
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Building and leading teams in the development and execution of innovative programs that **drive success**. Recognized for creating a team **culture that empowers staff to think creatively**. Leverages an open and direct communication style to **facilitate dialogue and gain buy-in** from diverse stakeholders. **Trusted non-partisan resource** to North Carolina and federal policy makers with strong relationships on both sides of the aisle. Deep knowledge of the **internet service and advanced telecommunications industry**.

Organizational Strategy | Strategic Planning | Financial Management | Data-driven Decision Making | Business Acumen
State & Federal Government | Strategic Partnerships | Policy Development | Economic Development | Public Speaking

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- **Leadership experience in government and private industry** managing teams and overseeing budgets of up to \$1.5M
- **Regularly asked to speak at policy and industry events** including recent presentations to the North Carolina General Assembly Joint Oversight Committee on Information Technology, the Economic Development and Global Engagement Committee, the House Rural Broadband Caucus, and MCNC (2019 Community Day)
- Recruited by the NC Governor to **lead a new office focused on policy development for high speed internet access and increased funding** through private and public partnerships
- Led development and drafting of a **strategic plan approved by the Governor in 2016** for expanding broadband access

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- North Carolina Department of Information Technology** | Raleigh, NC 2015 – Present
Broadband Infrastructure Office Director
- Lead a team of 10 technical (network engineers) and non-technical staff advising local governments and internet service providers preparing to expand their broadband networks
 - Manage a \$750K budget; present budget proposals annually to the Secretary ensuring support of operational initiatives
 - Build and nurture relationships with agencies including the Federal Communications Commission, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, and the US Department of Agriculture
 - Created a \$10M rural grant program in collaboration with the NC General Assembly providing broadband services to more than 10,000 homes, businesses and anchor institutions in 19 counties; program currently funded at \$15M per year
 - Launched the Rural Broadband Task Force to oversee the expansion of broadband services through the engagement of partnership agencies and the development of new policies around infrastructure and DOT right-of-ways
 - Served as NCDIT Acting General Counsel, advising the Secretary on various legislative and legal matters, including procurement and contract negotiations
- Alston & Bird LLP** | Washington, DC 2009 – 2015
Acting General Counsel
- Lobbied Congress and the Executive Branch on behalf of clients including VerizonWireless; monitored relevant policies and legislative activity and negotiated policy agreements that bridged opposing views
 - Served as outside counsel for Boeing; advocated to Congress to protect funding allocations for a defense contractor providing a software tool used by defense intelligence analysts
 - Advocated on behalf of the industry coalition of airport screening manufacturers facing Congressional scrutiny and Transportation Security Administration budgeting decisions
- Department of Homeland Security** | Washington, DC 2005 – 2009
Deputy Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs
- Served as the primary advocate for all outreach to and communication with the US House of Representatives including House leadership offices, oversight committees, and personal offices
 - Led a team of 25 subject matter experts developing legislative strategies and communicating organizational goals, policies and initiatives to Congress

- Conveyed DHS initiatives and policies to protect critical infrastructure and computer networks against cyber threats; organized top secret briefings, prepared experts, and negotiated policy and legislative proposals

Transportation Security Administration Assistant Administrator, Legislative Affairs

- Developed, managed and tracked an annual budget of \$1.5M; oversaw the hiring, training and leading a team of 9 including oversight of salary reviews, annual goal setting, and professional development
- Served as the agency's lead negotiator with Congress during passage of the 911 Homeland Security Act

Previous Experience Includes: *General and Legislative Counsel – General Aviation Manufacturing Association; Legislative Counsel – Representative Vernon J. Ehlers; and Legislative Counsel – Michigan State House of Representatives.*

EDUCATION

Western Michigan University, Thomas M. Cooley School of Law | J.D.
Graduated cum laude; Assistant Editor, Law Review

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill | B.A., Journalism
Member of the Men's Swimming & Diving Team; ACC Conference Champions

PROFESSIONAL AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Leadership North Carolina, Class XXVII | NCDIT Randy Barnes Award Nominee (2020)
DHS Secretary's Award for Exceptional Service (2008)

SELECT PRESENTATIONS

- Presenter, Farm Bureau Annual Convention | December 2019
- Speaker at MCNC Community Day | November 2019
- Presentation to the NCGA Joint Oversight Committee on Information Technology | March 2018
- Presentation to the NCGA Joint Legislative Economic Development and Global Engagement Committee | March 2016
- Moderator, American Bar Association Homeland Security Law Institute, Panel: *Transportation and Cargo Supply Chain Security Screening* | August 2014

RECENT INTERVIEWS & PUBLICATIONS

- Interviewed for WUNC Public Radio segment on \$20 billion rural broadband federal funding initiative | January 16, 2020
- Interviewed for State Scoop article, [North Carolina looks to challenge FCC over broadband coverage](#) | September 2019
- Interviewed for [One challenge in expanding broadband in NC? Knowing who doesn't actually have it](#), Raleigh News & Observer | August 2019
- Author, [The problem \(and the solution\) with mapping broadband in North Carolina](#), WRAL TechWire | February 2019
- Contributing Author, *Aviation Regulation in the United States*, Chapter: *Congressional Oversight on Aviation* | August 2014
- Author, *Client Cyber Alert: Cyber Intelligence Sharing and Protection Act* | March 2013

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS

Private Pilot VFR Single Rated | Summited Mt. Kilimanjaro | Chesapeake Bay 4.4 Mile Swim (2010 & 2012)
DC Sprint Triathlon – First Place Men's 40-44 Division (2010)