



## **SOQ 20-18**

**Statement of Qualifications for Representation of Jefferson Parish before Federal Agencies, and to act as legislative and administrative consultant for the Parish of Jefferson in Washington, D.C., and in such other places, such as Federal regional offices, as appropriate, for a two (2) year term.**

Presented To

**Parish of Jefferson,  
State of Louisiana**

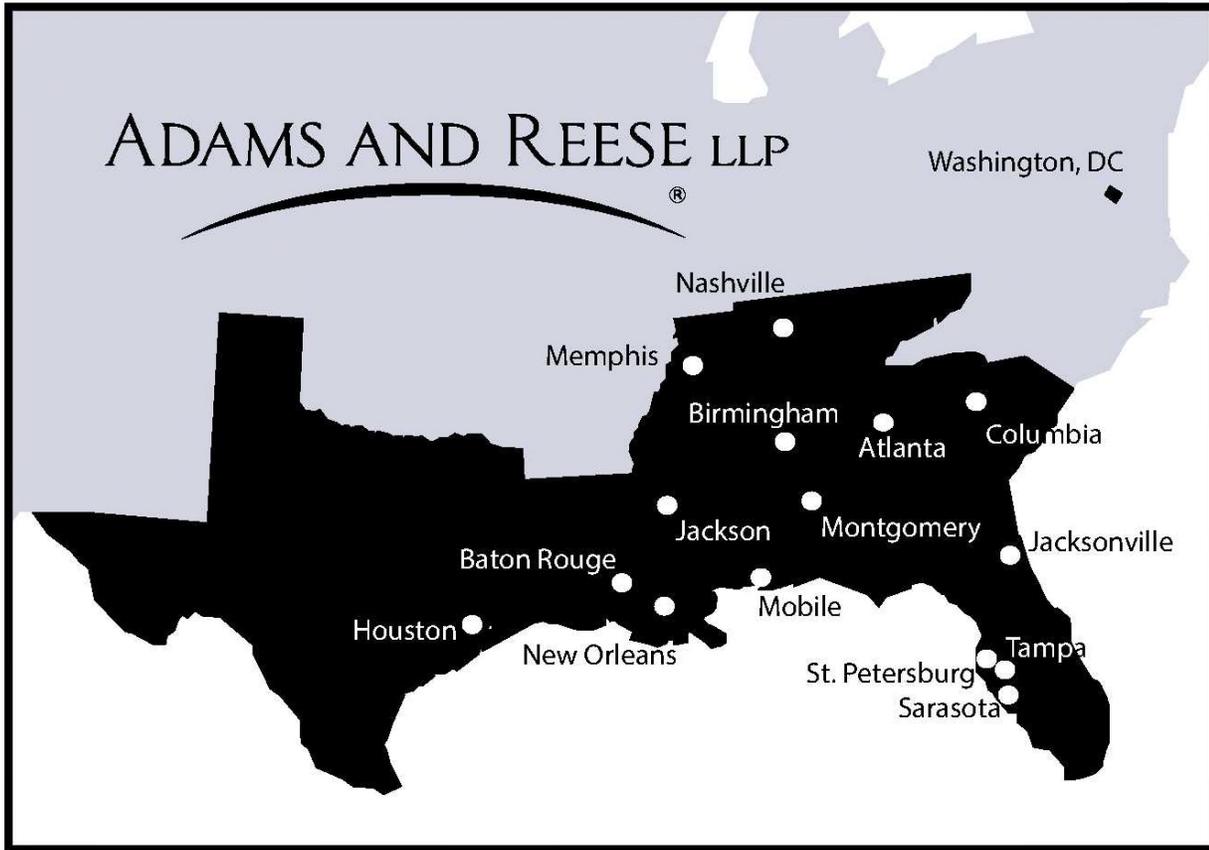
**November 9, 2020**

## Table of Contents

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1. About Adams and Reese LLP – Experience, Excellence, Initiative
2. Jefferson Parish General Professional Services Questionnaire
3. Affidavit and Political Contributions
4. Federal Government Relations Practice
5. Team Member Biographies
6. Additional Information:
  - Client Memo Examples
  - Our Offices
  - Diversity and Inclusion
  - Community / Pro Bono

## Experience. Excellence. Initiative.



Adams and Reese is one of the largest regional law firms in the United States. We have approximately 250 attorneys and government relations professionals in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Washington, D.C. As an Am Law 200 firm, we take a progressive approach to the professional services we provide our clients, as well as the way we manage our firm internally. Our primary commitment is to provide our clients with the highest quality legal and government relations services in the most prompt, cost effective and efficient manner possible.

Our attorneys represent businesses in virtually every major industry. Our clients include local, regional, national and international companies; agencies; municipalities; universities; and individuals and families.

## General Professional Services Questionnaire

**A. Project Name and Advertisement Resolution Number:**

The Parish of Jefferson is hereby soliciting the submittal of Statements of Qualifications from firms or individuals interested in representing Jefferson Parish before Federal Agencies, and to act as legislative and administrative consultant for the Parish of Jefferson in Washington, D.C., and in such other places, such as Federal regional offices, as appropriate, for a two (2) year term. (Resolution No. 136480) SOQ 20-18

**B. Firm Name & Address:**

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Adams and Reese LLP<br>20 F Street NW, Suite 500<br>Washington, DC 20001 | Adams and Reese LLP<br>Hancock Whitney Center<br>701 Poydras Street, Suite 4500<br>New Orleans, LA 70139 |
|--|--|

**C. Name, title, & contact information of Firm Representative, as defined in Section 2-926 of the Jefferson Parish Code of Ordinances, with at least five (5) years of experience in the applicable field required for this Project:**

B. Jeffrey Brooks  
Partner  
Adams and Reese LLP  
Direct: (202) 737-3234  
Mobile: (703) 401-0786  
Email: jeff.brooks@arlaw.com

**D. Address of principal office where Project work will be performed:**

Adams and Reese LLP  
20 F Street NW, Suite 500  
Washington, DC 20001

**E. Is this submittal by a JOINT-VENTURE? Please check: YES  NO**

**If marked "No" skip to Section H. If marked "Yes" complete Sections F-G.**

**F. If submittal is by JOINT-VENTURE, list the firms participating and outline specific areas of responsibility (including administrative, technical, and financial) for each firm. Please attach additional pages if necessary.**

1. N/A

2. N/A

## General Professional Services Questionnaire

**G. Has this JOINT-VENTURE previously worked together? Please check: YES                      NO**  
 N/A

**H. List all subcontractors anticipated for this Project. Please note that all subcontractors must submit a fully completed copy of this questionnaire, applicable licenses, and any other information required by the advertisement. See Jefferson Parish Code of Ordinances, Sec. 2-928(a)(3). Please attach additional pages if necessary.**

| Name & Address: | Specialty: | Worked with Firm Before (Yes or No): |
|-----------------|------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. NONE         |            |                                      |
| 2.              |            |                                      |
| 3.              |            |                                      |
| 4.              |            |                                      |
| 5.              |            |                                      |

## General Professional Services Questionnaire

|   |
|---|
| <b>I. Please specify the total number of support personnel that may assist in the completion of this Project: <u>4</u></b>  |
| <b>J. List any professionals that may assist in the completion of this Project. If necessary, please attach additional documentation that demonstrates the employment history and experience of the Firm's professionals that may assist in the completion of this Project (i.e. resume). Please attach additional pages if necessary.</b>  |
| <b>PROFESSIONAL NO. 1</b>   |
| <b>Name &amp; Title:</b><br>B. Jeffrey Brooks, Partner  |
| <b>Name of Firm with which associated:</b><br>Adams and Reese LLP   |
| <b>Description of job responsibilities:</b><br>Primary Federal Government Relations Contact   |
| <b>Years' experience with this Firm:</b><br>23  |
| <b>Education: Degree(s)/Year/Specialization:</b><br>Juris Doctorate – 1993<br>Bachelor of Arts - 1990   |
| <b>Other experience and qualifications relevant to the proposed Project:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• During his tenure with Congressman Baker, Jeff was responsible for all economic development projects and for developing and handling appropriations, transportation, health care, environment and banking issues for Congressman Baker.</li><li>• As counsel to Congressman Baker, he was involved in the day to day legislative activities of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, including the early stages of the formation of TEA-21.</li><li>• Jeff represents clients with legislative issues involving transportation, appropriations, public works, education, and the environment.</li><li>• His practice also involves advising clients on matters relating to the Federal Lobbying Disclosure Act.</li></ul> |
| For additional information please see attached biography.   |

## General Professional Services Questionnaire

| <b>PROFESSIONAL NO. 2</b>   |
|---|
| <b>Name &amp; Title:</b><br>Stacy Harvie, Government Affairs Advisor  |
| <b>Name of Firm with which associated:</b><br>Adams and Reese LLP   |
| <b>Description of job responsibilities:</b><br>Federal Government Relations Team Member   |
| <b>Years' experience with this Firm:</b><br>14  |
| <b>Education: Degree(s)/Year/Specialization:</b><br>Bachelor of Science – 2003  |
| <b>Other experience and qualifications relevant to the proposed Project:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stacy previously worked for the LSU System, Division of Federal Affairs, in Washington, DC, gaining a working knowledge of the federal budget, appropriations and legislative processes which she applies to assist clients.</li><li>• Her work includes researching, evaluating and forecasting the possible impact of policy proposals and providing a proactive solution to her clients.</li><li>• She has experience in evaluating and managing potential opportunities or concerns for clients and then crafting a strategic solution.</li></ul> <p>For additional information please see attached biography.</p> |

## General Professional Services Questionnaire

|   |
|---|
| <b>PROFESSIONAL NO. 3</b>   |
| <b>Name &amp; Title:</b><br>Christopher J. Kane, Partner and Global Trade, Transportation and Logistics Team Leader   |
| <b>Name of Firm with which associated:</b><br>Adams and Reese LLP   |
| <b>Description of job responsibilities:</b><br>Federal Government Relations Team Member   |
| <b>Years' experience with this Firm:</b><br>16  |
| <b>Education: Degree(s)/Year/Specialization:</b><br>Juris Doctorate - 2004<br>Masters of Business Administration – 2001<br>Bachelor of Science - 2000   |
| <b>Other experience and qualifications relevant to the proposed Project:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Recognized for his work on many economic development projects, Chris channels a convergence of people, factors, and revenue streams to help public-private partnerships produce new enterprises or expand existing ones, as well as to create solid and sustainable jobs.</li><li>• He is well respected within the political, business, and community circles in Louisiana and across the Southeast United States. He has earned the trust of political leaders and public agencies, and this helps him provide advice that best manages the interplay between law and politics.</li><li>• Chris has helped organizations with recovery and related legal issues since the 2005 hurricanes. He co-founded a nonprofit corporation designed to assist small business recovery, Desire NOLA, which has been nominated for numerous service awards and recognized by community leaders.</li><li>• Chris' experience with disaster recovery informs his volunteer work for a number of chambers of commerce and economic development organizations as they help members manage COVID-19 response. Chris has assisted hundreds of businesses with CARES Act and PPP-related guidance. His podcast, <i>BOOM! The Southeastern Commerce Podcast</i>, brings together regional business, government, and legal leaders to discuss what's new and what's next for commerce in the Southeast.</li></ul> |
| For additional information please see attached biography.   |

## General Professional Services Questionnaire

| <b>PROFESSIONAL NO. 4</b>  |
|--|
| <b>Name &amp; Title:</b><br>Johnny L. Domiano, Jr., Partner in Charge, New Orleans   |
| <b>Name of Firm with which associated:</b><br>Adams and Reese LLP  |
| <b>Description of job responsibilities:</b><br>Federal Government Relations Team Member  |
| <b>Years' experience with this Firm:</b><br>24   |
| <b>Education: Degree(s)/Year/Specialization:</b><br>Juris Doctorate - 1996<br>Bachelor of Science - 1993   |
| <b>Other experience and qualifications relevant to the proposed Project:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Johnny helps clients create and implement economic development projects from inception and construction to completion. He serves a national client base but tends to concentrate his work in Louisiana, Texas and Florida. He drafts, negotiates and litigates master service agreements, operating agreements, purchase agreements and commercial contracts.</li><li>• He serves several clients in the position of outside general counsel, in effect joining their business team. Such roles produce a very diverse spectrum of work on both the transactional and litigation side.</li><li>• In his capacity of serving on and chairing a number of boards, Johnny advises non-profit organizations and other groups on political, governmental and contractual issues. He is a graduate of Leadership Jefferson, the New Orleans Regional Leadership Institute, and the <i>City Business</i> Leadership in Law class of 2016.</li><li>• Johnny is the former Chairman of the Jefferson Chamber of Commerce Government Committee and Board of Directors. He currently serves on the Jefferson Chamber Board of Directors and the Jefferson Business Council.</li></ul> <p>For additional information please see attached biography.</p> |

**General Professional Services Questionnaire**

| <b>PROFESSIONAL NO. 5</b>  |
|--|
| <b>Name &amp; Title:</b><br>N/A  |
| <b>Name of Firm with which associated:</b>                                   |
| <b>Description of job responsibilities:</b>                                  |
| <b>Years' experience with this Firm:</b>                                     |
| <b>Education: Degree(s)/Year/Specialization:</b>                             |
| <b>Other experience and qualifications relevant to the proposed Project:</b> |

## General Professional Services Questionnaire

**K. List all prior projects that best illustrate the Firm's qualifications relevant to this Project. Please include any and all work performed for Jefferson Parish. Please attach additional pages if necessary.**

### **PROJECT NO. 1**

| <b>Project Name, Location and Owner's contact information:</b>   | <b>Description of Services Provided:</b>   |
|--|--|
| Jefferson Parish<br>Jefferson, Louisiana<br>Jefferson Parish Administration and Council<br>200 Derbigny Street<br>Gretna, LA 70053 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist with CDL Loan, FEMA projects, and Corps of Engineers.</li> <li>• Assisted Parish in gaining forgiveness of \$55 million CDL Loan and \$860 million in SELA Funding.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Length of Services Provided:</b>  | <b>Cost of Services Provided:</b>  |
| 2004 - Present   | Adams and Reese's cost of services for this project is a cap of \$180,000 per calendar year.   |

### **PROJECT NO. 2**

| <b>Project Name, Location and Owner's contact information:</b>   | <b>Description of Services Provided:</b>  |
|--|---|
| Jefferson Parish<br>Jefferson, Louisiana<br>Jefferson Parish Administration and Council<br>200 Derbigny Street<br>Gretna, LA 70053 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist Jefferson Parish Council and Administration with recovering \$20 million in Flood Mitigation grants.</li> <li>• Worked with Congressman Scalise and Congressman Richmond to contact FEMA and release the final Flood Mitigation Grant.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Length of Services Provided:</b>  | <b>Cost of Services Provided:</b>   |
| 2004 - Present   | Adams and Reese's cost of services for this project is a cap of \$180,000 per calendar year.  |

**General Professional Services Questionnaire**

**PROJECT NO. 3**

| <b>Project Name, Location and Owner's contact information:</b>   | <b>Description of Services Provided:</b>  |
|--|---|
| GNO Inc. – Flood Insurance Coalition<br>Michael Hecht, President & CEO<br>365 Canal Street<br>New Orleans, LA 70130<br>(504) 527-6907<br>mhecht@gnoinc.org | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead Lobbyist for the Flood Insurance Coalition, both for the original Flood Insurance Bill in 2014 and the current 2017 ReAuthorization.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Length of Services Provided:</b>  | <b>Cost of Services Provided:</b>   |
| 2014 - Present   | Adams and Reese's cost of services for this project is a cap of \$120,000 per calendar year.  |

**PROJECT NO. 4**

| <b>Project Name, Location and Owner's contact information:</b>   | <b>Description of Services Provided:</b>   |
|--|--|
| Regional Planning Commission<br>Walter Brooks, Executive Director<br>10 Veterans Boulevard<br>New Orleans, LA 70124<br>(504) 568-6611<br>wbrooks@norpc.org | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist the Regional Planning Commission in working on various transportation issues within the past three Highway Reauthorization Bills.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Length of Services Provided:</b>  | <b>Cost of Services Provided:</b>  |
| 2002 - Present   | Adams and Reese's cost of services for this project is a cap of \$75,000 per calendar year.  |

## General Professional Services Questionnaire

| <b>PROJECT NO. 5</b>  |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Project Name, Location and Owner's contact information:</b>  | <b>Description of Services Provided:</b>  |
| Louisiana State University<br>Jason Droddy, Chief of Staff<br>6400 Perkins Road<br>Baton Rouge, LA 70808<br>(225) 388-2031<br>jdroddy@lsu.edu | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist LSU in developing their yearly Federal Legislative Agenda.</li> <li>• Adams and Reese assists in garnering \$45 million per year in federal funding.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Length of Services Provided:</b>   | <b>Cost of Services Provided:</b>   |
| 1998 - Present  | Adams and Reese's cost of services for this project is a cap of \$225,000 per calendar year.  |

| <b>PROJECT NO. 6</b>   |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Project Name, Location and Owner's contact information:</b>   | <b>Description of Services Provided:</b>  |
| Xavier University – New Orleans<br>Dr. Reynold Verret, President<br>3803 Camp Street<br>New Orleans, LA 70115<br>(504) 520-7524<br>crverret@xula.edu | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist Xavier with yearly federal legislative agenda and work to forgive \$375 million Katrina Loans.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Length of Services Provided:</b>  | <b>Cost of Services Provided:</b>   |
| 2008 - Present   | Adams and Reese's cost of services for this project is a cap of \$100,000 per calendar year.  |

## General Professional Services Questionnaire

### PROJECT NO. 7

| <b>Project Name, Location and Owner's contact information:</b>   | <b>Description of Services Provided:</b>   |
|--|--|
| Louisiana Credit Union League<br>Anne Cochran, President<br>824 Elmwood Park Boulevard<br>Harahan, LA 70123<br>(504) 723-7117<br>acochran@lcul.com | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist Louisiana Credit Union League in developing and coordinating federal legislative agenda.</li> <li>• Provide legislative services at the House and Senate Financial Services Committees.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Length of Services Provided:</b>  | <b>Cost of Services Provided:</b>  |
| 1997 - Present   | Adams and Reese's cost of services for this project is a cap of \$75,000 per calendar year.  |

### PROJECT NO. 8

| <b>Project Name, Location and Owner's contact information:</b>   | <b>Description of Services Provided:</b>  |
|--|---|
| Port of South Louisiana<br>Paul Aucoin, CEO<br>171 Belle Terre Boulevard<br>La Place, LA 70069<br>(985) 652-9278<br>paucoin@portsl.com | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist the Port of South Louisiana in Energy and Water Appropriations Bills as well as Transportation Authorization Bills.</li> <li>• Assist the Port in receiving \$10 million in yearly Appropriations.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Length of Services Provided:</b>  | <b>Cost of Services Provided:</b>   |
| 2003 - Present   | Adams and Reese's cost of services for this project is a cap of \$120,000 per calendar year.  |

## General Professional Services Questionnaire

### PROJECT NO. 9

| Project Name, Location and Owner's contact information:   | Description of Services Provided:   |
|---|---|
| S-Ram Dynamics, LLC<br>Lee Jestings, CEO<br>342 Main Street, Suite 202<br>Franklin, TN 37064<br>(615) 916-0097<br>lee@S-Ram.com | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist S-Ram with Defense Appropriations worked to receive \$12.5 million plus-up in FY 2017 Defense Appropriations Bill.</li> </ul> |
| Length of Services Provided:  | Cost of Services Provided:  |
| 2006 - Present  | Adams and Reese's cost of services for this project is a cap of \$125,000 per calendar year.  |

### PROJECT NO. 10

| Project Name, Location and Owner's contact information:  | Description of Services Provided:   |
|--|---|
| Metropolitan Nashville Airport Authority<br>Doug Kreulen, President and CEO<br>One Terminal Drive, Suite 501<br>Nashville, TN 37214<br>(615) 275-1700<br>doug_kreulen@nashintl.com | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist Metro Nashville Airport with Department of Transportation Appropriations and COVID Related Issues.</li> <li>• Assist Metro Nashville Airport with FAA Discretionary Grant Projects for new runways and taxiways.</li> </ul> |
| Length of Services Provided:   | Cost of Services Provided:  |
| 2018 - Present   | Adams and Reese's cost of services for this project is a cap of \$125,000 per calendar year.  |

## General Professional Services Questionnaire

**L. List all prior and/or on-going litigation between Firm and Jefferson Parish. Please attach additional pages if necessary.**

| Parties:                   |                                   | Status/Result of Case:  |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| Plaintiff:                 | Defendant:                        |   |
| 1. The Parish of Jefferson | Atlantic Richfield Company, et al | <i>The Parish of Jefferson v. Atlantic Richfield Company, et al</i> , 24th Judicial District Court, Parish of Jefferson, No. 732-768, Div. "N."<br><b>Status: Ongoing; Jefferson Parish has executed a waiver letter for this case - please see attached.</b> |
| 2.                         |                                   |   |
| 3.                         |                                   |   |
| 4.                         |                                   |   |

**M. Use this space to provide any additional information or description of resources supporting Firm's qualifications for the proposed project.**

Please see attached description of current and prior current work being performed directly for or selected by Jefferson Parish over the course of Adams and Reese's representation.

**N. To the best of my knowledge, the foregoing is an accurate statement of facts.**

Signature:  Print Name: B. Jeffrey Brooks

Title: Partner Date: November 9, 2020

# ADAMS AND REESE LLP

November 15, 2013

The Honorable John F. Young, Jr.  
Parish President  
1221 Elmwood Park  
Suite 1002  
Jefferson, La 70123

Attorneys at Law  
Alabama  
Florida  
Louisiana  
Mississippi  
Tennessee  
Texas  
Washington, DC

B. Jeffrey Brooks  
Practice Group Leader  
Admitted in Louisiana only  
Direct: 202.478.1211  
E-Fax: 202.478.1231  
jeff.brooks@arlaw.com

RE: Waiver of potential conflict of interest  
Coastal Erosion Lawsuits

Dear President Young:

I am writing to follow up on our conversation and to confirm the waiver of any conflict of interest which you have agreed to on behalf of The Parish of Jefferson, La. (the "Parish"). We are at this time also confirming a waiver of this same conflict with Exxon Mobil Corporation ("Exxon").

The Rules of Professional Conduct which govern lawyers suggest the following procedure for securing a waiver of a conflict of interest: (1) advise the parties of the basis for the conflict; (2) advise the parties of any perceived risk inherent in their agreeing to the waiver; (3) advise the parties that they have the right to consult their own counsel before agreeing to the waiver; and (4) confirm the waiver in writing.

In this case, the basis for the potential conflict of interest is as follows. The Parish and Exxon are both current clients of the Firm. The Parish recently filed approximately 20 lawsuits in state court which seek, among other things, to enforce the State and Local Coastal Resources Management Act of 1978, and Exxon is a defendant in many of those lawsuits. Exxon has asked the Firm to represent it in those new lawsuits because the Firm already represents Exxon in a lawsuit filed by the Board of Commissioners of the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority – East ("SLFPAE") that is now pending in federal court.

Even though the Firm's representation of Exxon in the new lawsuits filed by the Parish would be completely unrelated to the work that the Firm currently does for the Parish, under Rule 1.7 of the Rules of Professional Conduct in Louisiana, a lawyer shall not represent a client if the representation will be directly adverse to another client, unless the lawyer reasonably believes that the representation will not adversely affect the relationship with the other client and each client consents after consultation.

This "consent after consultation," commonly referred to as a "waiver of conflict," is what we are seeking from the Parish. We do not believe that our representation of Exxon in these new lawsuits will adversely affect the Firm's relationship with either the Parish or Exxon because the

*with Deborah Joshee, your Parish attorney*  
*add up Joshee's*  
*summary*  
*of*

# ADAMS AND REESE LLP

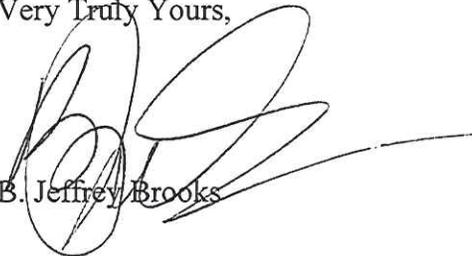
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matters are unrelated, and we do not foresee any material prejudice on either party as a result of our representation of both parties on unrelated matters. Your consent would allow the Firm to represent Exxon in these new lawsuits and the Firm could continue to represent the Parish on other matters. Exxon is willing to grant a similar waiver of conflict.

To confirm that you are agreeable to this waiver, please sign below and fax this letter back to me at 202-737-0264, or you can scan it and e-mail it back to me. As noted above, you should consider consulting independent counsel before doing so.

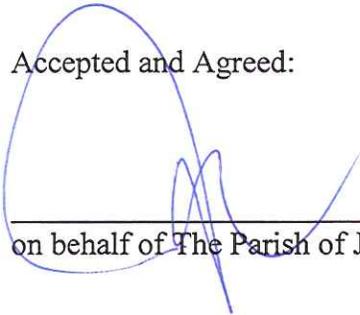
I realize that all this may seem a bit technical, but it is the approach recommended by the Rules of Professional Conduct. Thank you again for your cooperation. With kindest regards, I remain,

Very Truly Yours,



B. Jeffrey Brooks

Accepted and Agreed:



\_\_\_\_\_

on behalf of The Parish of Jefferson, La.

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

11/18/13

**M. Use this space to provide any additional information or description of resources supporting Firm's qualifications for the proposed project.**

**All work by firm being performed directly for or selected by Jefferson Parish**

**Nature, quantity and value of current Parish work:**

As Jefferson Parish's current federal lobbyist, we have been assisting Jefferson Parish with the following issues:

- Assisted Jefferson Parish in securing funding and report language for the Southeast LA Flood Control Project in Fiscal Years 2019 and 2020.
- Assisted Jefferson Parish with U.S. Census Bureau in acquiring the proper coding for certain neighborhoods in the 2020 Census and Community Development Block Grant Program.
- Assisted Jefferson Parish with COVID-19 related issues including but not limited to: State and Local Utilization Funds, testing issues and procedures, PPP Loans and other federal funding opportunities.
- Assisted Jefferson Parish with Transportation and Infrastructure projects in the Water Resources Development Act and Surface Transportation Bill.
- Assisted Jefferson Parish in the winning grant for the 2020 Port Infrastructure Grant with Avondale.

**Nature, quantity and value of prior Parish work:**

Adams and Reese has been fortunate to represent Jefferson Parish on the federal level since 2004. During that period of time, Adams and Reese has assisted with numerous appropriation and authorization projects that have resulted with funding for these projects. Some of these projects are as follows:

- Assisted Jefferson Parish in successfully receiving CDL loan forgiveness from both a legislative perspective and a FEMA regulatory perspective. CDL loan forgiveness totaled \$55 million dollars.
- Southeast Louisiana, LA (Energy and Water, Corps of Engineers) - \$865 million in 2005 and 2006 Emergency Supplemental Appropriation bills for completion of SELA flood control projects.
- Jefferson Parish I & I wastewater projects (EPA-STAG) - \$400,000 in the FY 2005 appropriation process and \$500,000 in the FY 2007 appropriation process.
- Grand Isle Community Center (HUD-CDBG) - \$250,000 in the FY 2005 and an additional \$250,000 in the FY 2006 appropriation process.
- Jefferson Parish TEA- LU Highway Reauthorization Projects 2005-2009
  - Clearview Parkway and Earhart Expressway \$3.3 million
  - Widen and Improve Lapalco Blvd(Bayou Segnette to US(90) \$4 million
  - LA18 Widening (Avondale to US90) \$2.5 million
  - Kerner Bridge, Bayou Barataria \$2.1 million
  - Highway-Rail Crossings, City of Gretna \$200,000

- City of Gretna Flood Plain Management, Jefferson Parish (Energy and Water, Corps of Engineers) \$254,000 in FY 2009 appropriations process.
- Clearview Parkway and Earhart Drainage project (FHWA, Transportation) \$400,000 in the FY 2010 appropriation process.
- Worked with Jefferson Parish Administration and Jefferson Parish Council to assist in pushing FEMA to fulfil numerous Project Worksheets with FEMA. Those include but are not limited to Grand Isle Fire House and Terrytown Playground.
- Assisted Jefferson Parish in resolving the overtime pay issue for Parish firefighters after Hurricane Katrina with FEMA officials.
- Assisted Jefferson Parish and the Pump to the River Coalition in securing legislative language directing the Corp to study the Pump to the River alternative in the Corps of Engineers outfall canal project.
- Assisted Jefferson Parish in securing funding and legislative language in the 5 Emergency Supplemental Appropriation Bills that was needed during Hurricane Katrina aftermath.
- Assisted Jefferson Parish with Congressional support letters for the \$20 million Flood Mitigation Project.
- Assisted Jefferson Parish with Congressional support letter for the 2016 and 2017 TIGER Grant applications.

## **Ability to provide preference in the event of a conflict**

Due to the nature of the federal legislative process, the federal legislative agenda that has been developed jointly by the Parish Administration, the Parish Council, and Adams and Reese, we have been able to avoid conflicts on the federal issues as many of these issues are affecting Jefferson Parish in a unique manner and the congressional solution is unique as well. If a conflict would arise in the future, Adams and Reese would utilize its internal conflict resolution process which acknowledges the long term relationship of Adams and Reese and Jefferson Parish. Additionally, we use all precautions to avoid future conflicts of interests.

Statement of Qualifications

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF Louisiana

PARISH/COUNTY OF Orleans

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, personally came and appeared: B. Jeffrey Brooks, (Affiant) who after being by me duly sworn, deposed and said that he/she is the fully authorized Partner of Adams+Reese (Entity), the party who submitted a Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) to Federal + State Legislative Activities (Briefly describe the services the SOQ will cover), to the Parish of Jefferson.

Affiant further said:

Campaign Contribution Disclosures

(Choose A or B, if option A is indicated please include the required attachment):

Choice A  Attached hereto is a list of all campaign contributions, including the date and amount of each contribution, made to current or former elected officials of the Parish of Jefferson by Entity, Affiant, and/or officers, directors and owners, including employees, owning 25% or more of the Entity during the two-year period immediately preceding the date of this affidavit or the current term of the elected official, whichever is greater. Further, Entity, Affiant, and/or Entity Owners have not made any contributions to or in support of current or former members of the Jefferson Parish Council or the Jefferson Parish President through or in the name of another person or legal entity, either directly or indirectly.

Choice B  there are **NO** campaign contributions made which would require disclosure under Choice A of this section.

Affiant further said:

Debt Disclosures

(Choose A or B, if option A is indicated please include the required attachment):

Choice A \_\_\_\_\_ Attached hereto is a list of all debts owed by the affiant to any elected or appointed official of the Parish of Jefferson, and any and all debts owed by any elected or appointed official of the Parish to the Affiant.

Choice B ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ There are NO debts which would require disclosure under Choice A of this section.

Affiant further said:

Solicitation of Campaign Contribution Disclosures

(Choose A or B, if option A is indicated please include the required attachment):

Choice A \_\_\_\_\_ Attached hereto is a list of all elected officials of the Parish of Jefferson, whether still holding office at the time of the affidavit or not, where the elected official, individually, either by telephone or by personal contact, solicited a campaign contribution or other monetary consideration from the Entity, including the Entity's officers, directors and owners, and employees owning twenty-five percent (25%) or more of the Entity, during the two-year period immediately preceding the date the affidavit is signed. Further, to the extent known to the Affiant, the date of any such solicitation is included on the attached list.

Choice B ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ there are NO solicitations for campaign contributions which would require disclosure under Choice A of this section.

Affiant further said:

Subcontractor Disclosures

**(Choose A or B, if option A is indicated please include the required attachment):**

Choice A  Affiant further said that attached is a listing of all subcontractors, excluding full time employees, who may assist in providing professional services for the aforementioned SOQ.

Choice B  There are **NO** subcontractors which would require disclosure under Choice A of this section.

Affiant further said:

That Affiant has employed no person, corporation, firm, association, or other organization, either directly or indirectly, to secure the public contract under which he received payment, other than persons regularly employed by the Affiant whose services in connection with the construction, alteration or demolition of the public building or project or in securing the public contract were in the regular course of their duties for Affiant; and

*[The remainder of this page is intentionally left blank.]*

That no part of the contract price received by Affiant was paid or will be paid to any person, corporation, firm, association, or other organization for soliciting the contract, other than the payment of their normal compensation to persons regularly employed by the Affiant whose services in connection with the construction, alteration or demolition of the public building or project were in the regular course of their duties for Affiant.

B. Jeffrey Brooks  
Signature of Affiant

B. Jeffrey Brooks  
Printed Name of Affiant

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED TO BEFORE ME  
ON THE 4<sup>th</sup> DAY OF November, 2020.

Timothy M. Brinks  
Notary Public  
**Timothy M. Brinks**  
**Notary Public**  
Printed Name of Notary **Notary ID # 133565**  
**Statewide Jurisdiction**  
**My commission is for life.**  
Notary/Bar Roll Number

My commission expires \_\_\_\_\_.

## Contributions made to elected officials of Jefferson Parish

| <b>Name of Councilmen</b>                   | <b>Contribution Amounts (list singly)</b> | <b>Date Contributed</b> | <b>CONT. TO</b>       |
|---|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Committee to Elect Joseph Lopinto, Sherriff | \$2,500.00                                | 2/8/2018                | Joe Lopinto           |
| Comm. To Elect Jennifer Van Vrancken        | \$1,000.00                                | 5/7/2018                | Jennifer Van Vrancken |
| Comm. To Elect Cynthia Lee-Sheng            | \$2,000.00                                | 5/24/2018               | Cynthia Lee-Sheng     |
| Committee to Elect Joseph Lopinto, Sherriff | \$2,500.00                                | 7/23/2018               | Joe Lopinto           |
| Chris Roberts Campaign                      | \$1,000.00                                | 7/23/2018               | Chris Roberts         |
| Committee to Elect Ricky Templet            | \$2,500.00                                | 7/23/2018               | Ricky Templet         |
| Committee to Elect Ricky Templet            | \$1,500.00                                | 10/31/2018              | Ricky Templet         |
| Committee to Elect Thomas Capella           | \$1,000.00                                | 11/27/2018              | Thomas Capella        |
| Committee to Elect Cynthia Lee-Sheng        | \$1,000.00                                | 11/29/2018              | Cynthia Lee-Sheng     |
| Jon Gegenheimer Campaign Fund               | \$1,000.00                                | 3/28/2019               | Jon Gegenhiemer       |
| Committee to Elect Joseph Lopinto, Sherriff | \$2,500.00                                | 6/27/2019               | Joe Lopinto           |
| Cynthia Lee-Sheng Campaign                  | \$2,000.00                                | 7/2/2019                | Cynthia Lee-Sheng     |
| Deano Bonano Campaign                       | \$2,500.00                                | 7/16/2019               | Deano Bonano          |
| Scott Walker Campaign                       | \$1,000.00                                | 8/28/2019               | Scott Walker          |
| Judge Marion Edwards Campaign               | \$1,000.00                                | 8/28/2019               | Judge Mariie          |
| Byron Lee Campaign                          | \$750.00                                  | 9/5/2019                | Byron Lee             |
| Committee to Elect Jennifer Van Vrancken    | \$500.00                                  | 9/5/2019                | Jennifer Van Vrancken |
| Campaign for Dominick Impastato             | \$1,000.00                                | 9/5/2019                | Dominick Impastato    |



## Government Relations, Federal

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Clients know that dealing with the government on any level can be both rewarding and unnerving. They also know they need lawyers and government relations professionals who understand the system.

Our clients tell us that they retain our team for several reasons, and three stand out. First, we understand and know the inner workings of government, with broad knowledge of the substantive issues that affect our clients – from sweeping federal legislation to intrusive federal regulations. Second, drawing from decades of experience in the trenches on Capitol Hill and inside various governing entities, we cultivate and maintain close personal relationships both in and outside the government. Third, we respond quickly and thoroughly to our clients' needs, recognizing that they want and deserve well-versed attorneys and government relations professionals who can talk to them on their level.

These attributes help deliver outcomes such as these:

- After three years of lobbying the Administration and Congress, we were able to execute a strategy to push past legislative roadblocks and get a loan forgiveness measure passed worth \$390 million for our clients, four Historically Black Colleges and Universities. The effort made headlines and was commented on in the Oval Office.
- Our team advanced an Army Corps of Engineers infrastructure project that received over \$1 billion in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. To do that, we systematically worked the project through the committees and the Administration to secure additional funding in multiple federal appropriations bills.
- We significantly elevated the federal profile of a financial service trade association on Capitol Hill. Before our efforts, the client wasn't recognized by members of Congress. Now, there are members of Congress who seek the views of the client on any proposed financial services legislation that might affect their industry.

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*"The Adams and Reese Government Relations attorneys and advisors are very much in the know, and when I'm able to go to D.C., they get meetings for us with all the right people. They've been doing it for a long time, and they have a great reputation." – Cynthia Lee-Sheng, Jefferson Parish, Louisiana councilwoman.*

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## Summary

We counsel and represent national and global corporations, local companies, individuals, municipalities and other governmental entities, universities and varied nonprofit organizations, and regional coalitions. Our team serves these clients in a range of needs involving substantive lobbying, federal representation and congressional oversight. We deliver legal counsel and business advice promptly and cost-efficiently, placing the best member of our team on a matter, while maintaining appropriate staffing, and we never over-staff. We know how to lobby and we understand the ins-and-outs of government because many of us served in government – as legislators, government staff members and other public officials -- giving us insight and angles that best position clients to overcome strategic and organizational challenges and move their businesses forward. Our team closely tracks and analyzes federal legislation and any regulatory moves that might carry ramifications for clients. Then we proactively reach out to communicate with our clients about those changes or proposed changes. We're focused on helping our clients get out in front of the issues before they arise.

## Defining Strengths

Among other functions, our lawyers and government relations professionals put their skills, experience and knowledge base to work to:

- Analyze specific business and other strategic objectives
- Evaluate and manage political risks
- Promote interests before government departments, agencies and legislative bodies, in the diplomatic community and in broader policy arenas
- Undertake research and policy analysis, draft or deliver testimony, and prepare and distribute formal and informal advocacy material
- Draft, monitor, promote and report on legislation
- Build grassroots support and address cross-jurisdictional policy issues by working with our state and local governmental relations professionals



## B. Jeffrey Brooks

Partner

In representing clients' interests on Capitol Hill, my team of government relations attorneys and I take this proven approach: First, we make it personal and work closely with clients to become an integral part of their business. Second, we're substantive; we know the issues that affect our clients inside and out. Third, we know the players well and understand how to create, shape and implement a client's legislative strategy.

Jeff Brooks combines his budget and appropriations experience, his understanding of financial service matters, and his knowledge of legislative strategy to represent clients from the Gulf South, the firm's major footprint, as well as those in virtually every corner of the country. Jeff guides clients on issues that arise at the federal level in energy, transportation, public works, budget appropriations, education and financial services.

From his previous service as Chief Counsel and Director of Special Projects for Congressman Richard H. Baker, Jeff knows that positive outcomes often hinge on smart, sound legislative strategy, the patience to wait for the right time to put it into play, and the ability to work closely alongside those with whom he's developed trusting personal relationships. He can point to many such outcomes, like the recent legislative victory worth \$390 million in loan forgiveness that he won for four Historically Black Colleges and Universities, and his efforts to advance the causes of his clients before the Army Corps of Engineers.

[jeffrey.brooks@arlaw.com](mailto:jeffrey.brooks@arlaw.com)  
Washington, DC  
P: 202.478.1211

### Areas of Practice

Government Relations, Federal  
Government Relations, State and  
Local  
Economic Development  
Global Trade, Transportation and  
Logistics  
Intersection of Business and  
Government

### Education

Loyola University New Orleans  
College of Law, J.D., 1993  
University of New Orleans, B.A.,  
1990

### Bar Admissions

Louisiana

On the leadership front as former Chair of Adams and Reese's Executive Committee, Jeff has learned from and stands on the shoulders of the leaders who came before him throughout the firm's storied past, while always keeping his eyes on the future. What's more, he strives to follow the relentless work ethic of his hero: baseball legend and leader Cal Ripken Jr.

## Professional Affiliations & Memberships

Browne Academy, Board Member

LSU Flagship Coalition, Board Member

Pioneer Baseball League, Board Member

Congressional Coalition of Adoption, Volunteer



## Stacy Harvie

### Government Affairs Advisor

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Leveraging my deep familiarity with the budgets and appropriations process, I work with federal entities and other public policy makers to protect and promote our clients' interests. When they come to us, many clients don't know what they don't know. I'm able to zero in on their key strengths and match those up with some of the current trends on the federal level to figure out what resources are available to them that they should be using.

Stacy Harvie researches, evaluates and forecasts the possible impact of policy proposals on clients in the education, energy and agricultural industries—and then helps craft proactive solutions that avoid pitfalls and take advantage of opportunities. She also assists in the management of the federal appropriations process. With a refined knowledge of federal research funds, Stacy is very familiar with the workings of agencies and organizations including the Department of Education, the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation and the Department of Defense.

Stacy's ability to read and synthesize a great deal of information quickly and then present it in a digestible, understandable form helps clients navigate complicated issues arising from the legislative process and the federal budget. Taking a very hands-on approach, Stacy consults closely with clients to forecast what's coming down the pipeline, put together their strategic plans, and resourcefully identify the proper legislative mechanism to achieve their federal goals.

[stacy.harvie@arlaw.com](mailto:stacy.harvie@arlaw.com)  
Washington, DC  
P: 202.478.1218

#### Areas of Practice

Government Relations, Federal  
Government Relations, State and  
Local  
Intersection of Business and  
Government

#### Education

Louisiana State University, B.S., 2003

Her “leave-no-stone-unturned” style and a love of needle-in-haystack research projects mean Stacy frequently sits down with a highlighter pen and reads each bill—including nearly impenetrable budget and appropriations output—from beginning to end. Her devotion to dogged research frequently results in her unearthing provisions in bills that are unfavorable to a client; she then lobbies to shape the potential legislation consistent with the client’s interests.

*Disclaimer: Stacy Harvie is not licensed to practice law*



## Christopher J. Kane

Partner and Global Trade, Transportation and Logistics Team Leader

In a courtroom or around a negotiating table, I can be quite adamant when I need to be to advance my clients' objectives. But I also know when it's time to pull back and tell my clients, "We've gotten as much as we can. We need to pass on this issue because we're not going to win this one." When I argue a case or negotiate a deal, I take a well-planned approach that uses a combination of assertion, strategy and reason.

Christopher Kane maintains a multifaceted practice, counseling clients on economic development projects, transportation law, construction law, regulatory and government relations, disaster recovery, and highly specific litigation matters.

In some ways, these areas overlap, and Chris' regional, national, and international clients benefit from his broad-based experience working at the intersection of business and government. For example, many of Chris' clients rely on his experience to chart a regulatory strategy, assist with the implementation of that strategy, and provide project leadership.

Recognized for his work on many economic development projects, Chris channels a convergence of people, factors, and revenue streams to help public-private partnerships produce new enterprises or expand existing ones, as well as to create solid and sustainable jobs. He and his team handle government relations work, design and negotiate incentive packages, provide legal advice on financing, help with construction and architect contracts, and deal with virtually any issue that arises.

[christopher.kane@arlaw.com](mailto:christopher.kane@arlaw.com)  
New Orleans  
P: 504.585.0155

### Areas of Practice

Economic Development  
Global Trade, Transportation and Logistics  
Litigation  
Class Action / Complex Litigation  
Maritime  
Construction  
Unmanned Aircraft Systems

### Education

Loyola University New Orleans  
College of Law, J.D., 2004  
Christian Brothers University, M.B.A.,  
2001  
Christian Brothers University, B.S.,  
2000

### Bar Admissions

Louisiana

With extensive port and logistics experience, Chris counsels clients on transportation issues. He works with regional and national trucking and logistics companies to conduct federal regulatory work and assists with public transit issues. Clients say they appreciate how Chris understands the nuances of how both private companies and government agencies operate.

Chris' litigation practice stems from his experience with transportation, construction, and commercial matters. Chris has successfully defended and prosecuted claims ranging from fatal motor carrier accidents to multimillion-dollar cargo damage disputes. Chris also has a niche practice involving professional athlete injury claims.

Chris is well respected within the political, business, and community circles in Louisiana and across the Southeast United States. He has earned the trust of local, state, and federal political leaders and public agencies, and this helps him provide advice that best manages the interplay between law and politics.

Chris has helped organizations with recovery and related legal issues since the 2005 hurricanes. He co-founded a nonprofit corporation designed to assist small business recovery, Desire NOLA, which has been nominated for numerous service awards and recognized by community leaders. Desire NOLA helped assist numerous New Orleans businesses with their return post-Hurricane Katrina.

Chris' experience with disaster recovery informs his volunteer work for a number of chambers of commerce and economic development organizations as they help members manage COVID-19 response. Chris has assisted hundreds of businesses with CARES Act and PPP-related guidance. His podcast, *BOOM! The Southeastern Commerce Podcast*, brings together regional business, government, and legal leaders to discuss what's new and what's next for commerce in the Southeast.

## Professional Affiliations & Memberships

Greater New Orleans Inc., Board of Directors (2018 – Present); Executive Committee (2020)

NextGen Council (2015-2017)

Algiers Economic Development Foundation, President (2009-2011)

Desire NOLA, Co-Founder, President (2005-2007)

New Orleans Regional Leadership Institute (2011-2012)

Norman C. Francis Institute Fellow (2014-2015)

Institute of Politics, Fellow (2006)

Trade Capacity Building Institute, Board of Directors (2007-2009)

World Trade Center of New Orleans, Board Member (2007-2008)

Young Leadership Council, Secretary/General Counsel (2007-2008)

## Acknowledgements

Christian Brothers University Distinguished Young Alumnus Award, 2006

*Louisiana Rising Stars*® (by Thomson Reuters) Business Litigation 2012-2018

Leadership in Law, *New Orleans CityBusiness*, 2012

*Best Lawyers*® - Economic Development Law



## Johnny L. Domiano Jr.

Partner in Charge, New Orleans

Although I am firm and resolute when necessary, I am likewise known for being a reasonable and easy-to-talk to advocate and counselor who prefers a composed and considerate approach to solving clients' problems. Clients appreciate my broad array of experiences, enduring work ethic, diligence and dedication to their concerns. My familiarity with both the big-picture and the nuanced details of the business as well as the transactional and litigation components of a matter enhance my ability to serve clients. My clients often benefit from the relationships I have maintained and cultivated with people in industry, government and lawyers on the opposing side of a case or transaction. In addition, my military experience in the US Army and National Guard has provided me great experience dealing with adversity, being part of a team and tackling problems head on.

With more than two decades of experience before state and federal courts, administrative and governmental bodies, Johnny handles complex commercial and casualty litigation involving disputes with significant risks and damages, with particular emphasis on marine and energy issues, products liability, directors and officers liability, franchise and shareholder disputes and general casualty. He also defends clients against personal injury, death, pollution and property damage claims.

On the transactions side, Johnny drafts, negotiates and litigates master service agreements, operating agreements, purchase agreements and commercial contracts. Johnny also helps clients create and implement economic development projects from inception and construction to completion.

[johnny.domiano@arlaw.com](mailto:johnny.domiano@arlaw.com)

New Orleans

P: 504.585.0192

Houston

P: 713.652.5151

### Areas of Practice

Economic Development

Litigation

Coverage

Insurance

Maritime

Commercial Litigation

Defense

Global Trade, Transportation and

Logistics

### Education

Louisiana State University Paul M.

Hebert Law Center, J.D., 1996

Louisiana State University, B.S., 1993

### Bar Admissions

Texas

Louisiana

Johnny helps clients develop risk management programs, analyze insurance programs and improve internal procedures. He also offers client training on employer incident investigations and employer liabilities regarding harassment, discrimination, hiring, firing, discipline and litigation avoidance strategies.

Johnny serves several clients in the position of outside general counsel, in effect joining their business team. Such roles produce a very diverse spectrum of work on both the transactional and litigation side. He might be called on to manage merger and acquisition issues, mitigate risk management concerns, address employee discipline matters, deal with complex casualty problems, draft contracts, negotiate deals and perform other various other functions.

Johnny's litigation experience informs his contractual work because he's able to spot potentially litigious language, missing elements, and other possible pitfalls. Such hands-on service augments his ability to understand clients' businesses, help them achieve long-term goals, and see down the road to prevent problems and conflicts from arising. He often works through problem issues early on as part of a client's team, which provides a value-added boost to the client's bottom line. Johnny constantly strives to find business solutions for his clients because they are generally more cost-effective and efficient than litigation. In his capacity of serving on and chairing a number of boards, Johnny advises non-profit organizations and other groups on political, governmental and contractual issues. He is a graduate of Leadership Jefferson, the New Orleans Regional Leadership Institute and City Businesses' Leadership in Law class of 2016. Johnny is the former Chairman of the Jefferson Chamber of Commerce Government Committee and Board of Directors. He currently serves on the Jefferson Chamber Board of Directors and the Jefferson Business Council. This work also bolsters his habit of building and fostering relationships in the local community, which further helps his clients. In addition, Johnny is actively involved in the firm's management structure and is currently the Partner in Charge of the New Orleans' office.

## Court Admissions

United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit  
United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana  
United States District Court for the Middle District of Louisiana  
United States District Court for the Western District of Louisiana

## Professional Affiliations & Memberships

Jefferson Parish Chamber of Commerce, Executive Committee - Member at Large; Former Chairman  
Federal Bar Association  
Louisiana Association of Defense Counsel  
Louisiana State Bar Association  
New Orleans Bar Association  
Texas State Bar Association  
Defense Research Institute  
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southeast Louisiana, Board Vice President  
Jefferson Business Council, Member

## Acknowledgements

*Best Lawyers*® - Commercial Litigation, Admiralty and Maritime Law  
Leadership Jefferson 2008  
Former Chair of ABA Maritime Law Committee  
Louisiana Army National Guard  
Leadership In Law Honoree, 2016 - *New Orleans CityBusiness*  
New Orleans Regional Leadership Institute, 2017-2018



## Compromise Reached

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Lawmakers returned to Washington this week after August recess with a hefty to-do list. Top items for House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) include preventing a government shutdown at the end of this month and passing another pandemic relief package ahead of the November elections.

### **Preventing a Shutdown**

In order to avert a government shutdown when fiscal 2020 program funding expires Sept. 30, lawmakers are likely to pass a continuing resolution (CR) since none of the 12 appropriations bills for fiscal 2021 are near the president's desk. As its name implies, the CR would serve as an extension for current spending policy. The CR would also be likely to include "anomalies," which are minor adjustments to some accounts sought by the White House and Congress.

The House passed 10 of its 12 appropriations bills in two minibus packages (H.R. 7608, H.R. 7617) just before August recess. The other two – Homeland Security (H.R. 7669) and Legislative Branch (H.R. 7611) – passed committee, but were rejected on the House floor by Republicans due to policy riders and funding that exceeded a prior agreement.

The following programs are among some of the many fiscal 2020 programs set to expire Sept. 30:

- Surface transportation authorization (FAST Act)
- National Flood Insurance Program
- National Institutes of Health authorization
- Every Student Succeeds Act
- Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
- Child care and developmental block grants
- VA and Labor department authorizations related to veterans' health care and homelessness

Funding for the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) and Payroll Support Program for aviation workers, which is provided under the CARES Act, is also set to expire at the end of this month.

Other programs expiring by the end of the year are various health extenders and TANF on Nov. 30; \$300 per week federal pandemic unemployment on Dec. 6; and alcohol and energy-related tax extensions and various pandemic response programs on Dec. 31. Federal debt ceiling suspension expires on July 31, 2021.

Pelosi and McConnell are counting on the threat of a shutdown and lawmakers' determination to get back on the campaign trail by early October to help them rush spending legislation through both chambers.

### **Passing another Pandemic Relief Package**

Just as prospects for Congress passing a long-term appropriations bill are slim, so are prospects for Congress agreeing on another pandemic relief package. Although both chambers are back in session, negotiators are still far apart on the next stimulus measure.

McConnell, in collaboration with the White House, released what he calls a "targeted" relief bill earlier this week. The measure, which is scheduled for a vote today, has already been rejected by Democrats.

The House passed a nearly \$3.5 trillion package (H.R. 6800) in May. The measure, dubbed the Heroes Act, included \$1 trillion in local aid and would have extended the \$600 per week unemployment payments through Jan. 31, 2021.

Republicans touted several, broader pieces of legislation in July and August in response to the Democrat-backed Heroes Act. The bills, which proposed nearly \$1 trillion in federal support, were never brought to the floor for a vote and negotiations were largely stalled with the onset of August recess.

McConnell's bill, called the "Delivering Immediate Relief to America's Families, Schools and Small Business Act," needs the backing of 60 members to get to the Senate floor. McConnell expressed low confidence that all 51 of the Senate's Republicans would back his measure.

Despite a bleak outlook for passage, many believe McConnell's bill will be the starting point for pandemic relief negotiations this fall.

Here are some provisions from the bill that we think you should know about:

- **Unemployment:** \$300 per week, from \$600, in unemployment payments to expire Dec. 27
- **Postal Service:** would no longer have to repay any money borrowed, and would be restricted to using CARES Act funds only in periods when USPS has less than \$8 billion in cash on hand
- **Liability:** limitations for COVID-related personal injury claims against businesses
- **FED & Treasury Programs:** reduces amount set aside for FED's programs to \$250 billion, from \$454 billion; total allocation for the Exchange Stabilization Fund would be reduced accordingly
- **Paycheck Protection Program:** would authorize a second round of loans and would increase the program's combined lending authority to \$816.6 billion, from \$659 billion, and extend it to Dec. 31, from its Aug. 8 expiration; would also decrease eligibility threshold to businesses employing 300 or less; publicly traded companies would be ineligible
- **State & Local Aid:** the measure would extend the CARES Act's spending deadline to cover costs incurred through Sept. 30, 2021 but would not provide any additional funding or spending flexibility
- **Education:** \$5 billion in annual tax credits for individual and corporate taxpayers for contributions made to scholarship-granting organizations to cover elementary and secondary education expenses (i.e. private school tuition); "emergency education freedom grants" for elementary and secondary school expenses based on funding proportional to the number of individuals 5-17 in the state; college savings plans funds could be used for additional expenses other than just tuition for elementary and secondary students at public, private, and religious schools
- **Child Care Grants:** \$10 billion in FY21 "Back to Work Child Care" grants for states and tribes to provide sub-grants to child care providers for a maximum of nine months

- **Stockpiles & Manufacturing:** \$1 billion annually through FY30 for HHS assistant secretary for preparedness and response to award grants or contracts to states to maintain a stockpile of drugs, vaccines, devices, and supplies for emergency use; would provide \$2 billion for state medical stockpiles to remain available through Sept. 30, 2022
- **Emergency Appropriations:** \$105 billion for the Education Stabilization Fund (including \$70 billion for elementary and secondary schools, \$29 billion for higher education institutes, \$2.9 billion for Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority Serving Institutions, and \$5 billion supplemental emergency relief grants to state governors); HHS would receive \$31 billion for vaccine and stockpiles, \$16 billion for testing and contact tracing, and \$5 billion in Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) funds to states; \$20 billion for the Agriculture Department to support farmers, ranchers, and processors; \$500 million for fishers disaster assistance through the Commerce Department

Click [here](#) to read a summary and [here](#) to read the full text of the Senate GOP's package.

As always, we will continue to monitor this and update you accordingly. If you would like more information, please email [Jeffrey.Brooks@arlaw.com](mailto:Jeffrey.Brooks@arlaw.com).

B. Jeffrey Brooks  
Partner  
Adams and Reese LLP  
20 F Street NW, Suite 500  
Washington, DC 20001



ALABAMA | FLORIDA | GEORGIA | LOUISIANA | MISSISSIPPI | SOUTH CAROLINA | TENNESSEE | TEXAS | WASHINGTON, DC





## House Democrats Reveal \$494 Billion Environment and Surface Transportation Bill

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The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee today released the [full text](#) of their \$494 billion highway bill following months of anticipation. The bill, known as the “Investing in a New Vision for the Environment and Surface Transportation in America (INVEST in America) Act”, would replace the current surface transportation law that is set to expire at the end of September.

The INVEST in America Act, which closely resembles [framework for the legislation that House Democrats unveiled in January](#) of this year, includes \$319 billion for highways, \$105 billion for transit, \$10 billion for safety, and \$60 billion for rail.

The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, chaired by Senator John Barrasso (R-WY), approved its portion of the [companion Senate legislation](#) last summer.

While the 864–page measure spans a wide range of environmental and surface transportation issues, here are some highlighted sections from the [House Democrat’s summary](#) that may be of particular interest to you:

### *Surface Transportation Authorization*

#### Title I – Federal–Aid Highways

- Formula Grants
  - **Bridge Investment:** Requires States to spend 20 percent of their NHPP and Surface Transportation Program (STP) any area dollars on bridge repair and rehabilitation projects, supporting approximately \$28 billion in fix–it–first bridge investments in

FY 2022–2025. Increases the off–system bridge set–aside to over \$1 billion per year from approximately \$770 million in current law.

- **Resilience:** Creates a new apportioned program (\$6.25b for FY22–25) to fund resilience and emergency evacuation needs. Requires States and metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) to develop an infrastructure vulnerability assessment to guide investments under the program. Makes resilience a core part of the Federal–aid highway program, with expanded eligibilities in other apportioned programs and Emergency Relief (ER).
- Discretionary Grants
  - **Projects of National and Regional Significance:** Provides more than \$9 billion over the life of the bill for large highway, transit, and freight projects that cannot be funded through annual apportionments or other discretionary sources.
  - **Community Transportation Investment Grants:** Provides \$600 million per year for local government applicants. Includes broad eligibility for highway and transit projects, with project evaluation done in a manner that will limit political decision–making.
  - **Metro Performance Program:** Provides a total of \$750 million over the life of the bill for funding allocations directly to MPOs to carry out projects selected by the MPO. The Secretary selects applicants to be accepted into the program based on their technical capacity to manage Federal funds.
- Single–Year Grants
  - **Rebuild Rural Grants:** Provides \$250 million for rural communities to address needs on and off the Federal–aid system. Focuses funding on safety, state of good repair, and access to jobs and services.

## Title II – Public Transportation

Substantially increases transit funding out of the Highway Trust Fund over current investment levels. Funding for buses and zero emission buses see significant funding increases to make up for cuts to bus funding in the last two reauthorization cycles.

### *Division D – The Transforming Rail by Accelerating Investment Nationwide (TRAIN) Act*

- **Transformative Investments:** Establishes a new *Passenger Rail Improvement, Modernization, and Expansion (PRIME)* grant program devoted entirely to passenger rail improvements and expansion. Authorized at \$19 billion over five years, it will fund capital projects that improve the state of good repair, optimize performance, and expand intercity rail passenger transportation.

Click [here](#) to view the full summary from the House Democrats.

Click [here](#) to view a fact sheet on The INVEST in America Act.

As always, we will continue to monitor this and update you accordingly. If you would like more information please email [Maggie.Draughn@arlaw.com](mailto:Maggie.Draughn@arlaw.com).

B. Jeffrey Brooks  
Adams and Reese LLP  
20 F Street NW  
Suite 500  
Washington, DC 20001  
[Jeffrey.Brooks@arlaw.com](mailto:Jeffrey.Brooks@arlaw.com)  
202-737-3234



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For additional information, please see the firm website at [www.adamsandreese.com](http://www.adamsandreese.com).

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FREE BACKGROUND INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.



## Our Offices

### ATLANTA

3424 Peachtree Rd NE  
Suite 1600  
Atlanta, GA 30326  
P 470.427.3700  
F 404.500.5975

### BATON ROUGE

Chase North Tower  
450 Laurel St  
Suite 1900  
Baton Rouge, LA 70801  
P 225.336.5200  
F 225.336.5220

### BIRMINGHAM

Regions Harbert Plaza  
1901 6th Ave North  
Suite 3000  
Birmingham, AL 35203  
P 205.250.5000  
F 205.250.5034

### COLUMBIA

1501 Main St, 5th Floor  
Columbia, SC 29201  
P 803.254.4190  
F 803.779.4749

### HOUSTON

LyondellBasell Tower  
1221 McKinney  
Suite 4400  
Houston, TX 77010  
P 713.652.5151  
F 713.652.5152

### JACKSON

300 Renaissance  
1018 Highland Colony Pkwy  
Suite 800  
Ridgeland, MS 39157  
P 601.353.3234  
F 601.355.9708

### JACKSONVILLE

TIAA Bank Plaza  
501 Riverside Ave., Suite 601  
Jacksonville, FL 32202  
P 904.355.1700  
F 904.355.1797

### MEMPHIS

Crescent Center  
6075 Poplar Avenue, Suite 700  
Memphis, TN 38119  
P 901.525.3234  
F 901.524.5419

### MOBILE

RSA Battle House Tower  
11 North Water Street  
Suite 23200  
Mobile, AL 36602  
P 251.433.3234  
F 251.438.7733

### MONTGOMERY

RSA Plaza Building  
770 Washington Avenue  
Suite 150  
Montgomery, AL 36104  
P 334.557.7065  
F 251.438.7733

### NASHVILLE

Fifth Third Center  
424 Church Street, Suite 2800  
Nashville, TN 37219  
P 615.259.1450  
F 615.259.1470

### NEW ORLEANS

Hancock Whitney Center  
701 Poydras St, Suite 4500  
New Orleans, LA 70139  
P 504.581.3234  
F 504.566.0210

### SARASOTA

1515 Ringling Blvd, Suite 700  
Sarasota, FL 34236  
P 941.316.7600  
F 941.316.7676

### ST. PETERSBURG

150 Second Ave North, Suite 1700  
St. Petersburg, FL 33701  
P 727.502.8200  
F 727.502.8282

### TAMPA

Bank of America Plaza  
101 East Kennedy Blvd, Suite 4000  
Tampa, FL 33602  
P 813.402.2880  
F 813.402.2887

### WASHINGTON, DC

20 F Street NW, Suite 500  
Washington, DC 20001  
P 202.737.3234  
F 202.737.0264

## Diversity and Inclusion

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Our diversity and inclusion initiative is not a program we measure in numbers alone; it's an investment in our people and it's designed to help diverse individuals truly succeed at Adams and Reese. We want every person at Adams and Reese to know they can succeed here through dedication and hard work. We believe all of our people should be given every opportunity to do substantive work, advance their careers and develop their own client relationships. We formed our Diversity Committee in the 1980s when we only had a few offices. Since then, we have been constantly evaluating what we are doing to ensure that our efforts align with what our clients want and need, the firm's strategic plan and our "people first" philosophy.

Adams and Reese has been listed among the Top 200 Law Firms in Diversity on the *American Lawyer Media Diversity Scorecard* since 2008.

Adams and Reese is proud to host, sponsor, partner and participate in numerous diversity initiatives:

- ABA Minority Counsel Program
- ABA Section of Litigation Products Liability Committee's "Women in Products Liability"
- Bayou Classic
- Corporate Counsel Women of Color® Annual Career Strategies Conference
- Endowed Professorships and Scholarships at Historically Black Universities
- Essence Music Festival
- GE Midwestern Diversity Conference
- George Edgecomb Bar Association Scholarship Fund
- Hispanic National Bar Association Corporate Counsel Conference
- International Consortium of Minority CyberSecurity Professionals
- Lawyers Association for Women
- Louisiana State Bar Association Minority Involvement Annual Job Fair – Loyola University
- Loyola University College of Law Diversity Programs
- Martinet Scholarship Gala
- MCCA Annual General Counsel Invitational Leadership Summit
- Mobile United Ethics and Diversity Seminar
- Napier-Looby Bar Association
- National Association of Women Judges Annual Conference
- National Bar Association National Convention
- National Black Law Student Association Convention
- National Directory of Minority Attorneys
- National Minority AIDS Council
- National Urban League Conference
- National Women's Law Center Annual Awards
- National Women's Leadership Council
- New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival
- Power Ties
- South Asian Bar Association
- Southeastern Minority Job Fair
- SunBelt Minority Job Fair
- Vault/MCCA
- Women in Music City, *Nashville Business Journal*
- Women of the Year, *New Orleans CityBusiness*

## Community / Pro Bono

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At Adams and Reese, our commitment to serving others helps define our culture, as we continually look for opportunities to give back to the communities in which we work and live.

Recognizing that the growth of our firm is intrinsically linked to the health, prosperity and quality of life of the people who live in our own cities and towns, we strongly encourage our people to participate in a wide range of worthwhile and rewarding volunteer efforts. And, our attorneys and staff respond by consistently demonstrating their dedication to volunteerism.

More than any other thing, our commitment to serving others defines who we are as a firm.

In addition, we appreciate that so many of our clients hold these same values, just as they say they appreciate ours. Often our paths cross in the community as we conduct our outreach service efforts to those in need, which enhances our relationships with clients, creates a ripple effect of goodwill and fosters mutual respect. Most importantly, it's also the right thing to do.

Organizations want to know that their law firms have their same values and emphasis on making their communities better places to live and work, and Adams and Reese certainly shares those ideals.

Founded in 1988 by partner and Pro Bono Paladin Mark Surprenant, the firm's Hope, Understanding, Giving and Support (HUGS) Program represents the embodiment of the firm's emphasis on giving back. Through HUGS, attorneys and employees across the firm donate their time to more than 100 charitable organizations in various philanthropic projects. Thirty years after the founding of HUGS, our attorneys and employees and their community spirit keep this program alive and thriving. Caring Adams and Reese Employees (CA&RE) allows every lawyer to provide pro bono work for clients and nonprofit organizations who cannot afford to pay for an attorney.

Because our firm has been the recipient of much good fortune, we enthusiastically embrace our obligation to give back and make substantial donations of not just our money, but also our time. HUGS allows our attorneys, advisors and employees to contribute hands-on work to meaningful projects and events that forge and build on connections and friendships. We involve families and friends in the hands-on projects throughout the entire year — not just during the holidays. Some volunteer service becomes an annual tradition that people fondly look forward to throughout the year, such as the basketball tournament we organize and sponsor for students at a special-needs school.

Some of the organizations and philanthropies touched by our HUGS corporate volunteer program throughout the Southeast include: Boys Hope Girls Hope, Big Buddy Kids, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Susan G. Komen Foundation, National Conference for Community and Justice, United Way, Charter Schools, St. Vincent De Paul Society, Junior Achievement, My Sister's Closet, YMCA, YWCA, Camp for All, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Special Olympics, Star of Hope, Adopt a Family, Gateway Rescue Mission, Multiple Sclerosis Society, Operation Shoestring, Stewpot Ministries, Wingard Home, Happy Hearts, American Cancer Society, American Red Cross, Child Advocacy Center, St. Mary's Children's Home, Community Foundation, Hands on Nashville, Second Harvest Food Bank, Salvation Army, Ronald McDonald House, Children's Bureau, Children's Hospital, Disabled Adults with Needs, Domestic Violence Donate a Phone Project; Dress for Success, Odyssey House, St. Andrew's Village, St. Michael's Special School, STARC of Louisiana, SOLACE, and St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital.

## Recognitions

- Community Award - Thomy Lafon Award, Odyssey House, 2019
- Community Award - Corporate Citizen Finalist, *Birmingham Business Journal* Nonprofit Awards 2016
- Community Award - Business of the Year (Sarasota), Goodwill Manasota 2016
- Community Award - Among the 50 Most Generous Workplaces in Sarasota, *Sarasota Herald-Tribune* 2014
- Community Award - Corporate Philanthropy Award, *Tampa Bay Business Journal* 2013, 2012
- Community Award - Good Samaritan Award, STARC 2012
- Community Award - United Way Community Partnership Award, United Way of Sarasota 2012
- Blue Ribbon of Recognition at "Soup's On" Hunger Awareness Luncheon, St. Petersburg Free Clinic 2012
- Community Award - Corporate Philanthropy Award, *Nashville Business Journal* 2010
- Top 200 Pro Bono Firms in the Nation, *American Lawyer* Since 2012
- Pro Bono Publico Award - Baton Rouge, Louisiana State Bar Association 2012
- Pro Bono Publico Award - New Orleans, Louisiana State Bar Association 2012
- Pro Bono Law Firm of the Year, New Orleans Pro Bono Project 2011
- Pro Bono Law Firm of the Year, Are You Safe 2011
- Friend of Pro Bono Award, Louisiana State Bar Association 2008, 2011
- Outstanding Contribution to Volunteer Lawyer Project, Houston Bar Association 2011
- Mississippi Volunteer Lawyers Project, Mississippi Bar Association 2010
- Alabama State Bar Recognition, Committee on Volunteer Lawyers Program 2010
- Alabama State Bar Pro Bono Award, Alabama State Bar Association 2010
- Volunteer for Justice. Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberlands, Nashville Pro Bono Program 2010
- Outstanding Contribution Award Pro Bono Work Mid-size Firm, Houston Bar Foundation 2010