

CURRICULUM VITAE

Donald E. Williams, Jr.

Office Of the President Pro Tempore
Connecticut State Senate
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Home: 41 Malbone Lane
Brooklyn, CT 06234

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

President Pro Tempore, Connecticut State Senate

Since election as President Pro Tempore on July 1, 2004, my responsibilities have included:

- Managing staff, schedule and policy agenda for state senators
- Providing direct oversight of caucus staff
- Overseeing employment policy and protocol for all non-partisan staff in the Connecticut Legislature (1993-2014 as state senator; 2004 to 2014 as state senator and president of the senate)

Director of Development, Connecticut Bar Association

- Responsible for developing curriculum protocols and recruiting faculty for full schedule of legal seminars during each fall and spring
- Organized multi-day institute programs focusing on trial practice and appellate advocacy
- Created Law First Publications to publish scholarly works regarding Connecticut law and legal practice
- Helped launch and manage Connecticut Casemaker, an online database system for research of case law, statutes, and other legal materials
- Managed staff for seminars and publications (1999 through 2006)

Executive Director, Connecticut College Downtown

- Responsible for initiating downtown campus and stretching limited resources
- Served as liaison for Connecticut College in the New London community
- Recruited academic classes and lectures
- Provided projects for student internships
- Sponsored community-based initiatives (1997 through 1999)

First Selectman, Town of Thompson, Connecticut

- Chief executive officer responsible for management and oversight of all town business, administration and personnel matters
- Managed collective bargaining, personally representing town and directly negotiating union contracts with the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees

- Initiated first mandatory town-wide recycling program in Connecticut, and received the Federal Environmental Merit Award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Responsible for crafting and overseeing a \$10 million budget
- Helped manage and oversee construction projects regarding town library-community center, high school expansion, affordable housing, and reclamation of riverfront land for conversion into a park (1987 through 1991)

Chairman, Northeastern Connecticut Council of Governments

- Elected by fellow chief executive officers to direct a regional agency and establish policy and priorities for ten municipalities
- Helped extend recycling initiative in Thompson to region
- Worked to reduce costs by collectively purchasing goods (1989 through 1991)

Chairman, Northeast Economic Alliance

- Assisted area towns in reaching out to local business and industry
- Conducted survey among towns to determine economic development priorities
- Worked with region and state to secure funding and support for local economic development projects (1990 through 1992)

Attorney, Boland, St. Onge & Brouillard, Putnam, Connecticut

- Responsible for effective client case management in diverse concentrations including municipal law, litigation, business law, contracts, and labor law, including personnel matters
- Represented multiple municipalities in public education matters, real estate and zoning matters, and labor issues
- Client representation included businesses large and small (1987 through 1997)

COLLABORATIONS WITH QUINEBAUG VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Worked with leaders at QVCC to create and secure resources for:

- QVCC's Middle College High School
- 30,000 square-foot addition to the college's physical plant
- Relocation of QVCC's Willimantic Center to Main Street
- Continuation of the STRIDE program
- Initiation of the Advanced Manufacturing Center

HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY AND MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

New England Board of Higher Education: Board of Directors (2007 through 2011)

State of Connecticut's \$172 million Technology Park at the University of Connecticut: Initiated and authored legislation to create the Technology Park to facilitate public/private partnerships in higher education research and student internship opportunities and make Connecticut more competitive in the global marketplace.

Connecticut College, Executive Director, Connecticut College Downtown: Managed relations between President's Office, staff, faculty, and community volunteers, to create an academic and public service presence for Connecticut College in downtown New London

Chairman, Appropriations Higher Education Subcommittee: Oversaw fiscal implications of policy initiatives and reviewed all state expenditures for the Connecticut Community Colleges, the Connecticut State University system, and the University of Connecticut

Higher Education Infrastructure Improvements: Helped institute \$320 million in capital improvements to infrastructure for the state's community colleges; authored CSU 2020 and led the successful legislative effort to invest \$1 billion to transform the facilities and campuses of the Connecticut State University system; helped create a historic, \$2.3 billion, 20-year investment in strengthening the University of Connecticut's infrastructure

PUBLIC AFFAIRS, MEDIA, AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Press Conferences, Forums, Hearings and Speeches

- Conducted hundreds of forums and interviews with local and statewide newspaper, radio and television reporters
- Chaired hundreds of public hearings in northeastern Connecticut and in Hartford
- Presented speeches, policy papers, and public interest information at Quinebaug Valley Community College, Eastern State University, the University of Connecticut, and other institutions and organizations across the state
- Held hundreds of press conferences in Hartford and throughout the state

Host, *Connecticut Matters*, a public service television program broadcast throughout eastern Connecticut

- Currently conduct interviews on a regular schedule with leaders in business, education, social service, health care, and government to discuss issues of importance in Connecticut
- Personally organize, produce and host program (1996 to the present)

News and Public Affairs Director, WINY Radio, Putnam, Connecticut

- Extensive experience in writing and editing news copy under strict deadlines
- Managed news department and reported on all matters regarding government, education, social and civic entities in northeastern Connecticut (1980 through 1983)

Host, Connecticut College Televised Writers Forum with Authors from Curbstone Press

- Produced interviews and readings for broadcast on public service television with various authors, including Marnie Mueller, Wayne Karlin and Maketa Groves
- Established partnership with Curbstone Press and Sandy Taylor, Willimantic, Connecticut

EXPERIENCE IN FUNDRAISING AND CIVIC SERVICE

Fundraising for Public Office: Managed and directed fundraising campaigns that raised hundreds of thousands of dollars in northeastern Connecticut and throughout the state through personal solicitation, direct mail, and special events (1987 to the present)

Day Kimball Hospital, Putnam, Connecticut: Helped secure funding for the emergency department capital campaign

Big Brothers Big Sisters Program of Northeastern Connecticut: Personally brought program to region to mentor youngsters in local towns

HealthQuest Northeastern Connecticut: Member, Board of Directors

Northeastern Connecticut Chamber of Commerce: Former member of Board of Directors

United Services of Northeastern Connecticut: Former member of Board of Directors

Student Mentoring and Tutoring: Created tutoring program in Rockbridge County, Virginia, where law students helped middle and high school students in academic need; while in high school, participated as a tutor and teacher in the SPHERE Program, tutoring students at Quirk Middle School in Hartford during the regular school year, and taught English to Hartford students for three summers at the SPHERE Program at Pomfret School, Pomfret, Connecticut

SELECTED ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN STATE LEGISLATURE

- Authored the Community Investment Act, providing resources for affordable housing, farmland and open space preservation, and historic preservation
- Helped create the *Jobs for the 21st Century* legislation that stimulates job growth, research and development, and economic investment
- Negotiated bipartisan legislation to help small and medium sized businesses, including the Business Express and Step-Up programs
- Helped establish legislation to provide \$100 million for stem cell research
- Created the Office of the Child Advocate to serve as a watchdog agency overseeing departments providing services to children, and the Office of the Healthcare Advocate to help consumers with medical and health insurance issues
- Helped pass legislation to dramatically reduce sulfur dioxide and mercury emissions at power plants
- Established strong child nutrition standards for beverages and food in public schools
- Past chairman of the Environment Committee, the Judiciary Committee, the Select Committee on Children, the Executive Nominations Committee, the Insurance Committee, and the Appropriations Higher Education Subcommittee

PUBLICATIONS

- *Prudence Crandall's Legacy: The Fight For Equality in the 1830s, Dred Scott and Brown v. Board of Education*, Wesleyan University Press; publication in June 2014; 460 pages. A biography of Prudence Crandall and an overview of related abolitionist and civil rights history through the Civil War and *Brown v. Board of Education*
- Articles in periodicals regarding current issues such as health care, economic development, and state finances
- *The Nonprofit Corporation and Community Development in Bedford Stuyvesant*, 42 W&L Law Rev., 1259 (1985)

- *Greater Efficiency or Higher Consumer Rates? FCC Preemption of State Depreciation Methods for Telephone Companies*, 42 W&L Law Rev., 301 (1985)

EDUCATION

- J.D.** Washington and Lee University School of Law, Lexington, Virginia
Cum Laude, 1986
Law Review Research Editor
Law Review Writer
University Service Award (for creating tutoring programs in middle and high schools)
Associate Editor, Washington and Lee Law News
- B.S.** Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York
Journalism, 1980
Semester in London, 1980

SELECTED AWARDS

- Innovation Champion Award, University of Connecticut, 2012
- Justice Resource Institute Award for Improving the Health of Children, 2012
- Children's Champion, Connecticut Early Childhood Alliance, 2009
- Jack Shanahan Prize for Public Service, Connecticut Main Street Center, 2008
- Wilbur Cross Award and Legislator of the Year, Humanities Council, 2007
- Legislator of the Year for Housing, Historic Preservation and the Environment, Connecticut Community Development Association, 2007
- Most Valuable Player Award for Clean Elections, National Activists Conference on Public Financing of Elections, Washington, D.C., 2006
- Harlan H. Griswold Award for Historic Preservation, Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation, 2006
- Martha Leonard Child Advocate Award for the Protection of the Health of Children in School, American Academy of Pediatrics, 2006
- Housing Hero Award for Leadership in the Cause of Affordable Housing, Connecticut Housing Coalition, 2005
- Environmental Hero Award, Connecticut League of Conservation Voters, 2004