

PATRICIA C. BRANCH

Currently retired

- **The Collette Group, LLC – President & CEO, September 1, 2002 - 2017**
Directed the activities of this nonpartisan Washington D.C. based government relations and lobbying firm that provides federal legislative, governmental affairs, and community relations consulting services to local government entities, non-profit organizations, colleges and universities as well as private industry. Develop and implement strategies to ensure that our client's needs and concerns are understood and addressed as policy decisions are being made that affect them. Have represented the City of St. Louis, Missouri and the St. Louis Lambert International Airport for almost 15 years and have represented Hartsville-Jackson Atlanta International Airport as well. Worked closely with the U.S. Conference of Mayors for close to twenty years.
- **Jorden Burt, LLP- Senior Legislative Advisor, March 1997 to July 2002.**
Senior Representative in the Government Relations Division with primary responsibility for the Human Services component of the Urban Practice. Developed, managed, and implemented strategies to influence legislation, where appropriate, pertaining to housing and economic development, job training and welfare-to-work, criminal justice, HIV/AIDS policy and other public health issues, immigration and children's issues. Focused on efforts to expand programmatic and funding opportunities for key local government programs of importance to the firm's municipal clients including the Cities of Newark, NJ, Miami Beach, Gainesville, FL and Alachua County, FL. Represented the firm's university clients as well.
- **Children's Defense Fund (CDF) – Senior Government Affairs Associate, January 1994 to May 1996.** Responsible for budget and appropriations issues affecting key programs for children and assisted in the advocacy of the organization pertaining to health care and welfare reform. Developed and implemented legislative strategies designed to achieve the organization's public policy objectives. Testified before Congress. Chief liaison to the Congressional Black Caucus, the U.S. Conference of Mayors, the National Association of Counties and other national organizations of elected officials. Managed the government affairs activities of the Black Community Crusade for Children, a project coordinated by CDF, and served as an advisor on juvenile justice issues to a committee of Juvenile and Family Court Judges from across the country.
- **Office of the Mayor, City of New York – Legislative Representative, November 1992 to January 1994.** Appointed by the Mayor of New York City to represent the City's \$4 billion public healthcare system during the long and vigorous debate over health care reform. Represented the City during special White House and agency meetings and deliberations during all legislative and policy-making decisions that affected the City's eleven acute care hospitals; six long-term care facilities, six community health centers and twenty-two community clinics. Worked closely with the National Association of County officials (NACO)

in holding a special NACO forum in New York City surrounding the health care reform debate.

- **American Psychological Society – Assistant Director for Government Relations, March 1991 to March 1992.** Represented this 13,000-member scientific society. Formulated legislative strategy for representing the Society's interests at various points of the legislative process. Maintained contact with Members of Congress and legislative committees as well as with Administration officials at federal research funding agencies to ensure greater recognition of behavioral and social science research. Instrumental in the creation of a new Directorate for Social and Behavioral and Economic Sciences within the National Science Foundation and for the creation of an extramural research program within the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development on the normative development of ethnic minorities.
- **Governor's Office of Federal-State Relations, Commonwealth of Massachusetts – Senior Policy Analyst, June 1983 to March 1991.** Appointed by the Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to serve as his liaison in Washington. Testified on behalf of the state and the Coalition of Northeastern Governors (CONEG) before a joint congressional hearing. Drafted and won passage of legislation strengthening the administrative provisions of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program. Represented the Governor at town meetings throughout the state to inform the public about the impact of federal budget cuts on state and local programs.
- **U.S. House of Representatives, Honorable Jonathan B. Bingham (NY) – Legislative Assistant, 1970-1982.** Advised the Congressman on legislative issues relating to immigration, social security, veteran's affairs and government programs for low-income citizens. Handled press inquiries relating to the above issues. Researched and identified federal grant programs for state and local governments, small businesses, universities, and non-profit organizations. Prepared impact reports, testimony, press releases, Congressional Record statements and legislative correspondence.

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **Montgomery County Advisory Committee on Consumer Affairs – Vice Chair, 1982 to 1985.** Appointed by the Montgomery County Executive to serve a three-year term on the Advisory Committee and was elected its Vice Chair. Advised the Director of the Montgomery County Office of Consumer Affairs on policy issues affecting consumers residing in Montgomery County.

EDUCATION

Georgetown University, Washington, DC
Wayne State University, Detroit, MI