

Thomas C. Leppert

Tom Leppert has a distinguished record of accomplishment that includes high profile, successful leadership positions in both the private and public sector. His professional experience spans developing major strategic initiatives for corporate clients as a Principal with McKinsey & Co., managing large international companies in a range of industries as the CEO, leading a major US city as the elected Mayor and serving as a White House Fellow.

From 2007-2011, he was the elected Mayor of Dallas, Texas. Mr. Leppert aggressively pursued policies that dramatically improved the quality of life in Dallas. In the areas of public safety, economic development, education and the environment, Dallas emerged as one of the focal points in the nation. In public safety, he directed a major expansion of the police force, resulting in nearly a third reduction in crime. He also guided major new investments in the areas of infrastructure, tourism, and hospitality, pioneered several innovative programs in education and was widely recognized for instilling a professional, supportive and business-focused approach. Mr. Leppert also directed a major reform of ethics standards and practices and successfully led two major referendums. He served on the Executive Committee of the US Conference of Mayors.

Leppert has led major national and international corporations in the areas of construction, financial services and banking, homebuilding, real estate, and education. He served as the Chairman/CEO of The Turner Corporation, the nation's largest general building company, with over 7000 employees and 46 offices throughout the nation and world. During his tenure, the enterprise entered new business areas with revenues growing from \$4 billion to over \$9 billion, generating record returns.

He was the CEO of Kaplan, Inc., leading the global multi-billion-dollar educational services company with over 22,000 employees. During his tenure, returns increased significantly with a notable shift in the portfolio to higher growth international markets, a shift in the strategy of several key businesses, divestment of several non-core operations and reduction in overall operating costs.

Previously, Leppert was Vice Chairman of Pacific Century Financial Corporation and its major subsidiary, the Bank of Hawaii; President and CEO of Castle & Cooke Properties, Inc.; and a National Partner at Trammell Crow Company. He began his career at McKinsey & Co. where he was elected a Partner/Principal.

Leppert served as a White House Fellow in 1984 under President Ronald Reagan, working both in the Office of the Secretary of Treasury and the Office of Policy Development in the White House. He holds an MBA with Distinction from Harvard Business School and graduated cum laude from Claremont McKenna College, where he served as Student Body President.

Leppert has served on a wide range of corporate boards on three continents. He is Chairman of the Board of Austin Industries, a large national construction contractor. He also serves on the board of Fluor Corp. In addition, he is also involved with several entrepreneurial enterprises. He is a board member of Dallas Theological Seminary, the North Texas chapter of the National Association of Corporate Directors and the AT&T Performing Arts Center. He is a member of the SMU Lyle School of Engineering Executive Board and the Cerity Partners Advisory Board. He is also co-leader of the Brain Health Project at the Center for Brain Health.

A lifelong community volunteer, he has served numerous organizations at the local and national levels. Leppert has chaired the West Dallas Community School, the Greater Dallas Regional Chamber, the Hawaii Business Roundtable, the Bishop Museum, and the DCFR. He has also served on the boards of the US Chamber of Commerce, National Building Museum, Baylor Healthcare System, Dallas Zoological Society, Dallas Citizens Council, Claremont McKenna College and Harvard Business School Alumni. He was appointed by President George W. Bush to the White House Fellows Commission.

He is a noted speaker and has appeared regularly in the national media. He has been recognized nationally for his leadership, including “CEO of the Year” by D Magazine, the “Texas Businessman of the Year” by the Texas Association of Business, “Outstanding Director of the Year 2020” award from the Dallas Business Journal, the “Torch of Conscience Award” from American Jewish Congress, the Perry Free Enterprise Award from Dallas Baptist University, the “Legacy” award from the Center for BrainHealth, the George Benson Distinguished Alumni Award from Claremont McKenna College and “The Global Cross Millennium Award for Corporate Environmental Leadership” from Global Green. He has also been inducted into the “Energy Efficiency Hall of Fame”, the DeMolay International “Hall of Fame” and the “Dallas Business Hall of Fame”.

He and his wife Laura, have three grown children. He serves as a Deacon and member of the Pastor’s Leadership Council at his church, as well as having been involved in the Prison Ministry.