



JAMES CLAYBORNE

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Summary

Founding Partner of the only African American certified minority-owned law firm between Chicago and Kansas City. Board Member with extensive leadership experience in business and politics, having served in the Illinois' State Senate. Strong communication skills in cultivating relationships and systematic change as well as building consensus among diverse individuals.

Experience

Clayborne & Wagner LLP

Founding Partner

May 2013 – Present

- Practices broad-based litigation: commercial development and P3 development projects (i.e. airport privatization).
- Represents public utilities in negotiations for real estate, easements and right of ways.
- Experienced in environment cleanup of old industrial sites.
- Negotiated value added contracts on behalf of an MCO with a hospital system.
- Serves as a legal advisor to the board of a federally qualified health center and hospital for 15 years.
- Served as Corporate Counsel for City of East St. Louis

St. Louis Children's Hospital

Board of Directors

Jan. 2022 – Present

- Work with board of directors to work with hospital administration to improve access to quality healthcare.

Kerengende Foundation

President of the Board of Directors

July 2019 – Present

- Work with board of directors to provide support to families with daughters who have experienced sexual trauma by building a healing community connected to information, support and resources.

Michael Matters Foundation

Board Member

April 2020 – Present

- Works alongside board members to raise funds to assist brain tumor patients and their families manage incidental costs while focusing on treatment.

Logos Board of Directors

Board Member

Jan. 2012 – Present

- Serves as a board member for school that offers a combination of individualized academics and innovative therapy for students in grades 6-12 who have social, emotional or behavioral challenges.
- Provides support at school events.
- Organizes and provides additional support with fundraisers.

The Ugandan National Prayer Breakfast

Keynote Speaker

Oct. 2018

- Invited to deliver a speech by the President Yoweri Museveni and Rebecca Kadaga, Speaker of the Parliament.

State Legislative Leaders' Foundation

Board Member

Jan. 2014 – Dec. 2018

- Was an active member in developing and shaping policies for current and future legislative leaders.

Illinois State Senate

Senator for the 57th District

April 1995 – Dec. 2018

- Was the second-highest ranking member as the Senate Majority Leader.
- Served as a leading advocate for creating bills signed into law regarding inclusion opportunities for minority, woman and veteran owned companies.
- Cultivated social and economic justice in underserved communities.

General Assembly Retirement System

Chairman

Jan. 2009 – Dec. 2018

Board Member

Jan. 2003 – Dec. 2018

This was a \$60 million fund.

Illinois State Board of Investment

Chairman of the Emerging Manager Committee

Jan. 2009 – Dec. 2018

Board Member

Jan. 2009 – Dec. 2018

Illinois Board of Investment is an \$18 billion Fund.

ISBI Increased its allocation to MWBE firms to 22% of its 18 billion in assets.

Over 60% of the brokerage fees are now paid to WBE firms.

ISBI's discretionary consultant now has an African American co-relationship manager with ISBI.

ISBI now has a WBE firm as a discretionary consultant.

ISBI now has an MBE transitional manage.

ISBI's CEO/CIO is now a woman of Palestinian decent.

ISBI has been ranked in the top 3 percentile of similar firms in performance.

DNC Convention - Super Delegate

2008, 2012, 2016

Democratic National Committee (DNC)

2009-2017

Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP

Partner

Jan. 1990 – Dec. 2013

Executive Board Member

Jan. 1997 – Dec. 2001

Licenses & Certifications

Missouri Bar Admission

State of Missouri

Issued 1994

U.S. District Court Eastern District of Missouri

State of Missouri

Issued 1994

U.S. District Court Southern District of Illinois

State of Illinois

Issued 1991

Illinois Bar Admission

State of Illinois

Issued 1988

Honors & Awards

IL Utilities Business Diversity Council Recognition for Promoting Business Growth in Illinois

2018

HAICIA Legislator of the Year

2017

Women Contractors Association Legislator of the Year

2017

Minority Impact Award

2017

Regional Commerce & Growth Association of Metropolitan St. Louis' Statesman Award

2016

Impact Award from the Chicago Minority Supplier Development Council

2016

Legislative Excellence Award

2015

Novogradic New Market Tax Credit State Legislator of the Year

2015

St. Louis Children's Hospital State Advocate of the Year

2007

Skills

- Leadership – Ability to inspire, mentor and lead large and small groups.
- Strategic thinker – Ability to consider all viewpoints and options when making decisions. Uses logic and reasoning when considering solutions and approaches to problems.
- Communication skills – Demonstrates written and verbal communication skills. Ability to speak to large and small groups with confidence and professionalism.
- Collaboration – Competent in ability to collaborate with diverse groups within organizations as well as externally.
- Process improvement – Proactive in developing and analyzing new or existing processes for improvement.
- Legal and business expertise – Knowledgeable in a variety of legal areas including litigation and business law.

Education

University of Miami School of Law

Juris Doctorate, Law

1988

Tennessee State University

Bachelor's Degree

1985