

Government Affairs

Working at the intersection of business and government, our bipartisan Government Affairs team is committed to helping clients achieve their business objectives. Bringing deep experience and industry insight, we identify legal and legislative issues that affect our clients' businesses and provide regulatory and strategic counseling.

Our team of lawyers and public policy professionals have extensive familiarity with the nuances and processes of government. Members of our team have worked for current and former US presidents, held high-level posts in the Senate and House of Representatives, and served in state and local government. Our collective experience includes working on numerous political campaigns and holding leadership roles in both national political parties. We combine the resources and knowledge of one of the nation's premier law firms with extensive networks and policymaking experience to provide clients with invaluable insight into dealing with the subtleties of government, maneuvering complex processes, and penetrating layers of bureaucracy.

Our clients come from a broad scope of industries ranging from healthcare, cannabis, and food and beverage to real estate, transportation, telecom, manufacturing and renewable energies. We regularly monitor legislative developments and undertake comprehensive analyses to assess and manage political and operational risks to provide our clients with information that informs their decision-making and offers solutions. Additionally, our team advises clients on strategies for coordinating media outreach and building relationships as they enter different markets.

We have an intimate knowledge of New Jersey government and deep relationships with political and industry leaders in the state. Clients benefit from our many relationships and our team members have served within the administrations of Governors Phil Murphy and Chris Christie. Team members have also led the offices of multiple state legislators, as well as the state's largest regulatory authority. Several members of our team are registered government affairs agents in New Jersey.

Lobbying

We help our clients be active participants in the legislative process. Whether drafting legislation and creating new policy, amending existing regulations, or impacting pending legislation, we have the policy experience and connections to advocate for and ensure that our clients' voices are heard by key decision makers. We represent clients before regulatory agencies and federal, state, and local lawmakers. Clients trust our team to help them inform and influence government decisions.

Political and Campaign Finance Compliance

Clients have come to rely on McCarter to advise them on New Jersey's complex laws and regulations that may impact their business operations in relation to government contracts and the political process. We advise individuals, corporations, and senior executives on issues related to state and federal campaign finance laws and, drawing on our in-depth knowledge of these complex regulations, regularly help clients understand and remain compliant with disclosure and reporting requirements, contribution limits, and ethics and gift rules. McCarter understands the way campaign finance laws affect pay-to-play laws, and we work with clients to ensure that contributions do not affect their ability to secure government contracts. We also understand the laws and regulations governing political action committees (PACs) and advise clients on their creation and operation.

Representative Matters

Solar Landscape—Government and regulatory affairs

Represent a national community solar leader Solar Landscape in its efforts to impact New Jersey solar policy, legislation, and regulations, including advocating for the successful passage of S3123/A4782.

Global systemically important bank—Government affairs

Represent a global systemically important bank (G-SIB) in its affairs before the Office of the New Jersey Attorney General.

Large education-focused nonprofit organization—Government affairs

Provide federal government and public affairs services to a non-profit in connection with matters before the US government and relevant federal agencies and departments.

Global cruise line—Federal government affairs

Represent a global cruise line in federal government affairs matters before parties, including the Executive Office of the President, the Department of Transportation, the Department of Health & Human Services, and the Department of State. This work includes advocating for our client on issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Electronic lottery payment company—Legislative drafting

Drafted legislation advocating for the passage of lottery reform in the New Jersey Legislature. The bill was signed into law by Governor Murphy and now allows residents of the State of New Jersey to purchase lottery tickets through decoupled debit as an electronic fund payment method.

Trade association—Effort to advocate for a fair regulatory environment

Representing a trade association advocating for a fair regulatory environment for the cryptocurrency and blockchain industries.

Fortune 50 technology company—Government affairs agent

Representing a Fortune 50 technology company as their government affairs agent in New Jersey.

Fortune 200 telecom company—Government affairs agent

Representing a Fortune 200 telecom company as its government affairs agent in New Jersey.

Anti-Hazing Coalition—Lobbying

Represented the Anti-Hazing Coalition and the Piazza family in advocating for the passage of the Timothy J. Piazza bill in the New Jersey Legislature. The bill was signed into law by Governor Murphy and gives New Jersey one of the toughest anti-hazing laws in the country.

Former Governors of New Jersey—New Jersey Supreme Court win

Represented every living former governor of New Jersey as amici curiae and argued before the New Jersey Supreme Court on their behalf in support of the pardon power afforded to the Governor through the State Constitution. The New Jersey Supreme Court reversed the judgment of the Appellate Division granting the petition for expungement and remanded the matter to the trial court to enter an appropriate form of order.

Charter schools—Municipal budget dispute

Representing Hoboken's three charter schools in a matter before the Hoboken City Council involving the Council's proposal to exclude the Charter Schools from certain funds appropriated under the 2020 Municipal Budget.

Mayoral candidate—Election contest

Secured the dismissal of an election contest brought by a defeated mayoral candidate who lost an election to our client. The dismissal followed a win at the preliminary injunction stage that allowed our client to take office.

Maker and distributor of portable pod vaping systems—Government affairs and investigations counsel

Serving as government affairs and investigations counsel to the largest privately-held maker and distributor of portable pod vaping systems in New Jersey.

Alerts

New Jersey FY 2025 – Transportation Department Budget Hearing, Government Affairs Alert, 4.16.2024

2024 New Jersey Legislative Transitions, Government Affairs Alert, 2.1.2024

A Look Ahead: Governor Murphy's State of the State and the 221st New Jersey Legislature, Government Affairs Alert, 1.10.2024

New Jersey General Election Results, Government Affairs Alert, 11.8.2023

Governor Murphy Appoints Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti as Chief of Staff, Government Affairs Alert, 9.26.2023

U.S. Health Regulators Advocate Easing Restrictions on Cannabis, Cannabis & Government Affairs Alert, 9.12.2023

FY2024 New Jersey Budget Review, Government Affairs Alert, 5.30.2023

The Elections Transparency Act: What You Need to Know About NJ's New Campaign Finance and Pay-to-Play Law, Government Affairs Legal Alert, 4.12.2023

COVID-19 Forces Closure of Most New Jersey Retail Businesses; Others Encouraged to Maximize Remote Operations, Government Affairs Alert, 3.22.2020

New Jersey Releases Draft Energy Master Plan Targeting 100% Clean Energy in 30 Years, Environment & Energy and Government Affairs Alert, 5.13.2019

New Jersey Biotechnology Task Force Recommends Angel Investor Tax Credit Program Expansion, August 10.2018

Articles

New Blockchain Technology Act Will Boost Cryptocurrency Industry in New Jersey, NJ Tech Weekly, 10.30.2020

Speaking Engagements

The Future Direction of Policy, Regulation and Power Markets, Large Scale Solar USA Summit, 5.1.2024

Pints and Policy Discussion with Senator James Maroney, 2.22.2024

NJEC Fireside Chat with NJBPU President Guhl-Sadovy, New Jersey Energy Coalition, 10.5.2023

The Art of Lobbying and the Legislative Process, Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey, 5.5.2023

Hydrogen Hubs: Building a Consumer Base and Enabling Adoption, Alternative Fuels & Chemicals Coalition, 11.6.2022

Finding a Political Job in Washington, DC, Rowan Institute for Public Policy & Citizenship, August 4.2022

The Cloud Abides: Addressing the Challenges of Cloud Migration and Acquisition, The National Contract Management Association (NCMA) Boston Chapter, 3.8.2017

Webinars

2023 Congressional Outlook: Significant New Federal Legislation and the Impacts of the Midterm Elections, McCarter & English CLE Virtual Series, 12.1.2022

CUP Conversations: Turning Silence Into Activism – United With Cuban Voices, Council of Urban Professionals, August 4.2021

Eagleton Alumni in Politics Series: Careers in Law, Eagleton Alumni in Politics Series, 3.10.2021

Podcasts

Post-Election Analysis, NJTV Chatbox , 11.7.2020

Quoted

Protest Vote Sweeps Younger Neighborhoods, Falls Flat at Yale, Yale Daily News, 4.11.2024

McCarter Government Affairs Advisor Remembers Connecticut Senator Joseph Lieberman, CT Insider, 4.1.2024

NJ Lobbying Spend Tops \$96M in 2023, NJBIZ, 3.15.2024

PPAG, Public Strategies, CLB Partners Are Largest 3 Multi-Client Lobbying Firms Again, ROI-NJ, 3.13.2024

Lawyer-Lobbyist Receipts Continue to Outpace Overall Expenditures on State Lobbying, New Jersey Law Journal, 3.12.2024

As Legislative Session Begins, CT Lobbying Corps Sees New Players, Fresh Starts, Hartford Business Journal, 1.23.2024

McCarter & English Adds Top Connecticut Democrat Vin Mauro to Government Relations Practice, New Jersey Globe, 12.18.2023

Meet McCarter & English's First Gov't Affairs Hire In Conn., Law360, 12.7.2023

Mauro to Join McCarter & English Government Affairs Team in Hartford, CT News Junkie, 12.1.2023

McCarter & English Taps Senate Dems' Chief of Staff Mauro to Launch Gov't Affairs Presence in CT, Hartford Business Journal, 11.30.2023

McCarter & English Adds Conn. Democrat In Gov't Affairs, Law360, 11.30.2023

New Jersey Lawmakers Push to Overtake New York with New Crypto Regulations, Politico Pro, 4.4.2022

How McCarter & English Climbed NJ's Lobbying Firm Ladder, Law360 Pulse, 03.18.2022

Cannabis: Five Questions Answered by Guillermo Artiles of McCarter & English, ROI-NJ, 1.28.2022

Republicans Had a Great Election. Democrats Did Not. But Both Need to Chart a New Path Forward., Yahoo! News, 11.9.2021

Murphy Signs New Anti-Hazing Law as Colleges Set to Reopen, New Jersey Law Journal, August 24.2021

Anti-hazing Bill Intended to 'Deter Future Tragedies' Lands on Murphy's Desk, New Jersey Law Journal, 7.7.2021

'Lobbyists without a Lobby': Record Revenues Amid Sea Change For Lawyer-Lobbyists, New Jersey Law Journal, 4.19.2021

Civil Rights Lawyer Rachel Wainer Apter Nominated to NJ Supreme Court, New Jersey Law Journal, 3.17.2021

Law360 Pulse Features Government Affairs Practice, Law360 Pulse , 3.12.2021

Judge Salas Returns with Mission to Protect the Bench, Law360, 3.1.2021

Experts to Cannabis Entrepreneurs: Slow Down, Build Good Team, Do Your Local Research, ROI-NJ, 2.24.2021

The Cannabis Resource Issue, ROI-NJ, 1.28.2021

From Viral Joke to Impeachment Backer: How Chris Christie Survived Trump's Presidency, The Record, 1.28.2021

NJ Attorneys Tapped as Biden Delegates Hopeful for Big Changes, Law360 Pulse, 1.21.2021

How They Won It: McCarter Nets NJ High Court Expungement, Law360 Pulse , 1.13.2021

New Jersey Supreme Court Rejects Curb on Pardoning Power After Nine Ex-Governors Weigh In, New Jersey Law Journal / ROI-NJ / Law360 Pulse, 1.13.2021

Cryptocurrency Expert Thinks Bitcoin, Other Digital Currencies Still Have Bright Future, Even with Pandemic Roiling Markets, ROI-NJ, 1.11.2021

New Jersey Regulation and Legislation to Watch in 2021, Law360, 1.3.2021

Kean Campaign Not Opposing Malinowski Suit Over Naked Ballots, New Jersey Globe, 11.25.2020

'Daniel's Law' Heads to Governor's Desk, New Jersey Law Journal, 11.16.2020

Hoboken Charter Schools Retain Counsel in Ongoing Struggle Over 770 Jackson Street PILOT, Hudson County View, 11.11.2020

Presidential Election Could Bring Relief to New Jersey's Shorthanded Federal Courts, New Jersey Law Journal, 10.26.2020

Census Halt Poses Particular Threat to NJ and Its Immigrants, Law360, 10.23.2020

Governor Murphy Names Parimal Garg to Chief Counsel, ROI-NJ, 10.9.2020

Jersey 'Lawyers for Joe' Launches to Help Protect the Vote Amidst COVID-19 Pandemic, Insider NJ, 4.27.2020

Head Start for Bill to Regulate New Jersey Crypto Companies, Modern Consensus, 2.25.2020

Call It the Blockchain State, ROI-NJ, 4.23.2019

Guillermo Artilles Leaves Murphy Administration to Return to McCarter & English, ROI-NJ, 1.3.2019

