

# Robert Sills

## Associate



Associate

Atlanta

D +1 404 527 4154

robert.sills@dentons.com

## Overview

Robert Sills, an associate with Dentons' Public Policy practice, focuses on matters involving state and local governments, including procurement, political law, lobbying and campaign compliance, legislative and regulatory research, drafting, land use and zoning, economic development and public-private partnerships.

Robert brings to the position a background in state government, having served most recently as a lawyer in the Georgia General Assembly where he assisted the House leadership in shepherding bills through the legislative process.

## Recognition

### Honors and Awards

- Finalist - Presidential Management Fellowship, Office of the President of the United States, 2013-2014
- Top 10 Oral Advocate - Wechsler First Amendment Moot Court Competition, 2012

## Insights

- "Georgia Campaign Finance Commission raises limits on state election contributions," Dentons client alert, May 6, 2019
- Co-Author, "Essential Guidelines For Georgia Lobbyists," *James Magazine*, September 2018
- Co-author, "Georgia campaign finance commission signals intent to be active in 2018 election" *ABA Government Affairs Newsletter*, April 2018
- "Georgia campaign finance commission signals intent to be active in 2018 election," Dentons client alert, October 10, 2017

# Activities and Affiliations

## Community Involvement and Pro Bono

- Georgia Budget and Policy Institute, Board of Directors
- Red Clay Democrats, Board of Directors
- Anti-Defamation League Glass Leadership Institute, Class of 2017

## Prior and Present Employment

Robert's prior political experience includes work for a variety of successful candidates--most frequently as a campaign manager--in state and local races across the South and Midwest. He served as campaign manager for Taylor Bennett, then a first-time Democratic candidate for Georgia's 80th House District. Robert also managed Rep. Bennett's reelection campaign—raising contributions; recruiting and training a 30-person staff; serving as campaign liaison to interest groups, community organizations and government entities; and ensuring compliance with state ethics and disclosure laws.

Prior to his time at the Georgia General Assembly, Robert served as a law clerk in the Civil Division of the City Attorney's Office for the City Columbus, Ohio, where he provided general counsel and assistance to the Office of the Mayor, the Police Department and the City Council on federal civil rights claims, Establishment Clause compliance, land use and zoning issues, and other matters.

While at Emory University Law School, Robert served as a legal extern to the Georgia Appleseed Center for Law and Justice, working with the organization's leadership in lobbying state legislators and agencies, and researching and drafting education-related legislation, ballot referenda, legal memoranda and press materials. He also served as a summer clerk to the Honorable Michael Watson of the US District Court for the Southern District of Ohio.

# Areas of focus

## Practices

- Public Policy and Regulation
- Political Law, Ethics and Disclosure
- Advocacy and Government Affairs

## Industry sectors

- State, Regional, Provincial, Municipal and Local Government Bodies
- Gaming
- Energy
- Infrastructure and PPP
- Transportation

# Education

- Emory University School of Law, 2013, JD

- Ohio State University, 2010, Bachelor of Arts, Political Science and English

## Admissions and qualifications

- Georgia

## Languages

- English