



R. James Nicholson

Senior Counsel

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Jim Nicholson's practice includes counseling clients in public policy, veterans affairs, information technology, health care and international relations. Jim served as Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs from 2005 to 2007. Prior to his tenure at the VA, he served as U.S. Ambassador to the Holy See. During his tenure Pope John Paul II knighted him for his leadership on human rights issues in Europe. He was the chairman of the Federal Interagency Council on Homelessness. Jim was a director of New Community Development Corporation and Commissioner of the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services (DACOWITS), both Presidential appointments.

Jim has led an active political life, which includes serving as chairman of the Republican National Committee from 1997-2001. He has worked on a number of political campaigns at every level, from county commissioner to U.S. President. As Chairman of the Republican National Committee, Jim set records for fundraising, and in 2000 presided over winning the Presidency and majorities in the U.S. Senate, the U.S. House, state governors and state legislatures.

In 1978, he established Nicholson Enterprises, Inc., which became a nationally recognized land development and home building company. He has been inducted into the National Housing Hall of Fame. Jim served as a commissioner on the Colorado Air Quality Control Commission. He was a director of St. Mary Land and Exploration Company, a director of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Colorado, Inc., and chairman of the board of the Volunteers of America of Colorado. He serves as director of the Horatio Alger Association of Distinguished Americans, Inc.; The Daniels Fund; Federated Funds; New Day USA; and is a fellow of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

Practices

Government Relations, Congressional Oversight & Investigations, Health Care, State & Local Legislation & Policy

Community

Vice Chairman, Board of Visitors, U.S. Military Academy

Director, The American Red Cross

Chairman, Board of Trustees, Open World Leadership Center

Chairman, National Republican Senatorial Committee's Majority Makers program

Director, Horatio Alger Association of Distinguished Americans, Inc.

Co-Chairman, Board of Advisors, Catholic Leadership Institute

Chairman, The Daniels Fund

Publications & Presentations

- PAC Lunch, Guest Speaker, Western Growers 91st Annual Meeting, November 7, 2016
- Let's Get This Straight About the Convention, Co-Author, *The Wall Street Journal*, April 20, 2016

- 2015 Washington Outlook, *Brownstein Client Alert*, Feb. 2, 2015
- Republicans Won Control of the U.S. Senate—Now What?, *Brownstein Client Alert*, November 6, 2014
- 2014 Washington Outlook, *Brownstein Client Alert*, January 30, 2014
- A Mystifying U.S. Diplomatic Pullback from the Vatican, Co-Author, *Wall Street Journal*, Opinion, December 26, 2013
- Increasing Educational and Career Opportunities, Panel, hosted by The Western Governor's Association, June 29, 2011
- The United States and the Holy See: The Long Road, Author, 30 Days Publishing, Rome, Italy, 2003
- World Youth Day, Presenter, Toronto, Canada, July 2002

Education

- J.D., 1972, University of Denver Sturm College of Law
- M.A., 1969, Columbia University
- B.S., 1961, United States Military Academy at West Point

Admissions

- Colorado

Recognition

Saint Pio Award, Saint Pio Foundation

2013 Adam Smith Award, Colorado Council for Economic Education

Colonel, U.S. Army Reserve (retired)

Lifetime Public Service Award, Colorado Nonprofit Association

Who's Who in American Politics

Champion of Veterans Award, Paralyzed Veterans of America

InterFaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington's InterFaith Leadership Award

Distinguished Graduate Award, U.S. Military Academy at West Point

Hall of Fame, National Association of Housing and Building

Membership

Congressional Country Club, University Club of Washington D.C.

Metropolitan Club of Washington, D.C.