



KENNETH A. SIMPLER STATE TREASURER

Delaware is facing historic financial challenges and needs creative fiscal solutions. State Treasurer Ken Simpler engages audiences in framing those challenges as opportunities that people can understand and act on.

Principles

Ken Simpler was elected Delaware State Treasurer on a platform to bring transparency, accountability, and certainty to our State's fiscal operations.

Ken strives for transparency by disseminating a quarterly, in-depth commentary on his efforts to improve, and thoughts for reforming, state government. He has fostered accountability in the Treasurer's Office by implementing a value-driven and performance-measured culture. His focus on certainty has made him a consistent advocate for systemic solutions to large-scale, long-term problems.

Priorities

During his first term, Ken has applied lessons from his 20-year career as a finance professional to improve some of Delaware's core fiscal functions. These include:

- enhancing the return on investment of our \$2 billion cash portfolio;
- restructuring the banking services through which our \$10 billion in annual spending flows;
- ensuring the feasibility of our \$2 billion of outstanding debt; and
- overhauling the State Employees' \$1 billion defined contribution plans.

In addition, Ken has provided leadership to at least a dozen committees and councils that, among other things, determine state revenues, design employee healthcare offerings, preserve agricultural lands and provide capital spending for fire companies.

Consider inviting Ken to speak at your organization's next meeting or event.



Ken is often asked to speak on the timely and relevant topics featured in his quarterly newsletters.

**Bipartisan Budget Accord:
Framing a Grand Bargain**

**Creating a Performance-Driven
Culture: A New Order of Things**

**Retirement Reforms:
A Bipartisan Success Story**

**Caring About the State's
Healthcare Plan**

**A Whole Lot of Alliteration:
Spending Sustainability,
Sufficiency and Soundness**

Who Doesn't Want a Good Value?

**The Budget Trifecta:
Revenue Stability, Spending
Discipline and Value Creation**

**First (and Lasting) Impressions:
My First 100 Days**

Visit treasurer.delaware.gov to receive Ken's newsletter or to learn more.

Ken Simpler brings to the Treasurer's Office a wealth of private sector experience, a diverse educational background, and a deeply rooted passion for Delaware.

Experience

Ken Simpler was elected Delaware State Treasurer on November 4, 2014. He was sworn in on January 6, 2015, following his first and only run for public office.

Prior to entering public service, Mr. Simpler served as the Chief Financial Officer of Delaware-based Seaboard Hotels. As an owner-operator, Ken assisted in developing and managing hotel and retail properties in Rehoboth Beach, Dewey Beach and Nags Head, North Carolina.

Ken previously held the position of Managing Director at Citadel, LLC, a \$25 billion global investment fund. At Citadel, he oversaw a billion dollar portfolio, managed personnel in Chicago, San Francisco, New York/Greenwich, London and Tokyo and served on the firm's worldwide investment committee.

He began his career as a corporate attorney at Kirkland & Ellis, a national law firm. Ken's work at K&E focused on private acquisitions and capital raising transactions for corporate and private equity clients.

Ken has served on the board of directors of Draper Holdings, the parent company of WBOC and Fox 21, and the finance committee of Beebe Healthcare.

Education

Ken is a life-long learner with a passion for applying empirical research to real-world applications. He is currently enrolled at the University of Delaware's School of Public Policy where he plans to graduate with a Masters in Public Administration.

Mr. Simpler earned graduate degrees from the University of Chicago in both business and law. He received an M.B.A. with honors from the Graduate School of Business and a J.D. with honors from the Law School.

He obtained his undergraduate degree, summa cum laude, from Princeton University as a political economy major.

Ken attended high school at St. Andrew's in Middletown, graduating summa cum laude and representing the school in Delaware's 30th Annual Blue-Gold All-Star Football Game.

Family

Ken lives with his wife of 26 years, Elizabeth, and their three children in Newark. He was born and raised in Rehoboth Beach, where his family owned and operated the Avenue Restaurant for almost a half of a century.

Speaker Topics

The Treasurer's Core Duties

- Investing our Money
- Managing the Banking Network
- Acting as a Debt Issuing Officer
- Cash Flows and Reconciling Accounts

Assessing the State's Finances

- Our Revenue Portfolio
- Budgeting Processes and Spending Controls
- Balance Sheet Management
- DEFAC Forecasts and Operations

Government Efficiency and Accountability

- GEARing Continuous Improvement
- S.M.A.R.T. Strategic Thinking
- Evaluating Personnel and Performance Planning
- Means of Benchmarking and Oversight

Improving Healthcare Systems

- Moving from Sickness to Wellness and Volume to Value
- Reforming State Employee Healthcare Benefits
- Findings of the Health Fund Task Force
- The Role of the State Employee Benefits Committee

Redefining Defined Contributions

- Creating the Plans Management Board
- Reforms to State Retirement Plans
- The Role of Behavioral Finance in Plan Design
- Fiduciary Duties in Plan Sponsorship

Ancillary Areas of Engagement

- College and ABLE Savings Plans
- Preserving Agricultural Lands
- Fire Company Funding
- The Board of Pardons