

Sirote Attorney Joe H. Ritch Receives Senate Confirmation For Key Administration Post

/EINPresswire.com/ <u>Joe H. Ritch</u>, an attorney with <u>Sirote</u> <u>& Permutt</u>'s Huntsville office, has been confirmed by the Senate to serve on the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA).

Joe H. Ritch, an attorney with Sirote & Permutt's Huntsville office, has been confirmed by the Senate to serve on the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA). Ritch, who was appointed to the position by President Barack Obama, becomes only the second Alabamian to be appointed to the Board in the TVA's 79-year history.

Ritch has been active in Huntsville economic development for more than three decades and is the longtime chairman of the Tennessee Valley Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC). Under Ritch's leadership, the Tenneesse Valley BRAC committee successfully marketed Redstone Arsenal as a destination for military commands designated for relocation. Thousands of jobs have moved to the North Alabama and Southern Tennessee region because of the relocations.



loe H. Ritch

"It's an honor to be nominated and confirmed and I am fortunate to be practicing with a firm that supports community involvement of this type," Ritch said. "I appreciate the efforts of Senators (Jeff) Sessions and (Richard) Shelby. I have a whole lot to learn and I am looking forward to working with the board and TVA. Since TVA serves about one-third of our state, I hope to become an advocate for Alabama issues and concerns."

"I am pleased that the Senate's confirmation of Joe Ritch and the other nominees approved last night will give the <u>TVA Board of Directors</u> a quorum at its next meeting," Sessions said in a statement released today. "Joe's confirmation means that Alabama now has a voice on the TVA board."

The only other Alabamian to serve on the TVA Board was also from Huntsville – Howard A. Thrailkill, former president of Adtran Inc. Thrailkill, who was appointed by President George W. Bush, left the Board in December of 2010 after serving more than four years.

ABOUT JOE H. RITCH

Joe H. Ritch is an attorney at the Sirote & Permutt law firm in Huntsville, Alabama, where he has worked since 1982. He has served as Chairman of the Tennessee Valley Base Realignment and Closures Committee since 1994 and as Co-Chairman of the Tennessee Valley Growth Coordination Group since 2008. He also served as a Member of the University of Alabama Board of Trustees from 2005 to 2011. Ritch serves on the Board of Directors at several other companies and nonprofits, including Axiometrics and the Von Braun Center for Innovative Science. He received a B.S. from the University of Alabama in Huntsville, a J.D. from Samford University, and an L.L.M. in Taxation from New York University.

ABOUT TVA

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) is the largest public utility in the nation providing power to millions of homes and businesses across the Southeast. TVA plays a critical role in economic development efforts in both urban and rural communities. For more information about the TVA, visit www.tva.gov/.

ABOUT SIROTE & PERMUTT, P.C.

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For more information on Sirote & Permutt, P.C., please visit <u>www.sirote.com</u>. To speak with Joe Ritch, please contact Emily Bates at 205-930-5442 or ebates@sirote.com.

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