



Michael R. Boussetot

Counsel

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## Overview

Michael Boussetot partners with clients to advance their interests through government relations strategies and advocacy at the state and federal level. Michael served as chief of staff for Iowa Governor Terry Branstad from 2015 to 2017, during which he was tasked with managing the forces that drive government operations and decision-making — and leading the processes required to bring policy agendas to fruition. Michael subsequently drove government affairs and public policy advocacy efforts in leadership roles at an Iowa-based agribusiness investment group and a captive insurance company. Michael draws on this extensive experience at the intersection of business and government to give clients a voice in legislative, regulatory, and policy-making institutions and processes.

### Office of Iowa Governor Terry Branstad

From 2011 to 2017, Michael served as public policy adviser, legal counsel and, ultimately, chief of staff in the office of Governor Branstad. As chief of staff, Michael managed a \$2.7 million office budget and a \$7.4 billion state budget while leading a staff of 44 department directors and a 17,500-person executive branch. He developed and implemented policy and political strategies, including budgets, legislative initiatives, and administrative rules.

In these roles, Michael led the execution of the Branstad administration agenda on a number of issues and initiatives, including:

- Tax reform initiatives totaling more than \$4.5 billion in tax cuts

- Water quality infrastructure
- Medicaid modernization and expansion
- International trade

## Government Relations Experience

Prior to joining Faegre Drinker, Michael served as assistant vice president at Innovative Captive Strategies, leading advocacy efforts at the state and federal level derived from an enterprise-wide view of property and casualty insurance and health care insurance. In this role, he developed a corporate advocacy strategy for favorable tax regulation with the Trump administration, Congress and state officials interfacing with the U.S. Department of Treasury. He also worked directly with Iowa Governor Kimberly Reynolds and Texas Governor Greg Abbott on economic development and state policy matters impacting his stakeholders.

Michael also served as managing director and head of external relations for Summit Agricultural Group, an agribusiness investment group, where he led business development, public policy and investor relations initiatives. In this role, he planned and delivered the Iowa Ag Summit in Des Moines, which convened the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, U.S. senators and other policy leaders to discuss agricultural topics related to investor opportunities.

## Services & Industries

Government & Regulatory Affairs

Insurance Services

Health Care

Lobbying & Public Policy

Insurance Public Policy & Advocacy

Public-Private Partnerships

Food & Agribusiness

Insurance

Health & Life Sciences

Property & Casualty Insurance

## Credentials

### Bar Admissions

Iowa

**Education**

Drake University Law School

J.D. (2009)

University of Iowa

M.Acc. (2006)

University of Iowa

B.B.A. (2005)