

Government Relations

South Carolina

David Wilkins was the long-time speaker of the South Carolina House of Representatives, until appointed by President George W. Bush to serve as ambassador to Canada, and is an invaluable resource with his relationships and strategic counsel. He led the transition team for former Governor Nikki Haley and remains involved in S.C. politics and campaigns. He is joined on the team by Senior Advisor **Christy Cox** and Special Advisor **Ashley Martin Aldebol**.

Dwight Drake and **Ed Poliakoff** together have more than 40 years of experience lobbying for clients before the South Carolina General Assembly. Mr. Poliakoff leads the federal/state policy team, represents clients at the State House, and advises on compliance with the S.C. Ethics Act.

Mr. Drake served as executive assistant for legislative and political affairs for Governor Richard W. Riley and as legal counsel to Governor John C. West. He has litigated sensitive, high-profile court cases and is recognized as one of the state's leading political and legislative strategists.

George Wolfe was a senior U.S. Treasury Department official during the first term of the George H.W. Bush Administration and served two tours in the senior leadership of the Coalition Provisional Authority in Iraq. His practice focuses on economic development incentives and related matters.

James Burns served as former S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley's chief of staff during the start of her second term and coordinated with legislators and state agencies in carrying out the governor's agenda. In addition, Mr. Burns has served as chair of the S.C. State Ethics Commission and as former counsel to the S.C. Ethics Reform Commission.

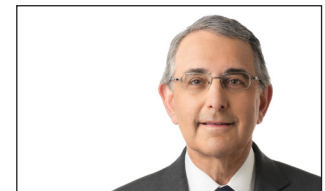
Kathy Shannon is recognized at the South Carolina State House as a leading lobbying professional. Ms. Shannon is tenacious and thorough in preparation and enjoys effective working relationships with members of the House and Senate Majority leadership, among others.



David Wilkins



Dwight Drake



Ed Poliakoff



George Wolfe



James Burns



Kathy Shannon

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Harry Cato is a government relations consultant who served in the S.C. House of Representatives for 20 years, representing the northern portion of Greenville County. He served as the chairman of the Labor, Commerce, and Industry Committee for 14 years and as the speaker pro tempore of the South Carolina House of Representatives.



Harry Cato



Christy Cox



Ashley Martin Aldebol