

# JAMES R. COPLAND IV

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## CURRENT POSITION

### Manhattan Institute for Policy Research

New York, NY

*Director, Legal Policy*

2003-Present

*Senior Fellow*

2010-Present

- Manage legal policy efforts for non-partisan 501(c)(3) think tank.
  - Develop and communicate ideas for reforming the American legal system.
  - Prepare and oversee empirical analyses, policy development, and popular communications.
  - Assist with external affairs, development, editorial, and communications functions.
- Engage in written research and advocacy, as both an author and editor.
  - Authored *The Unelected: How an Unaccountable Elite Is Governing America* (2020).
  - Have authored scores of policy white papers, book chapters, and articles in law journals, including the *Yale Journal on Regulation* and *Harvard Business Law Review*.
  - Have edited many papers written by leaders in the academy and private practice.
  - Have written hundreds of popular opinion pieces leading national periodicals including *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post*, *National Law Journal*, and *USA Today*.
  - Policy expertise in civil litigation, corporate criminal investigations, corporate governance, securities regulation, and administrative law.
- Speak regularly to specialized and popular audiences on legal-policy issues.
  - Have testified before both houses of Congress, state and municipal legislative bodies, and international government bodies.
  - Have been consulted by the U.S. Sentencing Commission, the Administrative Conference of the United States, and the Executive Office of the President.
  - Have made hundreds of media appearances in such outlets as PBS, Fox News, MSNBC, CNBC, Fox Business, Bloomberg, C-Span, and NPR.

### Awards

*Directorship 100*: Published by the National Association of Corporate Directors, designating the individuals most influential over U.S. corporate governance (multiple occasions).

*Legal Reform Champion: Research*: Awarded by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Institute for Legal Reform, for *Trial Lawyers, Inc.* series of publications on civil litigation in America.

## BOARDS AND OTHER AFFILIATIONS

SEC Investor Advisory Committee (Washington, D.C.), (2025-Present), *Vice Chair*, Investor as Owner Subcommittee

New Bern Housing Authority (New Bern, NC), *Commissioner* (2023-Present), *Treasurer* (2025-Present)

Carolina Alumni (UNC-Chapel Hill) (Chapel Hill, NC), *Director* (2023-Present)

Center for Constitutional Responsibility (Arlington, VA), *Director* (2022-Present)

Elizabeth City State University (Elizabeth City, NC), *Trustee* (2021-Present), *Chairman*, Committee on Finance, Advancement, and Audit (2023-Present), Chancellor's Search Advisory Committee (2025)

Tryon Palace Foundation (New Bern, NC), *Director* (2020-Present), *Chairman*, Legislative Committee

African-American Heritage & Culture Center of New Bern, *Director* (2019-Present), *Treasurer* (2020-25)

First Presbyterian Church (New Bern, NC), *Elder* (2022-2025), *Pastor Nominating Comm.* (2020-21)

Copland Fabrics, Inc. (Hopedale, NC), *Director* (1998-2023), *Vice Chairman* (2018-2023)

Copland Industries, Inc. (Hopedale, NC), *Director* (1997-2019), *Vice Chairman* (2018-2019)

## PRIOR POSITIONS

### **McKinsey and Company**

*Associate*

New York, NY

2000-2002

- Assisted post-merger management for major pharmaceutical companies and banks.
- Developed high-net-worth client strategy for financial institutions.
- Helped firm's internal asset manager evaluate private and public equity portfolio.

### **United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit**

*Law Clerk, Chief Judge Ralph K. Winter*

New York, NY

1999-2000

### **Chase Securities, Inc.**

*Summer Associate, Investment Banking*

New York, NY

Summer 1998

### **Moore & Van Allen**

*Summer Associate, Corporate Law*

Charlotte, NC

Summer 1997

### **Robinson, Bradshaw & Hinson**

*Summer Associate, Law*

Charlotte, NC

Summer 1997

## EDUCATION

### **Yale University**

New Haven, CT

*Juris Doctor*

2003

*Master of Business Administration, Finance Concentration*

1999

*Awards:* John M. Olin Fellow in Law and Economics  
Coker Fellow in Constitutional Law

*Leadership:* Teaching Fellow in Macroeconomics, Game Theory  
Yale Federalist Society, Vice President  
*Yale Journal on Regulation*, Articles Editor, Submissions Committee  
Yale Skeet & Trap Team, Captain, ACUI National Championships (AA, Skeet)

### **London School of Economics and Political Science**

London, UK

*Master of Science in Politics of the World Economy*

1995

*Leadership:* *Millennium Journal* of International Studies, Submissions Committee

### **University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**

Chapel Hill, NC

*Bachelor of Arts with Highest Distinction, Economics with Highest Honors*

1994

*Awards:* John Motley Morehead Scholar  
National Merit Scholar  
Honors Prize in Economics  
Phi Beta Kappa

*Leadership:* Student Body President  
*Carolina Critic*, Publisher, Editor

## OTHER

References and full list of writings available upon request.