



Lowell Pearson

OFFICE MANAGING PARTNER

JEFFERSON CITY, MO

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OVERVIEW

Lowell has more than 30 years of experience navigating the intersection of business and government at both the state and federal levels.

A wide range of clients – including regulated businesses in manufacturing, aviation and healthcare; individual political candidates and political action committees (PACs); and political subdivisions – rely on Lowell’s extensive experience in administrative law; election law and political campaign finance law; as well as government contract and procurement matters. A trusted litigator, he has handled numerous cases in the federal and state courts challenging government action, and has made multiple appearances before the Missouri Supreme Court in employment and constitutional cases.

Clients appreciate Lowell’s deep background within and innate understanding of public policy. Lowell worked in Washington, DC, as a policy advisor to the Judicial Conference of the United States and as counsel to Bob Dole’s 1988 presidential election campaign. He also served as both Missouri’s Deputy Director of Revenue and general counsel to Missouri Governor Matt Blunt. Lowell has been a regular speaker on administrative law, tax and election law issues to groups such as the Associated Industries of Missouri (AIM), the Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and the Associated General Contractors (AGC) of Missouri. His proven collaborative and relationship-building skills move client goals forward.

Industries

Healthcare
Manufacturing
Technology
Transportation

Services

Aviation
Government Solutions
Healthcare Providers
Litigation & Alternative Dispute Resolution
Nonprofit Organizations & Religious Institutions
Political Ethics & Election Law
Public Policy, Regulatory & Government Affairs
Rail
State & Local Taxation (SaLT)
State Attorneys General Practice
Tax

Case Study

BLAQUE Advances Educational Equity With Legal Support From Husch Blackwell

We assisted in the formation of a new not-for-profit dedicated to improving the academic, economic, social, emotional and life outcomes of African-American children in public schools.

Experience

LITIGATION

- Successfully appealed Missouri Department of Revenue's assessed tax on client's non-taxable airplane leasing transaction in 7-0 Missouri Supreme Court decision after Missouri Administrative Hearing Commission ruled tax was owed.
- Negotiated resolution of a state and local tax audit with the Missouri Department of Revenue for a leading producer of metal products and continuing to advise it on tax policy.
- Secured a \$60 million contract for Securus Technologies Inc. to provide phone service to the Missouri Department of Corrections. A competitor challenged the award but Securus prevailed at trial in the Cole County Circuit Court.
- Successfully defended multi-million dollar class actions challenging violation of attorney-client privilege in detention centers.
- Frequently litigates ballot language including successfully challenging ballot language on Missouri right-to-work initiative.
- Successful defense of election contests seeking to remove candidates from ballots.
- In two separate cases, obtained summary judgment preventing certification of unions, each with more than 13,000 home-care workers.
- Appeared before the Missouri Supreme Court in a main case permitting associations to bring constitutional challenges on behalf of their members.

Experience

- Secured a victory before the Missouri Supreme Court in closely watched litigation over the implementation of Amendment 2, a 2020 ballot initiative that Missourians passed and that would expand Medicaid coverage in the state.
- Secured a federal appeals court victory for Missouri state representative when the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit reversed a lower court's decision that the representative violated the plaintiff's rights by blocking him and others from her Twitter account in a closely watched First Amendment case.

CRISIS MANAGEMENT

- Served as key member of the firm's COVID-19 response team, tracking rapidly changing state-by-state rules, restrictions and orders, and developing guidance on, among other matters, essential business designations.

GOVERNMENT SOLUTIONS

- Frequently advises initiative petition proponents on access to ballot, including successfully placing on the ballot tobacco tax, medical marijuana and other measures.
- As Missouri's Deputy Director of Revenue, developed state's corporate income tax, sales and use tax, and individual income tax policies. Served as primary drafter of department's regulations to implement legislation that was largest tax exemption in history for Missouri's manufacturers.
- As Missouri's Deputy Director of Revenue, frequently testified on behalf of department before legislative committees, and led department effort to resolve – by negotiation \$450 million, 170-party sales and use tax dispute.
- Spearheaded governor's judicial appointments process.

Recognition

- *Benchmark Litigation*, Local Litigation Star, 2020-2024
- BL Rankings' *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Government Contracts, 2018-2024; Commercial Litigation, 2023 and 2024; Litigation - Regulatory Enforcement (SEC, Telecom, Energy), 2023 and 2024
- *Missouri Lawyers Media*, Missouri Lawyers Awards, Lawyer of the Year, 2022
- Martindale-Hubbell AV Preeminent
- *Missouri Lawyers Media*, POWER List for Tax Law & Estate Planning, 2021-2022
- *Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers*, Health Care, 2021-2023
- *Missouri Lawyers Weekly*, Missouri Lawyers Awards, Influential Lawyers, 2017
- *The Missouri Times Magazine*, "50 Political Pros You Need to Know," 2017

Education

- J.D., Stanford Law School
 - *Stanford Law Review*, associate editor
- LL.M., University of Missouri School of Law
 - Dispute Resolution
 - ABA/ACR James Boskey Award
- B.S., University of Utah
 - *magna cum laude*
 - Political Science
 - Phi Beta Kappa
 - *Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities*

Admissions

- Missouri
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Missouri
- District of Columbia

Clerkship

The Hon. Duane Benton, Supreme Court of Missouri, 1994-1995

Community Leadership

Lowell serves on the legal team offering pro bono legal counsel on civil matters to Samaritan Center participants. For more than three decades, the agency has provided food, clothing, medical and dental care, tax assistance, holiday programs, family support, legal care and other assistance across six Missouri counties.



2024 Benchmark Litigation -
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