

JOHN A. CHALLENGER

John A. Challenger is chief executive officer of global outplacement firm Challenger, Gray & Christmas, Inc. He served on the labor/human resource committee of The Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago from 1999-2002.

Challenger may be one of the most oft-quoted business executives. His breadth of knowledge on corporate practices, workplace issues, the economy and societal trends is sought out by PBS, CNN, MSNBC, CNBC, CBS Evening News, ABC World News, NBC Nightly News, Fox News Channel, Fortune, Forbes, Time, Newsweek, USA Today, U.S. News & World Report, Barron's, The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, Financial Times, Investor's Business Daily and major press associations and syndicates.

In 1998, 2001, and 2003, Challenger delivered addresses before the World Future Society. He has also addressed the annual conference of the Ethics Officers Association and conferences of leading business executives in Japan in 2001 and 2003. In 2002, at the height of the turmoil over corporate governance, The Wall Street Journal invited Challenger to address the issue in a bylined article that appeared in The Journal on June 25, 2002.

Challenger gave testimony in 2003, before the U.S. House Committee on Small Business on the issue of permanent job loss in a global economy. He was the keynote speaker at The Ohio State University, Fisher College of Business 'Summit At Fisher' conference in 2003, and at the UCLA Anderson School of Management in 2004.

Challenger is a graduate of Harvard University and a director of the Harvard Alumni Association. He is on the board of the Harvard Club of Chicago and was President from 2002 to 2004. He is on the Board of Directors of the Chicago International Film Festival, and the Metropolitan Club. Challenger is active in several organizations, including the Chicago chapter of the Young Presidents Organization and as executive vice president and member of the board of the Japan America Society. He is a member of the Chicago Club and Union League Club. Challenger also served on the Host Committee for the 31st Annual U.S./Midwest Japan Conference.

Challenger, Gray & Christmas, Inc., pioneered outplacement as an employer-paid benefit in the 1960s.