

## **Stephen G. Smith Named Editor in Chief of National Journal**

### **Ben Pershing is Managing Editor**

Washington, DC; October 29, 2015 – Award winning magazine editor Stephen G. Smith has been named editor in chief of [National Journal](#), David Bradley, chairman of parent company Atlantic Media, announced today. In addition, Ben Pershing has been promoted to managing editor.

Smith will oversee the National Journal newsroom, which, as [announced earlier this week](#), is sharpening its focus over the next few months to provide premium content to National Journal's members and subscribers, leaders and influentials across Capitol Hill, the federal government, and the advocacy communities. Together with Pershing, Smith will lead complete print and digital redesigns of *National Journal Daily*, which provides news, analysis and insights to help set the daily agendas for its readers. *Hotline*, also part of the core newsroom, will continue to track elections more comprehensively than any other publication. Pershing had been serving as editor of the *Daily* and managing the newsroom through recent transitions. He joined National Journal in 2014 as Washington editor.

“Steve Smith was the editor of *National Journal* when I bought the magazine eighteen years ago. As we return National Journal to its roots as the provider of premium content for the Washington professional, I'm grateful to him and to Ben, both pros in this business, for their leadership, expertise and wisdom,” said Bradley.

“I'm delighted to be returning to National Journal and working for David again,” Smith said. “While the tempo of journalism and the interests of National Journal readers have evolved, the need for essential information about government and politics remains as strong as ever. We aim to make ourselves even more indispensable to Washington's opinion leaders.”

Smith was editor of *National Journal* magazine from 1996 to 1998; Bradley purchased the title in 1997. Before his first tour at *National Journal*, Smith was the founding editor of *Civilization*, which in 1996 won a National Magazine Award for General Excellence. He left National Journal to become editor of *U.S. News & World Report*, becoming the only journalist to hold senior-level editing positions at all three American news magazines. He was previously executive editor of *Newsweek* and nation editor of *Time*.

From 2006 to 2014, Smith was editor of *The Washington Examiner*. Immediately before joining the *Examiner*, Smith spent three years as Washington bureau chief for the *Houston Chronicle*. Earlier in his career, he was Washington news editor for Knight Ridder Newspapers, and as an editor and reporter for the *Boston Globe* and the *Philadelphia Inquirer*.

Since leaving the *Examiner*, Smith has been a contract book editor and writer, collaborating on three non-fiction works this year. He also served as a contributing editor to *National Geographic* and *Smithsonian Journeys*.

Smith joins *National Journal* in early December.

Before joining National Journal in 2014, Pershing spent six years as a staff writer at the *Washington Post* covering Congress as well as local and national campaigns. He previously worked for a decade at the Capitol Hill newspaper *Roll Call* as a reporter and editor.

### **About National Journal**

National Journal is a premium provider of essential insights and analysis for those operating in Washington's policy and government arenas. Through its editorial, membership, and events platforms, National Journal currently reaches 3 million unique monthly visitors at [NationalJournal.com](http://NationalJournal.com), serves 1000 of Washington's top organizations through its Membership, and convenes the nation's top leaders at a combination of more than 100 live editorial and member events a year.

National Journal is a division of Atlantic Media, based in Washington, DC. Poppy MacDonald is President and Publisher.

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Media Contact:  
Emily Lenzner, Atlantic Media  
202.266.7169  
[Emily@atlanticmedia.com](mailto:Emily@atlanticmedia.com)