

Ward and Smith, P.A. Welcomes Attorney and Lobbyist Whitney Campbell Christensen

January 26, 2015

Ward and Smith, P.A. is pleased to announce that attorney and lobbyist Whitney Campbell Christensen has joined the Firm. Ms. Christensen, who has nearly four years combined experience lobbying for the North Carolina League of Municipalities and the North Carolina Restaurant and Lodging Association at the North Carolina General Assembly and State Government, also brings to Ward and Smith her capability to practice intellectual property law.

During her tenure with the North Carolina League of Municipalities, Ms. Christensen, from Durham, represented North Carolina's 540 cities, towns, and villages, serving as lead staff on all election, transportation, pension, public safety and contracting, legislation, and rulemaking.

As staff attorney and manager of government affairs for the North Carolina Restaurant and Lodging Association, she represented the state's \$17.5 billion dollar hospitality industry before the state legislature and state government, including drafting and advocating for legislation and providing legal counsel to the Association's restaurant and hotel members.

"Whitney has the experience to lobby complex issues, she has the tenacity to see them through, she knows the legislative process, and she already knows the legislators and staff," said Kenneth R. Wooten, Co-Managing Director of Ward and Smith.

Ward and Smith's government relations professionals have decades of experience helping clients with government relations needs. Ms. Christensen will join a Government Relations Practice Group led by Angie D. Harris, a non-attorney who has advocated on behalf of clients at the legislature and in state government for more than 14 years.

She earned her law degree at the South Texas College of Law and her undergraduate degree from The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She clerked at law firms in North Carolina and Texas, where she served as a patent agent.