

John Schnitker graduated from the Law School in 1977. He then clerked for two years with the Honorable David S. Porter, Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio. After his law clerkship, he was an associate from 1979 to 1985 at Dow, Lohnes & Albertson (no longer in existence) in Washington, D.C., where he handled various pieces of litigation, including commercial and real estate disputes, bankruptcy matters, communications industry disputes and labor law matters. In 1985, he joined the Appellate Staff of the Civil Division at the U.S. Department of Justice where he handled numerous government civil appeals in all federal circuit courts and assisted the Solicitor General's office on various Supreme Court cases. During that period, he also managed DOJ's role in the 1999 designations of thirty foreign terrorist organizations, including Al-Qaeda, including a successful defense of those designations before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. Since 2000, Mr. Schnitker has been an attorney-adviser in the Office of the Legal Adviser at the U.S. Department of State. During that time, he has worked on a variety of matters, including information disclosure to Congress, the courts and the public, international telecommunications, international debt/international financial institutions (World Bank, IMF, etc.) and Presidential permits (e.g., the Keystone XL permit application among others). Currently, Mr. Schnitker is in the legal office that handles matters related to the countries of South and Central Asia, including primary responsibility for India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Maldives and the Central Asian republics; he also has secondary responsibility for issues relating to Afghanistan and Pakistan.