TPRC Research Conference on Communication, Information and Internet Policy and program chair for the three NARUC/NECA National Summits on Broadband Deployment as well as holding leadership positions in other intergovernmental organizations. He is a recognized expert on broadband and telecommunications policy, has testified across the country before numerous state Public Service Commissions and Legislatures and has also served as an adjunct faculty member of Michigan State University's NARUC Annual Regulatory Studies Program.

Prior to joining NCTA he worked for nearly three years as the Director of the Telecommunications Division of the Maryland Public Service Commission. Rick also worked for two and a half years at the Florida Public Service Commission with an emphasis on issues related to competition and emerging competition. He holds Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Economics from the University of Florida where he studied public utility economics in association with the Public Utility Research Center (PURC) at the University of Florida.

Rick is also a former Jeopardy TV game show winner.



Eric Collins

Director of Government Relations for Charter Communications North Carolina, Maryland and Virginia Eastern Region

With more than 24 years in the cable television industry, he previously worked with Cablevision Industries and Time Warner Cable. He is a native of Pembroke, North Carolina and a 1983 graduate of Pembroke State University, currently known as the University of North Carolina at Pembroke. Prior to his career in the cable industry, he worked for 9 years with the NC Administrative Office of the Courts. As the Director of Government Relations, Eric works with local, state and federal elected officials to insure the company's

business interests are preserved and he has tirelessly worked to educate elected officials on cable matters that are necessary for the successful growth of the cable industry.

Eric was elected to the North Carolina Cable Television Association (NCCTA) Board of Directors in 2011 and served as the President of the NCCTA Board in 2014 and 2016. He also serves on the Virginia Cable Television Broadband Board. In 1996, Eric was awarded Cablevision Industries, General Manager of the Year award. During his tenure as GM, he managed all facets of the cable operations that included the rebuild and upgrade of cable systems to deploy advance video, high speed internet and digital phone services. He has been honored by Fort Bragg military leaders for his efforts to assist and improve the lives of soldiers stationed at Fort Bragg. Eric is an active member in the community, volunteering and served on numerous boards/councils that include: Chambers of Commerce, United Ways, Chairman of the Pembroke Recreation Board, Military Affairs Council and many other nonprofit organizations. In 2001, he was recognized as the Time Warner Cable; Raleigh Division, Volunteer of Year, having volunteered more 1200 hours in the community.



David Coombs

Director of Business Services, Comcast – Virginia / West Virginia

His Business Services teams provide Internet, TV, Voice Services, VoIP Phone Systems, and other Advanced services to businesses in the Comcast region. By working closely with business and property owners, municipalities, and developers, the Comcast Business Services team works diligently to expand services and geographic coverage in the Virginias.

Prior to joining Comcast in 2011, David spent thirteen years with Sprint as the Region GM for Wireless, Wireline, and Local Telco for Virginia and Eastern North Carolina.



Terry Ellis

Vice President of Government & Regulatory Affairs, Cox Communications Virginia

Terry Ellis joined the Richmond office of Comcast in 2017 as the vice president of government and regulatory affairs. In this role, she is responsible for state government and regulatory affairs across Virginia and West Virginia. Before joining Comcast, she was vice president of government operations for the Virginia Cable Telecommunications Association where she directed the development and implementation of annual legislative and regulatory priorities. Ellis holds a Bachelor of Science in business management from East Carolina University. She and her husband reside in Sutherland.



Evan Feinman

Executive Director of the Tobacco Region Revitalization Commission and Governor Northam's Chief Broadband Advisor.

He previously served as Deputy Secretary of Natural Resources, and as the Policy Director for the McAuliffe campaign. Evan has worked on multiple transition teams and campaigns at the state and federal level, and at the Commonwealth Institute, a budget and fiscal policy think tank in Richmond. He received his bachelor's degree from the University of Virginia, spent two years on a fellowship focused on energy and transportation policy, and then received his law degree from Washington and Lee University

School of Law. A Lynchburg native, Evan currently resides in Richmond with his wife, Annalisa Feinman, an attorney with the Office of the Richmond Public Defender.



Jeff Leget

Vice President of Information Technology & Facilities, CableLabs

As CableLabs' VP of IT and Facilities, Jeff does more than just manage bits, bytes, and boardrooms. CableLabs' entire suite of technologies span the visual and radio spectrum, and Jeff ensures those technologies have the right resources, interconnectivity and security they need in the lab and in the real world. With a passion for the epiphany and a penchant for presentations, Jeff loves rolling up his sleeves and sharing technology insights with students, cable company members, and other industry partners. A runner, skier, and avid traveler, Jeff loves to connect with people wherever he goes.



Scott Randall

Vice President & General Manager, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia, Atlantic Broadband

Scott Randall is a 33 year telecommunications industry veteran experienced with telephone, cable, and wireless internet companies.

Currently he serves as the VP / GM for Atlantic Broadband's Virginia/Maryland/Delaware Region.

Previously, Scott was the Area General Manager for Rise Broadband – the largest wireless Internet Provider in the US. He was responsible for operations across 8 Midwestern states.

In 2017, Scott was appointed to the Maryland Broadband Taskforce by Governor Hogan and is also a technical representative to the PamunkeyNet initiative in Virginia.



Marie Schuler

Director of Government & Regulatory Affairs, Comcast

Marie Schuler is a 28-year veteran of the cable industry. Since May of 2000, she has been responsible for Government & Community Affairs at Comcast in Northern Virginia, working with state and local governments and local communities. Her responsibilities include negotiating Franchise Agreements, Compliance, and acting as a liaison to municipal staff and Commissions in the education and outreach of Comcast products and services. Support of the Internet Essentials program is one of her primary goals.

Marie is a past President of the VCTA and sits on the Board. She's also a prior President of WICT Washington/Baltimore Chapter, and currently a member of the organization. She's a past Executive Director of the Arlington Chamber of Commerce, Alexandria Chamber of Commerce, and is a member of both, as well as Loudoun County, Reston, Prince William County, and Fredericksburg Regional Chambers. She is involved with the Telecommunications / Cable Commissions of Arlington County, Loudoun County, Stafford County, Spotsylvania County, Fairfax County and the City of Fredericksburg. She's also a Board member of the Alexandria / Arlington Workforce Council.

Marie is a graduate of Canisius College, Buffalo, New York with a B.S. in Business Administration. She's also a graduate of the Comcast Executive Program, 2005 Class of Leadership Arlington, and 2013 Class of Lead Virginia. Marie resides in Alexandria, Virginia.



Barrett Stork

Director of Government & Regulatory Affairs, Cox - Virginia

Barrett Stork is the Director of Government & Regulatory Affairs for Cox Virginia. He represents the company as a liaison between Cox and government officials at the local, state, and federal level. His team handles a variety of responsibilities including legislative advocacy, regulatory compliance, community affairs, and franchise negotiations.

Prior to joining Cox in 2011, Barrett served three years as an Economic Development volunteer with the U.S. Peace Corps in Romania, was the Director of Communications for a member of Virginia's General Assembly, and handled government affairs for the Hampton Roads REALTORS Association.



Alan S. Tilles

Attoryney at Law; Chairman - Technology, Media and Telecommunications Department, Shulman Rogers

With over 30 years of wireless experience, Alan Tilles is viewed as one of the "go-to" attorneys in the industry regarding spectrum utilization. From radio manufacturers, to frequency coordinators, radio engineers, public safety agencies, railroads and utilities, he is frequently called upon to create innovative answers to complex technological problems.

Alan's work in wireless goes well beyond simply reviewing contracts and writing FCC comments. Using his extensive background owning and running radio stations, Alan has been at the forefront of conceiving and proposing rules at the FCC to address problems faced by the wireless industry. Major projects include: authoring rules for land mobile radio narrowbanding; representing hundreds of public safety entities in 800 MHz rebanding; working with the Telecommunications Industry Association on its Smart Building Initiative, authoring rules defining interference; writing and evaluating Requests for Proposal to implement public safety radio systems; and helping railroads acquire spectrum for Positive Train Control. He is a co-founder of the Government Wireless Technology & Communications Association, through which he has been involved intimately involved in the FCC's Small Cell proceedings, including authoring the only Petition for Reconsideration of the Commission Small Cell decision on right-of-way rates.



Craig Venable

Vice President of Commercial Services, Shentel

He is responsible for leading the Shentel Business team for all commercial sales initiatives related to Shentel's Wireline and Cable networks. Mr. Venable joined the company in 2015, though he began his telecommunications career in 1998 with various sales leadership roles at MCI and Verizon as well as large project initiatives at Time Warner Cable and Comcast Business Class. He earned a bachelor's degree from James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA and is currently a Board Member and Treasurer for the Shenandoah County Chamber of Commerce.



Thom Watkins

Vice President, Cox Business – Sales, Hampton Roads

Thom Watkins joined Cox Communications in 2009 as Director of Sales for Cox Business Director in Hampton Roads. In his prior role Thom provided strategic vision and management direction for Cox Communications Commercial telecommunications operation in Hampton Roads. Through his teams Thom was responsible for all business-to-business sales and commercial relationships. During his 8 years with Cox Business, Thom has won 3 Winners Circle Awards and 2 Torch Awards.

With over 34 years of senior sales management experience, Thom has held several leadership positions in the telecommunications industry. He has worked for Level 3, Genuity and GTE Internetworking. Prior to his experience in the telecom field, Thom spent 16 years in various executive and sales management positions with Dun and Bradstreet.

Throughout his experience, Thom has demonstrated his ability to drive business success by identifying and capturing market opportunities, streamlining sales operations and building long-term partnerships.

Thom attended Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration.

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