



Lang Wiseman

Shareholder

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Lang Wiseman assists clients navigating complex challenges and opportunities at the intersection of business, government, law, litigation, and policy.

Mr. Wiseman provides strategic political, legal, and legislative advice in a wide range of industries, including manufacturing, health care, transportation, automotive, energy, real estate, and financial services, as well as educational institutions and local governments and economic development districts. Based on his extensive experience, relationships, insider knowledge, and network developed during his tenure as Deputy Governor and Chief Counsel to the Governor of Tennessee, he frequently counsels companies regarding regulatory challenges, securing economic incentives and tax credits, real estate development, and business litigation and strategy. Mr. Wiseman is a problem solver and regularly advises clients that interact with state and federal government, including constructing blueprints around legislative and/or executive branch priorities and initiatives. He also provides regulatory counsel, assists with governmental and Attorney General investigations, and provides public affairs and crisis management and counseling.

Mr. Wiseman is a native Tennessean who attended the University of Tennessee on a basketball scholarship before going on to Harvard Law School. He later grew a private practice as a high stakes litigator before being called to public service.

From 2019 to 2021, Mr. Wiseman served as Deputy Governor and Chief Counsel to Tennessee Governor Bill Lee, acting as a liaison between the governor's office, the legislature, and the various departments and agencies in state government. As Chief Counsel and the state's Chief Ethics Officer, Mr. Wiseman coordinated the legal and regulatory affairs of the executive branch and advised Governor Lee on legal, political, and legislative matters. He assisted in development, drafting, and implementation of legislation and worked closely with the judiciary and the attorney general and reporter. He was also responsible for assisting Governor Lee with judicial appointments, requests for executive clemency, and implementation of economic development programs at the state level, including legislation to enact incentive packages for a multinational automobile manufacturer.

Prior to his appointment, Mr. Wiseman was a founding partner at the Memphis law firm Wiseman Bray PLLC where he developed significant experience in the areas of business and commercial litigation, bank litigation and workouts, advising closely held businesses, insurance coverage disputes, professional liability and catastrophic injury claims, wrongful death litigation, construction litigation, and lien disputes, election law and government relations, and defending municipal and governmental entities against claims under the Tennessee Governmental Tort Liability Act.

Mr. Wiseman is a Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 31 Listed Civil Mediator. He previously served as counsel to the U.S. Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, as well as a law clerk to the Honorable Harry W. Wellford of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.



Representative Matters

- Successfully contested a mayoral election in a town in Tennessee, voiding the mayoral race.

- Successfully contested an election to overturn a referendum defeat and affirmatively declare passage of the referendum.
- Served as lead counsel in a historic election contest and vote of the Tennessee State Senate to void the election of a member.
- Negotiated a successful, seven-figure confidential settlement of cyber fraud insurance coverage and a bad faith claim.
- Represented a large regional bank in multiple ongoing insurance recovery litigation matters involving bankers' professional liability and directors and officers liability insurance coverages.
- Successfully prosecuted and negotiated a \$1.8 million settlement of a construction site injury claim utilizing a little-used exception allowing the pursuit of a separate tort claim against a fellow subcontractor despite vigorous denial and defense by the subcontractor's insurance company.
- Achieved a successful settlement in a wrongful death trucking accident claim.
- Shepherded drafting and passage of state legislation allowing a client mental health facility to be dually licensed to provide acute care medical services.



Professional Honors & Activities

- Member – University of Tennessee Board of Trustees (2018 – 2019; 2023 – present)
- Chair – Governor's Council for Judicial Appointments (2023 – present)
- Member – Governor's Office of Faith-Based & Community Initiatives, Board of Directors (2019 – present)
- Member – University of Tennessee Research Foundation Board of Directors (2023 – present)
- Member – TennSMART Board of Directors
- Member – Tennessee Economic Development Council
- Member At-Large – Tennessee Nuclear Energy Advisory Council
- Governor's Designee – State Board of Equalization (Tennessee, 2019 – 2023)
- Member – Governor's Council for Judicial Appointments (2015 – 2018)
- Vice Chair – Advisory Commission to the Tennessee Supreme Court on Rules of Practice and Procedure (2017)
- Member – Tennessee State Board of Education, District Eight (2017)
- Director and Corporate Secretary – Memphis-Shelby County Sports Authority (Appointed by Mayor Mark Luttrell) (2012 – 2015)
- Chair – Campaign to Elect District Attorney Amy Weirich (2012, 2014)
- Chair – Republican Party of Shelby County (2009 – 2011)
- Member – The Federalist Society
- Member – American Bar Association
- Member – Tennessee Bar Association
- Member – Memphis Bar Association (Board of Directors, 2006 – 2007; 2011 – 2012)
- Fellow – Memphis Bar Foundation
- Fellow – Tennessee Bar Foundation
- Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Commercial Litigation in 2024 and 2011; Government Relations Practice in 2021
- Listed in Mid-South Super Lawyers for Personal Injury (2012 – 2019)
- AV® Preeminent™ Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell
- Listed in *Nashville Post's* 2024, 2023 and 2022 "In Charge: Legal"
- Named "Power Player" by *MBQ: Inside Memphis Magazine* (2013)



Publications

- "Tax Refund Process and Related Points Resulting from Constitutional Issue with Franchise Tax" (May 2024)

- "The 113th Tennessee General Assembly Adjourns *Sine Die* – Highlighted Overview" (April 2024)
- "Potential Tax Refunds Resulting from Constitutional Issue with Franchise Tax" (March 2024)
- "Gov. Lee's Strategy: A New Era for Tennessee's Growth & Prosperity" (February 2024)
- "Legislation Filed Addressing Potential Constitutional Issue with Franchise Tax" (January 2024)
- "Reduction in Tennessee State Budget Outlook and Tackling the Franchise Tax Problem" (January 2024)
- "New Legislation Proposed in Tennessee to Protect Against Deepfakes: ELVIS Act" (January 2024)
- "Legislation To Be Filed Addressing Potential Constitutional Issue with Franchise Tax" (January 2024)
- "A Preview of the 113th Tennessee General Assembly: Second Regular Session" (January 2024)
- "Liberals and Conservatives Must Stop Fighting and Find Solutions to Gun Violence," *The Tennessean* (May 2023)



Speaking Engagements

- Panelist – "Nuclear Emphasis in Tennessee Depends of Funding, Workforce, and a More Robust Supply Chain," Tennessee Advanced Energy Business Council's Annual Meeting (March 2024)
- "2023 Tennessee Smart Mobility Expo" (December 2023)
- "Baker School of Public Policy and Public Affairs' Southeast Energy Policy Forum" (August 2023)
- "In the Black: A Way of Life – The Fiscal Strength of Tennessee" (July 2023)
- "Leadership Nashville: Business Day Panel – Economic Development in Tennessee" (January 2023)
- Co-presenter – "Banking and Financial Industry Trends for In-House Counsel," Webinar (August 2022)



Education

- Harvard Law School, J.D., 1996, with honors
- University of Tennessee at Knoxville, B.S., 1993, summa cum laude
 - Co-Captain, UT Basketball Team (1989 – 1993)



Admissions

- Tennessee, 1997
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, 2001
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, 1997
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, 1997
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee, 2022
- U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee, 2022
- U.S. District Court for the Western District of Tennessee, 1998
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas, 2017
- U.S. District Court for the Western District of Arkansas, 2017