

Leighton Lord

CHAIRMAN

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Suite 700
1230 Main Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Practices

Real Estate Law
Distressed Property and Workouts
Land Use and Zoning
Corporate Law
Economic Development

Industries

Aviation
Real Estate

Education

- Vanderbilt University, J.D., 1989
- University of Delaware, B.A.A.S., 1986

Admissions

- South Carolina
- Delaware

Leighton Lord practices in the areas of economic development, corporate, partnership and real estate law. His legal practice has a special emphasis on siting economic development projects, real estate financing, general business law, and formation and opinions on Delaware entities. Leighton is the current Chairman of Nexsen Pruet and serves as Managing Director of the firm's communications affiliate, NP Strategy, LLC.

Prior to joining Nexsen Pruet, Leighton clerked for the prestigious Delaware Chancery Court before practicing corporate litigation in Wilmington, Delaware. He served for three years as staff counsel to the U.S. Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations. He formally served on South Carolina's Coordinating Council for Economic Development and is the former Chairman of Santee Cooper, South Carolina's electric and water utility.

Experience

- Led legal and communications team that sited an appliance manufacturing facility
- Led legal team that sited a bottled water production facility for an international producer
- Led negotiations for a commercial aircraft manufacturing facility located in South Carolina.

- Successfully re-zoned over 4,000 acres for a commercial gold mine.
- Negotiated the Development Agreement for the largest redevelopment project in Columbia's history.

The Boeing Company

Recognitions

- *Columbia Business Magazine's* "Legal Elite of the Midlands", 2016 and 2019
- Recognized by *Chambers USA*, Real Estate, South Carolina in 2019 & 2020
- Martindale-Hubbell Peer-Review Rated AV Preeminent
- Listed in *Best Lawyers in America* for Real Estate Law, Since 2009.

Community & Professional

- Delaware Bar
- South Carolina Bar
- Santee Cooper – Former Chairman
- Palmetto Economic Development Corporation – Former Chairman
- Heathwood Hall Episcopal School – Past Board Chairman, current Foundation Board Chairman
- Liberty Fellow
- Riley Institute Diversity Fellow
- Aspen Global Leadership Network
- Baruch Foundation - Board of Directors
- Achieve Columbia - Chairman

Stakeholder Engagement In Environmentally Sensitive Economic Development Projects (co-author) South Carolina Law Review, Vol. 66, Spring 2015

A Case for Coordinating Economic Development Planning and Energy Planning (co-author) South Carolina Journal of International Law and Business, Vol. 7, Spring 2011

Panelist at Summer "Law of Solar Energy in South Carolina" seminar.

News

12.18.2020 | Firm News

Happy Holidays from Nexsen Pruet

05.20.2020 | News from Nexsen Pruet

Leighton Lord Welcomes Us Back to Work

03.26.2020 | News from Nexsen Pruet

A Message from Our Chairman, Leighton Lord

01.08.2020 | News from Nexsen Pruet

Leighton Lord and Sam Johnson recognized among "50 Most Influential People In Columbia" by Columbia Business Monthly

12.23.2019 | Firm News

In the spirit of giving...

09.12.2019 | News from Nexsen Pruet

Nexsen Pruet's Leighton Lord Discusses Firm Innovation

Insights

03.12.2019

What Lawyers and Public Relations Pros Can Learn from Each Other