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Professional Experience

The Williamsburg Institute, 2024 - Present

- Chief Strategy Officer in a revolutionary collaboration between William & Mary and the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation
 - Lead the development and execution of The Williamsburg Institute's strategic vision, ensuring alignment with the organization's mission and long-term goals.
 - Drive research initiatives, policy development, and thought leadership to influence public discourse and shape impactful programs.
 - Oversee cross-functional teams to enhance operational effectiveness, foster innovation, and expand institutional partnerships.
 - Spearhead fundraising efforts, stakeholder engagement, and coalition-building to strengthen the Institute's influence and sustainability.
 - Analyze emerging trends and policy landscapes to position the Institute as a leading voice in its field.
 - Represent The Williamsburg Institute in public forums, media engagements, and high-level discussions with policymakers, academics, and industry leaders.

College of William & Mary, Mason School of Business, 2017-Present

- Adjunct Professor of Business Law
 - Design and teach undergraduate and graduate courses on law and ethics including:
 - Legal Environment of Business (BBA)
 - Ethical Accountability (Executive MBA)
 - Business Ethics (Part-Time MBA)
 - Business Law Residency (Online MBA)
 - Advise students on potential careers in law
- Executive Education Faculty Lead
- AACSB Curriculum Reviewer

Christopher James Associates, LLC, 2009 – Present

- Principal Consultant at a dynamic consulting firm, serving business clients across Virginia, New York, Florida, and Georgia.
- Specialize in Labor Relations, Employment Law, Compliance, Risk Management, and Litigation Avoidance, providing strategic guidance to mitigate legal risks and enhance organizational effectiveness.

SMD&R Law Group, PLLC, 1989-2010

- Served in Of Counsel role to a respected regional commercial litigation law firm providing strategic insights and support in complex business disputes.
- **Key Responsibilities:**
 - Provided strategic guidance to corporate clients, financial institutions, and business entities on commercial litigation matters, including contract disputes, business torts, and regulatory considerations.
 - Collaborated with litigation teams in federal and state court proceedings, arbitrations, and mediations, supporting all phases of dispute resolution from pre-trial strategy to case resolution.
 - Conducted in-depth research and analysis to support case strategies, contributing to pleadings, motions, and appellate brief development.
 - Assisted in negotiation efforts for settlements and alternative dispute resolutions to mitigate risk and protect client interests.
 - Mentored and provided insights to associates, leveraging extensive industry knowledge and commercial litigation experience.
- **Key Achievements:**
 - Contributed to the successful resolution of multi-million-dollar commercial disputes, supporting favorable outcomes for corporate clients.
 - Assisted in developing firm-wide best practices for case management and litigation strategy.
 - Fostered strong client relationships, playing a role in business development and firm growth.
- **Skills & Expertise:**
 - Commercial Litigation & Dispute Resolution
 - Contract & Business Matters
 - Legal Research & Case Analysis
 - Trial & Appellate Support
 - Mediation & Arbitration Strategy
 - Compliance and Risk Management

Education

College of William & Mary

- Bachelor of Arts (English major, Anthropology minor)

Harvard University

- Master's Degree (Government)

Eastern University

- Master of Business Administration (Organizational Management)

University of Georgia School of Law

- Doctor of Jurisprudence

Public Service

City of Williamsburg, Virginia

- Planning Commissioner, Appointed by Williamsburg City Council in 2016
- Planning Commission Chair (January 2022-Present, elected annually)
- Architectural Review Board Member (2021 Calendar Year)

Let Freedom Ring Foundation

- Board of Trustees Member
- Chair, Board of Advisors
- Member of Advancement Committee and Governance Committee

College of William & Mary

- William & Mary Libraries Board of Directors Member
- Williamsburg-Peninsula Alumni Association Board Member and Philanthropy Chair
- FGLI Collaboration, Support and Advocacy Council Member
- Neurodiversity Task Force Member

Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

- Colonial Williamsburg Art Museums Board Member

Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts (MESDA)

- MESDA Advisory Board Member (2018-2023) and Chair (2023)
- Co-Chair of Committee to Re-Envision Horton Museum Center

Research Publications

"A Chinese Export Service Ordered for Thomas Jefferson: *In Rei Memoriam*."
Ceramics in America: Chipstone Foundation, 2020

"A Northern Neck Odyssey: From Lamb's Creek to Dissington and Beyond."
Northern Neck of Virginia Historical Magazine LXVII, No. 1 (December 2017): 8394-8408

Additional Coursework and Certifications

The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania

- Professional Certificate in Strategic Management

Harvard University

- Introduction to Museum Studies
- Saving Schools: History and Politics of U.S. Education
- The Clinician in Court: Surviving a Malpractice Suit
- Ethical, Legal and Social Issues: Case Studies in Genetics

Oxford University

- Postbaccalaureate Certificate in Effective Online Teaching

Virginia Commonwealth University

- Certified Planning Commissioner
- Land Use Education Program Legal Seminar

Disney Institute Business Programs

- The Disney Approach to People Management
- The Disney Approach to Organizational Creativity
- The Disney Approach to Leadership Excellence

Additional Higher Education Experience

Albany Law School, 2021-Present

- Adjunct Professor, Online Graduate Programs
- Courses taught include:
 - Human Capital Analytics and Workforce Planning
 - Strategic and Financial Planning and Assessment
 - Constitutional Rights and Remedies

Cornell Law School, 2022-2024

- Course Facilitator, Compliance and Contract Law (eCornell)

Professional Memberships

Massachusetts Bar Association

American Bar Association

American Association of Law Schools

Academy of Legal Studies in Business