

## **E. Ashley Smith**

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### **Summary**

Executive with significant leadership in private, government, education, and non-profit organizations.

- Executive Officer for Fortune 1000 Company with \$2.5 billion in revenues,
- CEO of \$70 million non-profit organization,
- University System Vice Chancellor with 86,000 associates,
- Member of Texas House of Representatives for seven terms,
- Chairman of Texas House of Representatives standing committees,
- Senior Advisor to the Texas Governor, and
- Board Member for numerous corporate, nonprofit, and government organizations.

### **Professional Experience**

**Acting General Counsel, Houston Community College, 2013-present**

**Adjunct Professor of Business Law, University of Saint Thomas, Cameron Graduate School of Business, 2011 - present**

**Executive Vice President, Chief Legal Officer, Chief Compliance Officer, Stewart Information Services Corporation, 1/2006 – 6/2011**

- Lead legal support for multi-national real estate information, title insurance and transaction management company with \$2.5 billion in revenues, more than 9,500 offices, doing business in 50 states and 40 countries
- Oversight of all legal matters, including contract negotiations, underwriting, claims, corporate governance and government regulations
- Re-engineered legal department achieving scalability and efficiencies enabling no increase in full time equivalent staff despite 33% increase in volume
- Implemented self-governance strategy to mitigate impact of government regulation targeted to save over \$3 million per year
- Installed automated invoicing and claims program resulting in projected annual savings of \$1 million per year
- Established comprehensive program to establish balanced media representation of industry standards and practices

**Vice Chancellor for Governmental Affairs and Policy, University of Texas System, 1/2003 – 1/2006**

- Managed governmental relations for nine institutions of higher education and six health institutions in the University System.
- Negotiated collaborative research agreements between UT System and Sandia National Labs; the success of the original agreements resulted in an expanded management contract naming UT Systems as principal management partner for Sandia collaborative research.
- Restored competitive advantage to Texas research institutions by eliminating state capture of Federal grant funds resulting in \$20 million available to Texas research institutions.
- Secured additional state funding of over \$8 million for UT Systems by facilitating and championing Key Performance Indicators for UT System with the Texas State Legislature.

**President and CEO, Chief Administrative Officer**, The Institute for Research and Rehabilitation (TIRR), 2/1997 – 1/2003

- Coordinated strategy which contributed to the *US News and World Report* rating TIRR #2 (advanced from #8 six years earlier) by:
  - establishing a collaborative research program (Mission Connect),
  - convening an international conclave of neuroscience researchers to establish best practices,
  - establishing a national leadership-based association (The Spencer Society),
  - and launching comprehensive communication strategy
- Negotiated collaborative agreement among three premier Texas medical schools to establish cooperative effort for public and private sector fundraising and collaborative research which yielded over \$10 million in six years
- Developed and implemented strategy to expand into sports rehabilitation, building brand awareness, strategically positioning clinics, and expanding revenue 20% over four years
- Promoted relationships with department chairs of Baylor College of Medicine and UT Health Science Center to fund and staff TIRR Medical Services resulting in the largest, national Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation residency program

**Senior Advisor**, Office of the Governor of Texas, 1/2002 – 1/2003

- As Chairman of the Governor's Task Force on Science and Biotechnology, designed and implemented a Texas road map for advancement of science and technology statewide
- Reviewed and recommended candidates for appointment to boards and commissions for all state agencies.
- Advised Governor's Chief of Staff and media relations team on messaging.

**Of Counsel** , Hutcheson & Grundy Law Firm, 1/1995 – 1/1996

- Developed affiliations with key task force members and allied organizations to enable as few as 80 e-mails to generate thousands of calls, letters, e-mails and visits to legislators

- Led Austin office team to achieve 10 of 11 points adopted by Texas Legislators on tort reform resulting in reduction of lawsuits and recoveries and the return of over 1000 doctors to the practice of medicine by 2007.

**State Representative for District 136** (Harris County), Texas House of Representatives, 11/1981 – 1/1995

- Chaired House Science and Technology Committee - led state effort to win successful bid for the Superconducting Super Collider.
- Chaired Governmental Organizations Committee with oversight for more than 240 state agencies
  - Engineered successful bid for South Texas to be the home port for the U.S.S. Wisconsin
  - Authored and passed legislation creating the Texas Department of Commerce
  - Represented Texas House on Texas Sunset Commission which improved the operational efficiency of state agencies
- Chaired Higher Education Committee
- Chaired Financial Institutions Committee
  - Guided state through Resolution Trust Company restructuring of the Texas financial institution challenges.
- Chaired Budget and Oversight Committee to the Texas Department of Insurance.
- Vice Chairman and co-organizer of Republican Caucus (1987-1995).

**Chairman of the Board and President**, Pryor Tungsten, Inc., 11/1980 – 1/1989

- Assembled investor group to acquire company.
- Oversaw manufacturing, marketing and engineering for projects with Cameron and Halliburton.
- Negotiated merger of Pryor Tungsten into Keystone.

**Executive Vice President and General Council**, Southwestern Group Financial, Inc., 1/1971 – 10/1979

Negotiated acquisition of seven financial institutions to create an AMEX publically traded company (Symbol "SGI")

- Drafted and coordinated passage of legislation to create first statewide financial institution holding company
- Provided legal counsel to create real-time, on-line financial computer services company

**Memberships and Honors:**

- Senior Fellow, American Leadership Forum, 2009-2012
- Member, Lawyer Brokers Committee of Texas State Bar, 2007–2013
- Co-founder and Chairman, BioHouston, 2002-2003, Director Emeritus, 2007

- Member, Board of Directors, Houston Technology Center, 2003-2006
- Executive Committee of the Board of Directors, Texas Hospital Association – initiated Texas Hospital Association Strategic Plan acknowledged by special recognition from Texas Senate, 2002-2003
- Member, Board of Directors, and Audit Committee, Isolagen, Inc., 2001-2003
- Member, Texas Medical Center CEO's Council, 2000-2003
- Chairman, Governor's Task Force on Science and Biotechnology, 2002
- Chairman, South Main Center Association, 2001-2002
- Chairman, Southwest Texas Biotechnology Research Park, 2001- 2002
- Managing General Partner, Barker Cypress Properties, Ltd., 1992–1998
- Member, Judicial Arbitration and Mediation Services, 1990 – 1995
- Member, Board of Directors, National Title Company, 1990-1992
- Texas Chamber of Commerce Legislative Leadership Award, 1992
- Honored as the “High-Tech” Legislator of the Year” by the American Electronics Association, at National Conference of State Legislators (NCSL), 1991
- General Counsel, Economic Summit for G-7 in Houston, 1989-1990
- Vice Chairman of the Board, Liberty Saving Association, 1987
- Member, Nicaraguan Rounds chaired by Carla Hills, 1986
- Founding Director, Texas Lyceum, 1980

### **Education:**

- B.A. - University of Texas at Austin – Economics, 1969
- J.D. - University of Texas School of Law – Law Review, 1971
- LL.M. (Master of Laws) - University of Houston Law Center – Environmental and International Law, 1993
- M.B.A. - University of Saint Thomas, Houston, Texas – Accounting, 2010

### **Family:**

- Spouse: married Peggy B. Smith in 1969, Tenured Professor at Baylor College of Medicine and Director, Population Center
- Daughter: Marlo Reveley, President ZTD, a high-tech start-up
- Interests: reading, snow skiing, tennis, and horseback riding

### **Additional Information:**

References available on request.