

# THOMAS B. HEFFELFINGER

## RESUME



### Personal

Office: Best & Flanagan LLP  
225 South Sixth Street, Suite 4000  
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Date of Birth: February 13, 1948  
Married

### Education

B.A. (History), Stanford University, 1970  
J.D., University of Minnesota Law School, December 1975

### Bar Admissions

Minnesota, 1976  
United States District Court, District of Minnesota, 1977  
United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, 1983  
Supreme Court of the United States, 2000  
United States Court of Federal Claims, 2000  
United States District Court, Eastern District of Wisconsin, 1999  
United States District Court, Western District of Wisconsin, 2007  
Forest County Potawatomi Community Tribal Court, 1999  
White Earth Band of Chippewa Tribal Court, 2009

### Employment History

- **Best & Flanagan LLP**, Partner - March 1, 2006, - present; heading the firm's white collar criminal and regulatory defense practice and a member of the firm's Native American Law Practice Group and Civil Litigation Section, providing services in investigations, criminal defense and compliance programs, Indian law and commercial litigation
- **United States Attorney, District of Minnesota, United States Department of Justice** - September 2001 - February 2006; appointed by President George W. Bush; confirmed by the United States Senate

Attorney General's Advisory Committee, Chair of Native American Issues Subcommittee; member of the White Collar Crime and Violent Crime/Organized Crime Subcommittees

- **Best & Flanagan LLP**, Partner - February 2000 - September 2001; heading the firm's corporate white collar criminal defense and Indian gaming practices, providing services in compliance programs, investigations, criminal defense, Indian gaming, and related commercial litigation
- **Bowman and Brooke LLP**, Partner - April 1993 - February 2000; heading the firm's corporate white collar criminal defense practice, providing services in compliance programs, investigations, criminal defense, Indian gaming, and related commercial litigation
- **United States Attorney, District of Minnesota, United States Department of Justice** - September 1991 - April 1993; appointed by President George H. W. Bush; confirmed by the United States Senate

Attorney General's Advisory Committee, Organized Crime and Violent Crime Subcommittee and Indian Affairs Subcommittee

- **Opperman Heins & Paquin**, Partner - May 1988 - September 1991; specializing in white collar criminal defense
- **Assistant United States Attorney, District of Minnesota, United States Department of Justice** - January 1982 - April 1988

Criminal Division, 1982 - 1988  
White Collar Crime Section, 1982 - 1985  
Supervisor, Narcotics and Firearms Section, 1985 - 1986  
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Director's Award, May 1988

- **Office of the Hennepin County Attorney**

**Assistant Hennepin County Attorney** - April 1976 - January 1982

Criminal Division, Trial Section, 1977 - 1982  
Burglary Unit, Supervisor, 1981 - 1982  
Major Offender Unit, 1978 - 1981  
Juvenile Division, 1976  
Law Clerk, June 1974 - March 1976

## **Special Prosecutor Assignments**

Sherburne County (1981-1982); Hennepin County (1983); Stearns County (1984-1985); Washington County (1984-1985); Carver County (1987); and Steele County (2007)

## **Memberships**

American, Minnesota, Hennepin County, Federal and Minnesota American Indian Bar Associations

Ethics Officers Association, 1994 to 2001

National Association of Former United States Attorneys, 1993 - 2001; April 2006 – present

National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, 1997-2001; November 2006 - present

## **Non-Profit Board Memberships**

Family Advocacy Center of Northern Minnesota, Bemidji, Minnesota (medical-based Center for Indian and non-Indian victims of child abuse, sexual assault and domestic violence in rural northwest Minnesota); Board of Directors member, 2006 – present

Metropolitan Council, Transportation Advisory Board (the Transportation Advisory Board was created by the Minnesota State Legislature in 1974 to advise the Metropolitan Council on transportation planning and programming matters for the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area); Appointed Member, 2010 – Present

Minnesota Advisory Task Force on School and Staff Emergency/All Hazard Preparedness, established by 2006 Session Law to recommend to the Legislature proposals for strengthening K-12 crisis management and school safety efforts; Member October 2006 – February 2007

Twin Cities Area Chapter, American Red Cross; Board of Directors Member, 1988 – 2001; 2006 – Present; Chair, 1999 – 2000; Capital Campaign Chair, 2000 – 2001

Minnesota Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board, Member, 1998 – 2000 (Appointed by the Governor; confirmed by the State Senate)

Flying Cloud Airport Advisory Commission, Member, 1996 - 2000; Chair, 1998 – 2000 (Appointed by the Eden Prairie City Council)

Minnesota Commission on Judicial Selection, Chair, 1990 – 1991 (Appointed by the Governor)

## **Teaching Experience**

Lecturer, "White Collar Crime," Prague and Karlovy Vary, Czechoslovakia, January 1992 (representing U.S. Department of Justice)

"Indian Gaming," FBI Academy, September 1992

Minnesota State Bar Association Seminar Presentation: "Mastering Trial Advocacy," April 1993

American Law Institute/American Bar Association Seminar: "Organizing for Corporate Compliance: The Next Steps," January 1994

Defense Research Institute Seminar Presentation: "Insurance Fraud and Suspicious Claims," September 1994

Minnesota Institute of Legal Education Seminar Presentation: "Federal Crime Bill - Its Impact on Minnesota," February 1995

Midwest Insurance Fraud Prevention Association: "Insurance Fraud," April 1995

Medical Alley; "Health Care Fraud: Bard and Beyond," April 1995

American Bar Association, Litigation Section, National Institute: "Corporate Compliance," May 1995

American Bar Association/Litigation Section, Committee on Corporate Counsel Regional Workshop, November 1995

Minnesota Department of Trade and Economic Development: "Corporate Compliance: Effective NOT Expensive;" Minnesota Small Business Assistance Seminar Presentation: "Corporate Compliance: Minimizing the Risks," March 1996

International Association of Credit Card Investigators: "Financial Transaction Card Fraud," April 1996

10th Annual Biomedical Focus Conference: "Compliance: Effective NOT Expensive," July 1996

Minnesota State Bar Association: "How to Examine a Witness Effectively," October 1996

Minnesota Society of Certified Public Accountants: "Fraud," October 1997

Minnesota State Bar Association, Health Care Section: "Health Care Fraud," April 1998

ASIS Seminar: "Corporate Compliance and Internal Investigations," May 1998

Deloitte & Touche LLP Seminar: “Computers . . . Risks, Cybercrimes and Investigations,” May 1998

Numerous lectures on Indian Law, White Collar Crimes, School Safety and Homeland Security during tenure as United States Attorney 2001-2006 (available upon request)

## **Other**

Super Lawyer 2001 - 2011, *Minnesota Law & Politics*

One of *The Best Lawyers in America*,® 2010 – 2012, in the Specialty of Native American Law

One of *Minnesota’s Best Lawyers 2010 - 2011*, *Minnesota Monthly*

Featured in “200 Minnesotans You Should Know,” April 2010,  
*Twin Cities Business Magazine*

Testified before the United States Senate Committee on Indian Affairs:

- July 2002 related to Criminal Jurisdiction
- July 2003 related to Homeland Security
- April 2005 related to Indian Gaming
- June 2007 related to Criminal Justice Reform
- September 2008 related to Prosecution of Crimes

United States Department of Justice Special Achievement Award, March 1986

Minnesota County Attorneys Association; Public Service Award, November 2007

Candidate, Hennepin County Attorney, 1986

Drafted and lobbied for passage of following legislation:

- Minn. H.F. 990 (enacted 1987), relating to possession of firearms by felons;
- Minn. Stat. § 609.321-.326 (enacted 1979), relating to promotion of prostitution

## **Publications**

“Access to Foreign Banking Records,” *Hennepin Lawyer*, Vol. 55, No. 6 (July 1986)

“Commission on Judicial Selection,” *Hennepin Lawyer*, Vol. 60, No. 6 (July - August 1991)

“Corporate Compliance Checklist”

- \_ *Preventive Law Reporter*, Vol. 13, No. 1 (Spring 1994)
- \_ *ALI-ABA Course Materials Journal*, Vol. 19, No. 1 (August 1994)
- \_ *Law Department Management Adviser*, Issue No. 131 (February 1995)

“Editorial: Evolving Compliance,” *Preventive Law Reporter*, Vol. 15, No. 4 (Winter 1996 - 1997)

“Corporate Compliance Principles,” National Center for Preventive Law, 1997  
(co-authored as member of Corporate Compliance Principles Commission)