



CAROLYN MERCHAN SAEGERT

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BACKGROUND

Carolyn Merchan Saegert has almost 20 years of legislative, agency, and legal experience, with an emphasis on state tax policy. Carolyn possesses an insider's view of the legislative process. She has held notable positions in the Senate and House leading to significant and lasting relationships with leadership and members. Additionally, Carolyn also has experience in the private sector representing corporations and state trade associations in matters including taxation, financial services, data security, and property and business regulations.

Prior to joining Stalwart Strategies, Carolyn returned to the legislature to serve as Fiscal and Tax Counsel for the Lieutenant Governor for the 2019 legislative session. She provided guidance and strategy on all revenue related initiatives and legislation including significant work on the budget and school finance. Her work over two sessions with the Lieutenant Governor's office helped with the passage of Senate Bill 2, the Texas Property Reform and Transparency Act of 2019, the legislature's recent school finance reforms contained within House Bill 3, and the 2015 \$3.8 billion property and franchise tax cuts. In that capacity Carolyn worked closely with the leadership of both chambers of the legislature, the Governor's office and state agencies. She has also traveled statewide with the Select Committee on Property Tax Reform and Relief, meeting with stakeholders with the purpose of reforming the property tax system.

Carolyn began her legislative career in 2000 as the Director for the House Committee on Ways and Means. She held that position under Chairmen of both political parties for five legislative sessions. In that capacity Carolyn personally drafted, negotiated, and facilitated passage of major tax reforms and the advancement of complex legislation. With this experience, Carolyn has acquired a wealth of knowledge and experience of the House rules and committee process and how to use those for the benefit of her clients.

In addition to her work with the legislature, Carolyn has practiced corporate, regulatory, and criminal law, including an appellate practice with the Office of the Attorney General. She is licensed to practice in the State of Texas and has practiced in all Federal Districts in Texas and the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals.

Carolyn and her fellow attorney husband love to travel and spend time outdoors with their two teenage boys. She also is an active volunteer at Redeemer Lutheran Church and at the boy's high school.



EDUCATION

B.A. Economics and History
University of Houston

J.D. Southern Methodist
University