

Austin D. McCarty

Government Affairs Advisor

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OVERVIEW

Austin McCarty is a government affairs advisor and a member of the Public Policy and Law practice group. Prior to joining the firm, Austin served as Legislative Consultant at the Texas Association of Counties (TAC), with primary responsibilities to the Sheriffs' Association of Texas. Prior to departing TAC, he contributed to the establishment of the TAC Federal Outreach team. Austin also served as director of government affairs for two of the state's leading trade associations, where he was responsible for advancing complex legislative agendas, planning and executing membership events, and managing political contributions, among other responsibilities.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Prior to joining the private sector, Austin served as a senior level staffer in the Texas Legislature, working with a variety of both Republican and Democratic members throughout their terms. He aided in the successful crafting and passage of multiple key bills in subjects including environment regulation, higher education, public safety, state tax and economics.

Austin served in the United States Naval Reserve as a Chief Petty Officer and Aircrewman with Fleet Logistics and Support Squadron Five Nine (VR-59). He has been awarded numerous citations and medals for sustained superior performance of duty.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Speaker, "Professional Advocacy Perspective: Effectively Interacting with Texas Legislature", Leadership Denton Panel, Denton Chamber of Commerce, 21 October 2026

EDUCATION

- B.A., St. Edward's University, 2006

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP *POWERED BY HUB*

- October 2026, Facing a Federal Lawsuit, Texas County Repeals Blanket Pause on Data Center Construction, Adopting New Approval Procedures Instead, *The Real Estate Finance Journal*
- 25 June 2026, Texas Pushes H-1B Enforcement Beyond the Federal Status Quo, *Bloomberg Law*
- 10 June 2026, Facing a Federal Lawsuit, Hill County Repeals Blanket Pause on Data Center Construction, Adopting New Approval Procedures Instead
- 19 May 2026, People vs. Machines: Texas County Pushes Pause on Data Center Construction as Project Risks Expand Nationally Amid Public Opposition
- 15 April 2026, Navigating Nuclear: Historic Funding Opportunities in Texas
- 10 March 2026, 2026 Texas Primary Election Results: How Texas Politics Impacts Your Market
- 17 June 2025, Update—Senate Bill 6: A Texas Bill Impacting Large Load Development in ERCOT
- 17 February 2025, Texas Senate Bill 6 and Impacts on Large Load Development in ERCOT
- 23 January 2025, Proposed Texas Senate Bills Have Potential Negative Impacts on Wind and Solar
- October 2024, 2025 Texas Legislative Preview: Power and Data Centers

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- "Legislative Responses to Recent Developments in Generative Artificial Intelligence," *The Journal of Robotics, Artificial Intelligence & Law*, March-April 2024

MEDIA MENTIONS

- 7 May 2026, *Texas Tribune* | Texas Republicans have a data center problem
- 7 May 2026 , *Axios* | What Democrats' wins in local Texas elections mean for the state
- 15 April 2026, *Bloomberg* | Don Huffines Is on Track to Win Texas Comptroller Job With Anti-Tax Pitch

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Public Policy and Law

INDUSTRIES

- Consumer Goods and Services
- Critical Minerals

- Energy
- Sports

EMERGING ISSUES

- Data Centers and Energy Intensive Infrastructure