

Stan Smith

One of the leading public utility attorneys in Mississippi, Stan applies his nearly 30 years of law practice assisting his clients obtain the governmental authorizations they need to provide or receive communications, water, sewer, gas and electric services. Although the majority of Stan's cases are before the Mississippi Public Service Commission, he also handles regulatory matters in other states including Alabama, Louisiana and Tennessee, to name a few. With the explosion of the communications field over the past several years, Stan has represented all forms of communications companies, including incumbent local exchange carriers (ILECs), competitive local exchange carriers (CLECs), long distance interexchange carriers (IXCs), cable systems, wireless providers, and broadband/internet providers.

Stan has successfully represented a number of local exchange communications companies in obtaining designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) under the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. As a designated ETC, these companies have been able to fully participate in the federal Universal Service Fund (USF), thus bringing thousands of dollars into their companies to be used to improve communications services to the end-user customers. Due to Stan's reputation in this area of law, he has been a speaker on the topic of USF at national communications conventions in Las Vegas and New Orleans.

Stan is a graduate of the University of Mississippi (B.B.A., 1976; J.D., 1979).

While in law school, he worked as the Business Manager of the Mississippi Law Journal. Prior to attending law school, Stan applied his accounting background to his employment in the Audit Division of Arthur Andersen & Co. in Houston, Texas. Stan's business experience has proven invaluable in assisting clients with their rates, tariffs, depreciation studies, and earning reviews.

Stan is a long-time member of the Alabama-Mississippi Telecommunications Association where he has twice served as President of its Associate Members. Stan is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* in Communications Law and Energy Law and in *Chambers USA: America's Leading Business Lawyers* for Energy & Natural Resources in Mississippi.

Areas of Practice:

Corporate Law

Public Utility Law

Telecommunications Law

Arbitration/Mediation



Stanley Q. Smith
Shareholder