

The Talon Group, LLC

A Lobbying and Consulting Firm



advice. advocacy. access.

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ABOUT US

The Talon Group offers advice, advocacy and access to companies and organizations wanting to do business with the state or the federal government. Various legislative and administrative governmental entities make decisions every day that impact your business. Mississippi's current political climate has created new rules, new programs, and includes huge budgets and budget problems. These activities create challenges as well as opportunities. Clearly, the right government relations firm can make the difference between success and failure for you and for your business. More than any other lobbying firm, The Talon Group understands your lobbying needs and has the combined experience and expertise to deliver it. You want results -- not process. Our partnership provides the advice, advocacy and access to help you achieve those results at a "one-stop shop."

First, we offer unparalleled access to top decision makers in Mississippi, as well as to Mississippi's delegation in Washington, D.C. The abundance and strength of these relationships makes our team uniquely able to reach key public officials -- both elected and appointed -- from Mississippi. Our partners bring with them relationships cultivated over years of public service and political activity. As a result, The Talon Group can open doors and get your message heard by the right people. Second, our advocacy is grounded in a firm culture that emphasizes vigorous and passionate persuasion. Getting the meeting is important, but our real job starts when the meeting begins. Our partners have the natural temperament and professional training to be an aggressive and effective advocate for you and your position. To maximize our impact, we make the connection between the merits of your argument and policy direction of the decision maker. With a little imagination and a lot of effort, we guide the process to achieve a favorable result. Finally, our firm thinks strategically. We know that the game is frequently won or lost before the first word is uttered in a high-level meeting. The Talon Group can help you formulate a plan that meets your short-term needs, while positioning your organization to achieve its long-term goals.





MEET OUR PARTNERS

CHIP RENO The Talon group, LLC founding partner Chip Reno serves as a general consultant, strategist, and lobbyist working with both public officials and corporate leaders in the development of public policy and public affairs. Chip has extensive knowledge and expertise in both state government affairs and general strategic consulting within the political arena. His broad background and working knowledge of the legislative process, the regulatory environment, as well as in election politics allows him to represent clients and corporate interests that wish to impact policy development at all levels of government. Mr. Reno's knowledge of public affairs in Mississippi includes policy work experience not only at the state and federal levels, but also at the local level of government, from his experience as an elected city councilman for the city of Jackson from 1997 to 2001. In addition, he has served as a senior consultant to former U.S. Department of Agriculture Undersecretary Bill Hawks during Hawk's political career in Mississippi, as well as successful stints as a senior campaign consultant for Judge Kenny Griffis of the Mississippi Court of Appeals, and for Governor Haley Barbour. In addition to his political efforts, Mr. Reno's firm is involved in government affairs as well as issue advocacy strategy and implementation and the representation of prominent national corporations and statewide associations.



R. QUENTIN WHITWELL A founding partner of the Talon Group, LLC, Quentin Whitwell serves his firm's clients by providing unique and diverse legal and legislative talents, powerful grassroots organizing capabilities and effective regulatory advocacy, all complemented by his experience as an attorney and a leading government affairs specialist at the Mississippi State Capitol and at the United States Capitol in Washington, D.C. Quentin is renowned for his ability to protect the interests of corporations, associations and industries as their attorney and lobbyist. He brings legislative and regulatory strategies and solutions to the table to benefit clients of The Talon Group, while offering legal solutions in risk management and litigation. Recently named Executive Director of the Mortgage Bankers Association of Mississippi and having previously served as legal counsel and lobbyist for the Mississippi Association of REALTORS®, Whitwell is a recognized authority on lending issues and practices as well as association law, real estate regulations and land use policy. During his tenure, every bill Whitwell pursued passed and was signed into law. Finding "out-of-the-box" solutions for his clients, Whitwell's political savvy and dedication to the cause combined with his superior legal knowledge has brought a host of successes, including several large multi-state grassroots efforts. Appointed by Governor Haley Barbour to serve as chairman of the Mississippi Tort Claims Board, Whitwell is respected in government agencies for his ability to get things done.





MEET OUR TEAM

AIMEE BOUDREAUX GARNER Aimee Garner brings to the firm a dedication to public policy and this single objective: to provide clients complete and focused advocacy in the assemblies of both federal and state government. Her experience as finance director for Lieutenant Governor Phil Bryant adds a depth of relationships at the top levels of government, and Aimee is well-respected among the membership as a whole within the state legislature. Aimee offers a coordination of lobbying and grassroots skills she has perfected through her experiences.



STEVE JANZEN Steve Janzen has joined our firm after holding the position of personnel director for Governor Haley Barbour. Steve provides the pulse of the Governor's office and the executive agencies under its authority which is beneficial when pursuing the contacts needed to aid in the procurement process. Working with the Governor to find qualified persons to appoint to each of the states agencies, boards, and committees, Steve has cultivated deep roots that allow him to initiate dialogue with virtually any person in state government. He also has the talent to navigate Mississippi's ever changing political climate and combines the power of research and relationships to get the results our clients seek.

YVONNE ROBINSON HORTON Yvonne Horton, a retired schoolteacher, joins The Talon Group in its quest to provide the very best and most efficient service to its clients. Consulting is a natural extension to her 30 plus years of organizing, informing and directing political activities and events. She is thoughtful and creative in her approach to problems, dedicated and hard-working, responsive to clients' needs, and ethical in advocating our clients' positions and achieving their goals.



TIFFANY SKINNER SNELL Tiffany Snell joined our firm as our office manager and planner after her impressive efforts for State Auditor Phil Bryant in his successful 2007 campaign for Lieutenant Governor. Tiffany enjoys a host of accomplishments including event planning, campaign organizing, and project implementation through the tools of database management. Growing up in a Hinds County political family, Tiffany understands the importance of each client's task and diligently seeks to ensure their success.



WHAT IS THE TALON GROUP?

The Talon Group, LLC, a government relations firm with principal partners Chip Reno and Quentin Whitwell, was established in 2004 to assist firms doing business with federal, state and local governments. The primary emphasis of The Talon Group is government relations consulting and lobbying work with the Mississippi delegation in the U.S. Congress, the members of the Mississippi State Legislature, and the decision makers in Mississippi's executive branch including those in the many executive agencies. Since its inception numerous national corporations, state associations and dozens of other smaller specialized companies and interests have sought the services of the firm to have public policy initiatives implemented into law at the state and federal level, as well as for procuring or maintaining contracts with virtually every executive agency in Mississippi. Unique among other government relations firms, The Talon Group also offers their clients unparalleled assistance for infrastructure planning, strategy, problem solving, and financing for the client seeking federal appropriations and assistance in the general areas of technology, health care, financial services, transportation, environmental and water resources as well as in economic development. A full explanation of Talon's efforts and client list can be found at www.thetalongroup-ms.com.



SPECIFIC SERVICES

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS	FUNDRAISING AND EVENT PLANNING	PUBLIC AFFAIRS	POLITICAL CAMPAIGN CONSULTING
Direct Lobbying of the State Legislature and Congress	Political Campaign Fundraising	Grassroots and Grasstops Initiatives	General Campaign Consulting
State and Federal Agency Procurement	PAC Fundraising	Strategic Consulting	Message Development
PAC Management	Non-Political Fundraising	Media Relations	Radio and Television Advertising
Communications	Seminar Planning and Organization	Crisis Management	Ballot Initiatives and Constitutional Amendments
Research and Reporting	Securing Sponsorships and Notable Speakers	Radio and Television Advertising	Targeted Direct Mail and Database Infrastructure