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## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

### *Executive Director*

#### **Ohio Mayors Alliance** | August 2016 – present

- Established the Ohio Mayors Alliance, a bipartisan coalition of mayors in Ohio's largest cities and suburbs, in 2016 to help better connect Ohio's mayors and state elected officials.
- The Ohio Mayors Alliance represents the 26 of the largest 30 cities in Ohio and its mission is to strengthen Ohio's cities and metropolitan regions through collaboration, communication, improved advocacy, and stronger partnerships with policymakers.
- The organization is structured to ensure that there is bipartisanship and consensus among the cities. The board members must include representation from both parties and from both large- and medium-sized cities. Adoption of any official policy position must be approved by a supermajority of the mayors.

### *President*

#### **Innovation Ohio Education Fund** | September 2014 - 2018

- Innovation Ohio Education Fund is a nonpartisan 501c(3) organization dedicated to promoting public policy that moves Ohio ahead without leaving some of its people behind.
- The mission of the organization is to research and advocate for policies that strengthen the middle class, protect the less advantaged, equalize opportunity, and ensure that businesses large and small have the tools they need to innovate, compete, and create good-paying, long-term jobs.
- In 2015, Innovation Ohio Education Fund had several major policy wins such as passage of a bipartisan education reform bill and the adoption of paid parental leave policies in Dayton and Cincinnati.

### *Minority Chief of Staff*

#### **Ohio House of Representatives** | 2011 – 2014

- Managed all operational and administrative aspects for the minority members of the Ohio House. Served as primary liaison with stakeholders and provided strategic direction on all communications, policy, and legislative matters.
- Managed a \$1.9 million administrative budget, five departmental direct reports, and over 50 support staff in the offices of 39 state representatives. Responsible for all legislative, policy, communications, legal, and administrative considerations in support of the minority caucus members.
- Provided strategic direction and guidance to the House Minority Leader and the statutory leadership team on a number of high-profile legislative matters such as the state budget, contentious disputes of labor rights, environmental issues and education reforms.

*Majority Communications Director*

**Ohio House of Representatives, Speaker Armond Budish | 2009 – 2010**

- Provided strategic communications, policy guidance, and media relations for the Speaker of the Ohio House. Served as spokesman and managed a department that provided communications support to 53 state lawmakers.
- Helped guide the members and the leadership team through an incredibly challenging communications environment as a result of the economic recession and a divided state legislature.
- Worked closely with the Governor's office and key stakeholders on the announcement and legislative rollout of a comprehensive primary and secondary education reform plan.

*Chief of Communications and Public Policy*

**Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation | 2007 – 2009**

- Oversaw 35-person division that managed all aspects of agency communications and public affairs.
- Launched a strategic communications plan to rebuild the agency's reputation following one of the most highly publicized scandals in state government history.
- Helped develop a comprehensive strategic reform plan to restore the public trust, and to rebuild relationships with key stakeholders such as the legislature, labor unions, and employer associations.
- Managed the process to resolve a contentious policy issue with stakeholders that had significant impacts on the BWC's \$17 billion workers' compensation fund.

*Communications Director, Northeast Ohio*

**Obama-Biden Campaign for Change | 2008**

- Managed media relations for the historic 2008 presidential campaign of Barack Obama in Ohio's largest media market. Served as lead media contact and spokesman for print, radio, and television interviews.
- Prepared media briefings and set up interviews for Barack Obama, Joe Biden and a wide variety of top-level surrogates ranging from Hillary Clinton to LeBron James.
- Worked with state, local, and national media during large scale press events and campaign rallies.

**EDUCATION**

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Master of Science, Urban Studies, 2001  
Cleveland State University,  
Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs

Bachelor of Arts, History, 1998  
Wittenberg University  
Minors, Political Science & Urban Studies

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