John E. Farren, J.D.
President

In his role as President, John leads AEF with strategic planning, development and fiduciary oversight. He oversees the acceptance of new gifts, legal and service functions of AEF. John has been a member of the Board of Directors of AEF since 2011.

Prior to becoming President, John was the EVP – Director of Development at AEF beginning in 2015. He focused on growing AEF by leading the development team and expanding the service team. He also improved the legal and complex asset functions within AEF.

John brought twenty years of experience to AEF in advising high net worth individuals. He worked in a family office and managed private equity investments. He held positions in wealth management, financial planning, investments, insurance and trust administration.

John is a graduate of the University of Akron, School of Law, and the University of Notre Dame. He is also a published legal author.

Founded in 1993, AEF is an IRS recognized public charity. AEF is the largest independent Donor Advised Fund in the country. AEF was founded to provide personalized solutions and donor focused service. A donor advised fund is an account sponsored by AEF into which a donor is able to make an irrevocable gift of various assets, both liquid and illiquid. The donor recommends grants to qualified charities and nonprofit organizations that the donor desires to support.