

The Idaho State Bar will hold its annual meeting in Coeur d'Alene July 17-19 and will feature keynote speaker –

Bruce Reed, Chief of Staff to U.S. Vice President Joe Biden

The Coeur d'Alene native will give his presentation from 8:30 to 10 a.m. on Thursday, July 18 at Bay 4 in the Coeur d'Alene Resort.

A longtime policy analyst and political operative, Bruce Reed has worked for Al Gore, Bill Clinton, Hillary Clinton and Joe Biden. He has served as Executive Director of the National Commission of Fiscal Responsibility, also known as the Simpson-Bowles Commission, and will likely give some behind-the-scenes perspective on national politics. Reed served as chief speechwriter for Tennessee Senator Al Gore from 1985 to 1989. He was founding editor of the DLC magazine, The New Democrat and served as policy director of the DLC from 1990 to 1991 under DLC Chairman and Governor of Arkansas Bill Clinton. In 1992, he was deputy campaign manager for policy of the Clinton-Gore presidential campaign. During the Clinton presidency, Reed served as chief domestic policy advisor and director of the Domestic Policy Council, and helped to write the 1996 welfare reform law known as the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act. He is credited with coining the welfare reform catchphrase, "end welfare as we know it."

In the spring of 2010, Reed took a leave of absence from the DLC to become Executive Director of President National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform (Simpson-Bowles Commission). On January 14, 2011 he was named Chief of Staff to Vice President Joe Biden.

He is the son Coeur d'Alene Scott Reed and former Idaho State Senator Mary Lou Reed. Bruce attended Princeton University, graduating in 1982, and earned a master's degree in English Literature from Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar.

Members of the press are invited. Bruce has indicated he will likely be available for a few questions from the press immediately after his presentation concludes.

The Idaho State Bar holds its Annual Meeting each July to deliver extensive, in-depth continuing education seminars for attorneys, and to honor some of outstanding lawyers. An awards brochure will be available for possible follow-up.