

James H. Dunn

Counsel

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Industries

Manufacturing

Mobility

Practice Areas

Lobbying & Public Policy

International Services

Public-Private Partnerships (P3)

Bar Memberships

Tennessee

James has had an extensive career in government relations and has worked collaboratively with many state, local, and federal government leaders for almost two decades, bringing extensive experience on both the private and public sector of law-making. In his previous role as the Executive Director of the Tennessee Commission on Aging & Disability (TCAD), he participated in several lectures, public speaking engagements and various legislative taskforces that amplified his network of government connections. James also has experience working as a government relations professional in the private sector.

As lead for lobbying and public policy activities in Tennessee, James helps clients and fellow attorneys navigate the complexities of the legislative process and executive branch regulatory structure to advance client interests. James has secured various legislative victories, including an amendment to the County Powers Relief Act resulting in an estimated $5 million dollars for Maury County Schools, lifetime permits for a sightseeing transportation corporation, and a $400 million dollar permissive tax cut on groceries.

James's Relevant Experience

Government Relations

James began his work in the public sector as a Field Director for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in the Middle Tennessee region in which he coordinated a canvassing team in several business districts. Since then, James has amplified his experience in the public sector serving as the Field Director for Lt. Gov. Ramsey and a Legislative

Liaison for the Tennessee Department of Military. He also worked as the Chief Advisor to House Majority Leader, Rep. William Lamberth in which he collaborated with various executive branch employees ranging from commissioners to legislative liaisons for purposes of shepherding legislation through the legislature and successfully fostered and maintained relationships with members of the Tennessee General Assembly, media, and government relations professionals.

Select Experience:

- Served as the state representative in coordination with federal efforts organized by the United States Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and Administration for Community Living (ACL)
- Lead the Alzheimer's Disease & Related Dementia Advisory Council – Member of the Pallative Care Taskforce tied to TCAD administratively; served as a member of the Healthcare Facilities Commission

Other Info About James

Work History

Executive Director, Appointed by Governor Lee | Tennessee Commission on Aging & Disability (TCAD) – Nashville, Tennessee

Chief Advisor to The House Majority Leader | House Majority Leader, Rep. William Lamberth – Nashville, Tennessee

District Director to Congresswoman Diane Black (TN-6) – Middle Tennessee

Education

Nashville School of Law, J.D., 2012

Western Kentucky University, MPA, Master of Public Administration 2006

Western Kentucky University, B.A., Political Science and Criminology, 2005

Courts

U.S. District Court of Middle Tennessee

Professional Affiliations

Tennessee Lobbyists Association, Board of Directors

Nashville Chamber of Commerce, 2030 Lead Investor Cabinet Member

Tennessee Economic Development Council, Member

Japan-America Society of Tennessee, Board Member

Civic Activities

National Council on Aging, Board of Directors, 2026

Major Publications

"AV Compliance is Still a State-by-State Slog – For Now," Co-Author, *Law360 Expert Analysis*, December 9, 2024

Featured Articles

Tennessee's Community Workforce Housing Innovation Pilot Program

Tennessee's New Hemp Laws: Protecting Your Business in a Changing Landscape

AV Compliance Is Still a State-by-State Slog — For Now

Tennessee General Assembly Passes Massive Franchise Tax Refund Bill

$1.2 Billion Tax Refund and $400 Million Annual Tax Cut Proposed for Tennessee Businesses

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