

Bruce M. Hennes

Bruce M. Hennes is the Managing Partner of Hennes Communications, a crisis communications, media training and media relations consulting firm based in Cleveland. Serving corporations, government agencies, nonprofits and individuals who are “on trial” in the court of public opinion, Hennes Communications also offers litigation communication support and public relations services to clients. The firm is a coalition member of ProtectingAmerica.org and National Preparedness Month (US. Dept. of Homeland Security).



Hennes has more than 30 years experience working in politics, having managed or served as a senior campaign consultant and fundraiser for scores of campaigns at the local, state and federal levels. Hennes also served three years as Executive Director for The Temple on the Heights in Pepper Pike, Ohio, and three years doing government and public relations in the automotive industry. He opened his own firm, Hennes/Haslett, handling government relations, public relations, community relations and media training, in 1989, leaving in 2002 to form Hennes Communications.

As one of Cleveland’s best-known crisis communication specialists and media trainers, Hennes is also an in-demand speaker before bar and trade associations on the subject of crisis communications and how the media manipulate the news. Under the auspices of The American Red Cross-Greater Cleveland Chapter, he frequently speaks to mayors, police, fire, education and other government officials on the subject of “Extreme Crisis Communications” (i.e. how to handle mass casualty incidents and other “extreme” situations involving threats to life & limb).

Hennes Communications now counts among its current and former clients such companies as Avery Dennison, Bellefaire, BASF, Degussa, Forest City Enterprises, The Greater Cleveland Partnership/COSE (formerly The Growth Association), The Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority, Hitachi Truck, John Carroll University, KeyBank, National City Bank, NASA, Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, Westfield Insurance (Ohio Farmer’s Insurance) as well as many of the leading law firms in Cleveland.

Hennes is past chairman of the Greater Cleveland Growth Association’s Public Affairs Committee and currently serves on the governing boards of The Business Emergency Planning Association and The Judicial Candidates Rating Coalition (Judge4Yourself.com). He was one of the founding board members of the FBI Citizens Academy Foundation of Cleveland. He is also a Graduate Lecturer in Advanced Communications/Media Relations for Public Officials in the Levin College of Urban Affairs at Cleveland State University and a frequent guest lecturer at John Carroll University, Kent State University, Case Western Reserve University and Ursuline College. Hennes is a member of the board of The Press Club of Cleveland and a member of the Contingency Planners of Ohio. He is also an associate member of The Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, which recently awarded him their first-ever President’s Award. He is also president of the Leadership Cleveland Class of 2008 and recipient of the President’s Special Award for Extraordinary Service from the Cuyahoga County Bar Association and two Vega awards from The American Red Cross. Hennes has a degree in Political Science from York University in Toronto, Canada.

Hennes received certification in Effective Communications from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and The Federal Emergency Management Agency. He is also *of counsel* to Levick Strategic Communications in Washington, DC. (2005 Crisis Agency of the Year – *The Holmes Report*).