



R. Bruce Thompson II

Partner

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t 919.890.4147



Recognized as a top North Carolina political influencer and one of the state's most influential lobbyists, Bruce Thompson is part of Parker Poe's Government & Public Policy group. He concentrates his practice in governmental and regulatory activities, including legislative representation and counsel before the United States Congress and the North Carolina General Assembly, strategy formulation, bill drafting, preparation of testimony for legislative committees, and appearances before state and federal executive agencies. He also focuses on economic development initiatives, having represented some of the nation's largest companies in incentives negotiations with local and state officials.

In 2013, *Campaigns & Elections* magazine named him one of the top 10 political influencers from North Carolina as part of the publication's "Influencers 500" list. The magazine described Bruce as a "top lobbyist" in North Carolina. He has been named to the list of "Most Influential Lobbyists" by the North Carolina Center for Public Policy Research, was recognized by *North Carolina Super Lawyers* for Government Relations and Administrative Law, and has been named to Woodward/White's *The Best Lawyers in America* since 2008.

Bruce served on the National Finance Committee for the Hillary Clinton for President Campaign and was an advisor to Secretary of State Clinton's campaign during the North Carolina primary. He served as legal counsel to United States Senator Kay Hagan in her successful campaign and also advised the North Carolina campaign of President Barack Obama during the 2008 general election. Additionally, he served as outside counsel for the 2012 campaign of United States Representative Mike McIntyre.

During each election cycle, news outlets including Media General, Fox News, UNC-TV, NBC-17, the *Raleigh News & Observer*, the *Winston-Salem Journal*, and the *New York Times* call upon Bruce for commentary. His experience in state and national politics provides him with insight into the electoral process and its impact on public policy. He also utilizes this experience to advise clients on election law issues in addition to providing counsel on how to navigate the halls of government in Washington, D.C., and Raleigh, N.C.

Before joining Parker Poe, he was an assistant attorney general in the North Carolina Department of Justice. There, he represented state colleges and universities, the community college system, and the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. He also served as a legal advisor to the North Carolina Commission on Business Laws and the Economy while a member of the attorney general's staff.



RALEIGH OFFICE



PRACTICE AREAS

- Government Relations & Lobbying
- Government & Public Policy
- Administrative Law
- Economic Development
- Government Investigations & White Collar Defense
- Land Use & Zoning
- Renewable Energy
- Beverage Industry
- Fintech
- Opportunity Zones
- Navigating the Coronavirus Pandemic



EDUCATION

- Wake Forest University
JD, 1994
- Wake Forest University
BA, 1988



ADMISSIONS

- North Carolina, 1994



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Following graduation from law school, Bruce served as a law clerk for the Honorable Jack L. Cozort on the North Carolina Court of Appeals. He also managed a statewide campaign for North Carolina attorney general in 1996.

He is admitted to practice before the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit and the United States Supreme Court.

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Represented clients as a registered lobbyist before the United States Congress and the North Carolina General Assembly.
- Assisted clients with overall government and public policy strategy, including advice on campaign finance and election laws.
- Routinely represents clients before state agencies such as the Departments of Insurance, Transportation, Environmental Quality, Labor, and Revenue in North Carolina.
- Represented clients before federal agencies that include the Department of Energy, the Department of the Interior, and the United States Department of the Treasury.
- Represented landowners in property tax disputes before local boards of equalization and the North Carolina Property Tax Commission.
- Represented clients in regulatory matters before the Office of Administrative Hearings, the North Carolina State Board of Elections, the North Carolina Department of Insurance, the North Carolina Board of CPA Examiners, the North Carolina Commission on Health Services, and the North Carolina Board of Examiners for Engineers and Land Surveyors.

CLIENT ALERTS

- "Summary of How N.C. Governor's Latest Executive Order Impacts Businesses," May 2020
- "N.C. Legislature Approves \$125 Million to Help Small Businesses Through the Pandemic," May 2020
- "Congress and White House Reach Deal on Additional Small Business and Health Care Funding," April 2020



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- "Congress Moving Fast to Add \$250 Billion to Paycheck Protection Program," April 2020
- "Summary of the \$2 Trillion Federal CARES Act," March 2020
- "Key Takeaways From the Midterm Elections: Washington, D.C.," November 2018
- "North Carolina Early Voting Update & Election Day Preview," November 2018
- "North Carolina Early Voting Update," October 2018
- "North Carolina Early Voting Analysis," October 2018
- "North Carolina Tax Reform: Highlights of the Tax Simplification and Reduction Act of 2013 (HB 998)," July 2013
- "2010 South Carolina Election Analysis," November 2010
- "2010 North Carolina Election Analysis," November 2010
- "2010 Federal Election Analysis," November 2010
- "Exploring for State and Local Business Incentives: Finding the Highest Ground for Growth," November 2009
- "Treasury and DOE Issue Guidance on Grants in Lieu of Tax Credits," July 2009
- "H-1B Foreign Professional Worker Restrictive Provisions Enacted in Stimulus Bill," February 2009
- "The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009," February 2009
- "2006 Election Report," November 2006

PUBLICATIONS

- "Politics Is Purple in North Carolina," The Hill, November 2017
- "Democrats Can Win North Carolina Just Like Jimmy Carter Did in 1976," The Hill, October 2017
- "North Carolina Will Be a Big Battleground State in 2020," The Hill, October 2017
- "North Carolina Dems Face Tough Time Winning Legislature in 2018," The Hill, September 2017



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HONORS

- *The Best Lawyers in America* in Government Relations Practice, 2009-2020; Land Use and Zoning Litigation, 2011-2021; Administrative/Regulatory Law, 2018-2021
- *American Lawyer* magazine 2013 Top Rated Lawyer for Energy, Environmental and Natural Resources
- *Campaigns & Elections* magazine, "Influencers 500," 2012
- Martindale-Hubbell AV® Preeminent™ in Government & Public Policy; Government Relations & Lobbying; Renewable Energy; Economic Development; Land Use & Zoning; Eminent Domain & Condemnation; Public Transit
- NC Center for Public Policy Research, "Most Influential Lobbyists," 2009
- *North Carolina Super Lawyers*, 2009
- *Triangle Business Journal's* 40 Under 40, 2002
- Order of the Barristers

MEMBERSHIPS

- Artspace, Board of Directors, 2000-2009; Chair, 2003-2004, 2007-2008
- North Carolina Bar Association, Administrative Law Council, 2007-present
- North Carolina Center for Voter Education, Board of Directors, 2006-2014
- Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce, Member, Government Affairs Board, 2002-2008
- Method Child Development Center, Board of Directors, 2002-2010
- University of North Carolina Center for Public Television, Board of Trustees, 2006-2010
- Wake Forest Law Board of Visitors, 2007-2013
- Chi Psi Alumni Corporation, President, 1998-2008
- Wake Forest Alumni Council, 2014-present