

# **Desmond A. Bryant, M.Ed**

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## **SUMMARY**

Seasoned professional experienced in handling high-profile policy issues with sensitive political characteristics. Possesses excellent organizational and writing skills with a proven ability to work with public and elected officials, designated staff, and professional trade associations. Has extensive experience in coordinating internal and external stakeholders to build consensus on contentious policy issues. Well versed in public speaking and working in fast-paced environments.

## **CORE LEADERSHIP COMPETENCIES**

Government Affairs/Public Policy

Lobbying/Public Affairs

Legislative Expertise/Congressional Affairs

State Government Advocacy

Press Release/Editorial/Speech Writing

Marketing/Social Media Communications

Innovative Problem Solver/Trouble-shooter

Issues Management/Project Coordination

## **EDUCATION**

**Bachelor's Degree:** Kent State University, Political Science and American History

**Master's Degree:** University of Dayton, K-12 Education Policy and Administration (M.Ed.)

## **EXPERIENCE**

### **Columbus Chamber of Commerce, Vice President of Government Relations, July 2021 – PRESENT**

- Represents the Columbus Chamber and its members at the federal, state, and local levels of government. Engages public and elected officials by coordinating forums and legislative related events that allow Chamber members to interact with public policy leaders. Leads the Chamber's external relations efforts to ensure the voice of the business community is well represented in deliberations that may, directly or indirectly, impact the community.

### **Status Solutions, Director of Government Affairs, January 2019 – PRESENT**

- Tracked legislative and regulatory policy proposals and directed all government relations and procurement strategies outlined by the Executive Leadership team. Cultivated and maintained effective working relationships with public and elected officials, government agencies, valued business partners, and trade associations.

### **Thomas Ingram Law Group, Government Relations Consultant, January 2017 – PRESENT**

- Confers with members of the Ohio legislature to garner support for policies and budgetary appropriations favorable to clients' interest. This includes, but not limited to, presenting problems and solutions to the notice of elected officials to acquire recognition for clients' issues and to convey transformation.

### **Ohio Senate, Senior Legislative Aide, May 2016 – October 2017**

- Served as the Senator's principal liaison charged with providing insight and direction on the development of policy positions and legislative initiatives; monitored legislative activity on the Senate and House floor and managed long and short-term legislative planning for the member.

### **CDFR, Legislative & Federal Affairs Coordinator, Oct. 2015 – May 2016**

- Managed the organization's legislative and grassroots advocacy agenda; developed relationships with targeted elected leadership; coordinated advocacy related visits to Capitol Hill, wrote policy resolutions, testimony, and position letters. Maintained the agency's advocacy website, social media, and other press media platforms.

### **Additional Professional Experience:**

**Ohio Senate, Senior Legislative Aide**

**Ohio House of Representatives, Senior Legislative Aide**

**Ohio Dept. of Job and Family Services, Supervisor**

### **Professional Groups & Organizations:**

Fusion Education Group: School Board Member (12 Years)

Advocacy & Protective Services, Inc. (APSI): Member, Board of Directors (6 Years)

**Registered Lobbyist: OH**

**Former States Registered: KY, TX, FL, CO, TN, IN, AZ, and NV**