

RYAN HAMILTON

Public Policy Attorney, Legislative Liaison, and Lobbyist

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Little Canada, MN



SUMMARY

I am passionate about cultivating the legal, regulatory, and policy conditions that allow talented individuals and organizations to thrive. 15 years of professional experience have molded me into a dynamic team player, ambassador, and strategic thought leader who can drive “win/win” outcomes amidst complex and nuanced circumstances.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE



General Counsel and VP of Government Affairs

NUWAY Alliance

06/2023 - 06/2025 Minneapolis, MN

- Served as the primary government affairs professional, lobbyist, and regulatory advisor for a nonprofit healthcare provider that served an average of 8,000 patients annually, earned \$57 million in gross revenue in 2023, held \$51 million in assets, and employed over 200 professional clinicians.
- Elevated the organization’s presence and engagement at the Capitol, with a specific mandate to formulate and advance a legislative solution addressing preexisting regulatory challenges facing the organization.
- Repaired and expanded the relationship between the organization and its trade association, significantly elevating the organization’s reputation and influence within the advocacy community for behavioral health.
- Monitored amendments or changes to state laws and regulations that governed the organization’s licensed programs (Minn. Stat. Chapter 245) and provided timely analysis to internal stakeholders and department leaders within the organizational matrix (e.g., Human Resources, Compliance, Outreach, Clinical).
- Advised executives on legal implications of law changes including AKS, FCA, HIPAA, privacy, FDA, marketing, compliance, clinical, reimbursement, Medicaid, and other federal/state laws in behavioral healthcare.
- Functioned as the organization’s primary point of contact for elected officials, state agency personnel, and other relevant stakeholders. Maintained relationships with legislators on both sides of the aisle.
- Attended weekly leadership meetings. Provided regular updates and informed recommendations to the Executive Director and C-suite on pending legislation and public policy developments, CMS releases, and state regulator releases, highlighting their potential impact on the organization’s mission.
- Represented the organization in meetings, conferences, and industry events.
- Reviewed and refined communications content to ensure legal accuracy, alignment with the organization’s nonprofit mission, and sensitivity to the current political climate, with the goal of preserving the organization’s goodwill and historical reputation.

EDUCATION



Juris Doctor (JD)

Tulane University School of Law

New Orleans, LA



B.A. History

Wake Forest University

Winston-Salem, NC

POLICY

ACHIEVEMENTS



Co-architect of Minnesota’s Child Tax Credit

In 2023, I was one of the four lobbyists who led the creation and passage of this landmark tax policy. The Minnesota CTC was the single largest Minnesota state budget item passed in 2023; projected to reduce child poverty by one-third. Personally drafted bill language that shaped the legislation’s technical framework, secured legislative authors, organized grassroots advocacy, and testified in committee hearings.



Modernized Real Estate Transactions

Successfully lobbied the passage of over 12 bills and amendments that modernized aspects of the real estate transaction and eliminated risk exposure for practitioners. Successfully shepherded the bills through legislative process, from concept to being signed into law.



Recovery Residence Certification Act

Cultivated relationships with national subject-matter experts and partnered with them to craft a best-in-the-nation legislative proposal; transformed the proposal into a bill, secured legislative authors, and successfully positioned it for consideration in the current legislative session.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE



Government Relations Manager

Minnesota Catholic Conference

12/2020 - 06/2023 St. Paul, MN

- Assisted the Catholic Bishops of Minnesota and the Executive Director by actively identifying, formulating, and implementing public policy objectives that promote the common good in the state of Minnesota.
- Took an ambassadorial approach in engaging collaboratively and consistently with elected officials, government relations peers, and advocacy organizations to address critical issues impacting the common good.
- Furnished quarterly updates (oral and written) to the Board of Directors on legislative activity and developments.
- Coached grassroots stakeholders and impacted constituents on legislative procedure and advocacy techniques.
- Conducted analytical research and applied strategic insights to develop Single Overriding Communication Objectives (SOCOs), ensuring clear, targeted messaging. Partnered with the Communications Manager to translate these objectives into credible, high-impact infographics, one-pagers, and copy for web-based grassroots calls to action.
- Displayed a clear, persuasive, and credible communication style in delivering public presentations, providing public legislative testimony, and writing policy newsletters.

Operations Manager and Attorney

Groshek Law

06/2018 - 12/2020 Minneapolis, MN

- Represented individuals and businesses in district court, delivering oral arguments before judges in district courts, drafting motions and managing settlement agreements with opposing attorneys.
- Assisted client with the formation of an MN public benefit corporation.
- Created a joint-venture agreement for a public benefit corporation.
- Recruited and collaborated with grant writers to execute fundraising plan for a non-profit agency.
- Reduced delinquent accounts in accounts receivable portfolio by 65% by strategically managing customer relationships and leveraging the conciliation court system.
- Optimized office workflow by implementing a new client lead tracking, case management and workflow system to maximize employee productivity and organizational efficiency.



TGB Program Associate

University of Minnesota

08/2019 - 12/2020 Minneapolis, MN

- Provided counsel to over 100 business owners, organizations, and university department leaders on supply chain/purchasing systems.
- Collaborated with University Controllers Office staff to formulate data-driven strategies to achieve goals.
- Tracked vendor subcontractor goals and performance while providing regular communication and compliance actions to meet University goals.
- Liaised for the TGB Program with university units, external supplier diversity groups, certification, and community organizations.
- Advised Targeted Group Business owners, organizations, and University staff on effectively engaging with the University supply chain and purchasing systems for mutual benefit.
- Monitored incumbent vendor subcontractor goals and performance, providing regular communication and compliance actions as necessary to meet proposed inclusion commitments.

STRENGTHS

Insight

Faced with any given scenario, I leverage research and historical contexts to acquire a deep understanding of what is required.

Strategic Thinking

I have an uncanny ability to cull all options, anticipate future obstacles, and find the best route forward. My clients appreciate my ability to translate complex legal and risk management issues into communications that are clear and actionable.

Critical Thinking

I am an efficient problem solver thanks to my knack for asking the right questions that get to the root cause.

Fidelity

Unwavering belief in my client's mission enables me to bring courage and creativity to challenging situations.

SKILLS

Legal Research

Regulatory Analysis

Public Policy Development

Cross-Functional Collaboration

Oral and Written Communication

Idea Advocacy

Risk Management

Coalition Building

BAR ADMISSIONS

Minnesota

District of Columbia (Washington)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE



Director of Government Affairs & Legal Counsel

Minnesota Realtors®

📅 11/2011 - 06/2018 📍 Edina, MN

- Oversaw comprehensive monitoring of the legislative session as a registered lobbyist for Minnesota's largest private trade association, ensuring industry representation at all key committee hearings and voting sessions to proactively identify and address potential amendments to the industry's licensing statute (Minn. Stat. Chapter 82) or other legislative measures impacting real estate transactions.
- Led the Government Affairs Committee. Enhanced member engagement, strengthened initiatives, informed policies, and positioned the association as a leading voice in real estate.
- Cultivated foundational, strategic relationships with legislators, legislative staff, agency personnel, and other government relations professionals to build a reliable, enduring network within the state's public policy sphere.
- Created legislator dossiers on real estate issues. Delivered reports and strategic recommendations to the MN Realtors® PAC Board, guiding candidate endorsements.
- Strategically deployed PAC funds to attend political fundraisers and campaign events, elevating the profile of the real estate industry and its policy priorities.
- Explained laws to practitioners and provided legal advice to help ensure regulatory compliance and mitigate risk.
- Provided public policy counsel and risk management support for 18,000 licensed real estate agents/brokers in Minnesota.
- Created data-driven public presentations to influence decision-makers on laws that directly and indirectly impacted the real estate industry.
- Drafted over 200 legislative updates, industry magazine articles and newsletters.



Legislative Counsel

U.S. House of Representatives

📅 01/2006 - 12/2009 📍 Washington, DC

- Managed Congressman's duties on the House Judiciary Committee, serving as the primary point of contact for committee staff, other congressional offices, lobbyists and grassroots organizations, ensuring effective and efficient communication flow.
- Acquired a practical understanding of how federalism works in the United States along with the unique nuances how laws, regulations, policies are advocated for and enacted at the Federal level.



Committee Legislative Assistant

Minnesota House of Representatives

📅 01/2011 - 11/2011 📍 St. Paul, MN

- Co-managed the Government Operations Committee, handling multiple priorities in a dynamic, fast-paced, and matrixed public service environment.
- Provided direction and oversight to three legislative interns.
- Acquired a deep understanding of the nuances of state agency frameworks, legislative process, and the cadence of the lawmaking at the state level.