

PALMER HARSTON WILLIAMS

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EXPERIENCE

- 2017-Present **THE ETHICS & RELIGIOUS LIBERTY COMMISSION** WASHINGTON, D.C. & NASHVILLE, TN
General Counsel & Senior Policy Advisor
Provides legal counsel for international organization that is the public policy arm of the Southern Baptist Convention, the second-largest Christian denomination in the United States, with over 16 million members in over 43,000 independent churches. Advises DC based policy team on a wide range of national and international policy issues from Supreme Court litigation, to proposed regulations and legislation, to international treaties and bodies.
- 2017-Present **THE PEACEFIELD GROUP** NASHVILLE, TN
Founding Partner
Provides legal and policy analysis to clients related to international human rights, sanctity of life, non-profit operations and government affairs. Advocates for human rights on the international stage, including at the United Nations. Assists national and international clients in crafting messaging, long-term strategic planning and operationalizing their values.
- 2015-2017 **AMERICAN CENTER FOR LAW & JUSTICE (ACLJ)** WASHINGTON, D.C. & NASHVILLE, TN
Associate Counsel for International Law Government Affairs, Public Policy
Practiced international human rights law, specifically in the areas of religious freedom and human dignity, including advocating before the United Nations and other international bodies.
- 2013-2015 **SHOW HOPE** NASHVILLE, TN
Advancement Coordinator
Developed and grew initiatives to engage new demographics for international orphan care non-profit.
- 2012-2013 **TENNESSEE SUPREME COURT** NASHVILLE, TN
Access to Justice Commission Pro Bono Coordinator
Developed statewide legal initiatives to serve over 1 million indigent Tennesseans. Pioneered first faith based legal program in the nation, engaging churches and faith organizations to develop legal ministries within their congregations.
- 2012 **DAVIDSON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES** NASHVILLE, TN
Public Interest Legal Fellow
Assisted in court proceedings; Draft orders & motions. 2012.
- 2008-2009 **LILY OF THE VALLEY ENDEAVORS** KWA ZULU NATAL, SOUTH AFRICA
Volunteer Staff Member
Lived and taught at a rural orphanage for children abandoned due to parental AIDS suffering. Assisted with local micro-finance projects. Initiated international fund-raising campaign.
- 2011 **TENNESSEE JUSTICE FOR OUR NEIGHBORS** NASHVILLE, TN
Legal Clerk
Assisted in immigration casework for victims of trafficking or domestic violence.
- 2007 & 2010 **PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE- JUVENILE DIVISION** NASHVILLE, TN
Legal Intern
Managed personal caseload. Developed and instituted a district wide training program educating all Nashville Public School security personnel on the juvenile court system.
- 2009 **LISA COLLINS ADOPTION LAW OFFICE** NASHVILLE, TN
Assisted legal team in facilitating local and international adoptions.
- 2007 & 2008 **WORLD CHANGERS' ACADEMY** KWA ZULU NATAL, SOUTH AFRICA
Volunteer Consultant
Developed curriculum and trained the staff who serve the unemployed of the indigent Zulu community.
- 2006 & 2007 **SHEPHERD'S KEEP ORPHANAGE** KWA ZULU NATAL, SOUTH AFRICA
Volunteer Caregiver
Cared for abandoned HIV+ infants. Initiated new fundraising efforts.

2009-2012	VANDERBILT LAW SCHOOL Juris Doctorate, May 2012. License to Practice Law in Tennessee, October 2012. Honors and Activities (law): Hugh Morgan Scholarship Recipient; Legal Aid Society, <i>Board Member</i> ; Public Interest Stipend Fund Auction, <i>Co-Chair</i> ; Tennessee Legal Aid Society, <i>Phone Bank Volunteer</i> .	NASHVILLE, TN
2004-2008	VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY Bachelor of Science degree, <i>magna cum laude</i> , in Political Science and Community Development. Honors and Activities: Ingram Scholars Program (Full-Tuition Community Service Based Scholarship Program), <i>Program Facilitator & Selections Committee Chair</i> ; Vanderbilt's Top 10 Most Outstanding Seniors; Chancellor Heard Outstanding Community Servant Award 2008; Delta Delta Delta Sorority.	NASHVILLE, TN

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Tennessee Bar Association
Nashville Bar Association
National Federalist Society
Christian Legal Society
Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission Research Fellow

SERVICE

2019-Present	KING'S ACADEMY NASHVILLE Founder & Chairman of the Board	NASHVILLE, TN
2019-Present	TENNESSEE PRAYER BREAKFAST Citizen's Committee Member	NASHVILLE, TN
2017-Present	SHOW HOPE BOARD MEMBER	NASHVILLE, TN
2015-Present	REDEMPTION CITY CHURCH Sunday School Teacher, & Church Community Group Hostess	FRANKLIN, TN
2016-Present	HOPE CLINIC FOR WOMEN VOLUNTEER	NASHVILLE, TN
2013	INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE MISSION Nashville Benefit Committee Member	NASHVILLE, TN
2012-2016	COMPASSIONATE COUNSEL Legal Clinic Volunteer	NASHVILLE, TN
2011-2016	NASHVILLE JUNIOR LEAGUE MEMBER	NASHVILLE, TN
2007	TREY POINTER YOUNG CITIZEN AWARD Nashville's Mayoral Office Award for young adults with disabilities who have emerged as community leaders.	NASHVILLE, TN
2005-2008	ABLE YOUTH BOARD MEMBER & CHEERLEADING COACH Governed statewide organization providing athletic opportunities for physically challenged children in Tennessee. 2005-2008.	
2000-2005	EASTER SEALS NATIONAL YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE Traveled nationally, speaking to corporations & conventions raising funds and awareness for the disability community. Filmed national commercials.	NATIONAL

PUBLICATIONS

[Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission Online](#), Contributor.

[Learning About Racial Injustice: My Family's Journey](#), ERLC's Light Magazine, December 2, 2016.

Letting Locals Lead: A Strategy of Constructive Coexistence for Community-Based Dispute Resolution in Afghanistan, Study and recommendations for the NATO Rule of Law Field Force/U.S. Army Judge Advocate General Corps, April 2011.