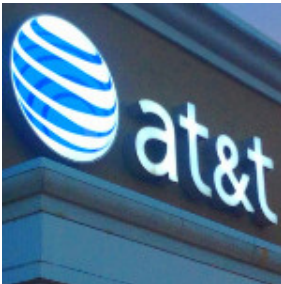


# AT&T CEO: Hiring Trump Lawyer Michael Cohen Was 'a Big Mistake'



*Image by Mike Mozart*

AT&T's chief executive said Friday that the company made a "serious misjudgment" to seek advice from President Trump's personal attorney and announced that its top lobbying executive in Washington would be leaving the firm, reports ***The Washington Post***.

AT&T chief executive Randall Stephenson wrote in a companywide internal email that hiring Cohen "was a big mistake."

AT&T agreed to pay \$600,000 to Cohen last year in exchange for advice on dealing with the Trump administration. Internal AT&T documents outlined how Cohen was expected to provide guidance on matters facing the company at the Federal Communications Commission and the Justice Department, specifically mentioning AT&T's \$85 billion Time Warner merger, according to reporter **Brian Fung**.

The executive who is leaving is Bob Quinn, AT&T's senior executive vice president of external and legislative affairs.

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