

Press Release

Akerman Lawyer Takes On Capitol Hill and Big Law in Satirical “Capitol Gains”

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Rick Spees’ new novel pits an ambitious and duplicitous lobbyist against a dysfunctional Washington

In his new book, “Capitol Gains”, Akerman partner Rick Spees draws on four decades experience as a public policy lawyer and Beltway insider to give readers a humorous look at the underbelly of lobbying and D.C. politics. The book follows Richard Brewster, an up-and-coming Washington lobbyist who creates a phony client to fast-track his career, and in the process exposes the absurdity of modern politics. From irreverent legislation to pro wrestlers at Congressional hearings, Spees takes readers on a ride that is too real and too funny.

Buddy Dyer, Mayor of Orlando, Florida offered a blurb for the book, writing:

“‘Capitol Gains’ is a very funny novel. Rick Spees has taken his decades of lobbying experience to create a lovable but corrupt lobbyist in Richard Brewster—ambitious, willing to bend a few rules, never telling a direct lie but never quite conveying the whole truth, fast and loose with money. It all goes quite well until Brewster is on top of the world. Then reality sets in. I couldn’t put it down until I saw how Brewster survived his roller-coaster ride.”

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While he is beginning his career as a novelist, Spees has a long and distinguished legal career, having served as chair of Akerman's Government Affairs and Public Policy Practice, among other accomplishments. Prior to private practice, Spees served in a number of positions in the U.S. Senate, including three years as the staff director and chief counsel of the Appropriations Subcommittee on the Departments of Commerce, Justice, State, Judiciary, and Related Agencies. He also served on the Senate Judiciary Committee and as a legislative assistant to former Senator Paul Laxalt (R-Nevada).

"We congratulate Rick on this great achievement," said LaKeisha Marsh, chair of Akerman's Government Affairs and Public Policy Practice Group. "'Capitol Gains' represents the culmination of Rick's great talent, wit, and an illustrious career of influence in our nation's capital. The book showcases Rick's keen sense of humor, tremendous writing abilities, and his unique perspective on the ins and outs of Capitol Hill that only a true insider witnesses."

"Capitol Gains" is available in hard cover on Amazon, Barnes and Nobles and Target. For more information visit rickspees.com.

About Akerman

Akerman LLP is a top 100 U.S. law firm recognized among the most forward-thinking firms in the industry by Financial Times. Its more than 700 lawyers and business professionals collaborate with the world's most successful enterprises and entrepreneurs to navigate change, seize opportunities, and help drive innovation and growth.

Akerman's Government Affairs & Public Policy Practice Group includes a bi-partisan team of lawyers and public policy advisors located in Washington, D.C., Illinois and Florida. The group is experienced in appropriations, transportation,

hospitality, healthcare, education, Native American
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