

EDWARD EDNEY, J.D.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

City of Chicago– Office of the Mayor, Federal Affairs

Legislative Counsel –Washington, D.C.

June 2020 -Present

- Manage the city’s federal legislative agenda, developing and executing strategies for the Mayor and city departments to engage Congress and the Executive Branch and advance city projects and priorities.
- Analyze and track federal legislation and regulations.
- Advise and brief the Mayor and senior-level staff on federal legislation and regulations. Principal federal policy advisor on labor, education, public safety, housing, and community development issues.
- Coordinate and prepare congressional briefings for the Mayor and city departments, facilitating over 24 briefings since June 2020 with the Chicago congressional delegation and the White House.
- Manage congressional requests for information, responding to over 50 inquiries since June 2020.
- Principal staff advisor for the Mayor’s working group on police reform and racial justice. Aided the working group in drafting its 40-page policy report for improving community policing and addressing structural racism within law enforcement.
- Drafted and shepherded the Mayor’s five congressional requests since June 2020 calling for more direct aid for the city to address the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Drafted and shepherded the Mayor’s 4-page letter to President Trump, objecting to his administration’s plans to deploy hundreds of federal agents to the city in an effort to combat crime and violence.
- Conducted a virtual legislative briefing for city council on the latest federal COVID stimulus package passed in December 2020.
- Led the Mayor’s policy team in developing and drafting the city’s federal legislative priorities for 2021.

Office of Senator Tammy Duckworth (D-Illinois), U.S. Senate

Legislative Assistant –Washington, D.C.

November 2017-May 2020

- Principal policy advisor for the judiciary, education, and national service legislative portfolios.
- Managed judicial nominations, vetting over 150 nominees, drafting over 150 floor vote recommendations, and aiding the Senator in reviewing more than 60 candidates for judicial vacancies in Illinois.
- Developed, drafted, and introduced five bills, including the Police Training and Independent Review Act, which was adopted into the comprehensive police reform legislation that passed the House in June 2020.
- Regularly drafted briefing memoranda, talking points, floor remarks, and oversight requests as needed to advance the Senator’s priorities.
- Supervised and managed a staff of two legislative correspondents and one legal intern.
- Frequently met and managed relationships with constituents and stakeholders.
- Secured directive in the FY19 Labor-HHS Appropriations bill, requiring the Department of Labor to enhance career technical education opportunities for students in urban and rural communities.
- Secured \$34.9 million increase in FY18 omnibus package for the Department of Education student parent childcare program.
- Organized community roundtable discussion on gun violence prevention and trauma led by the Senator and Congressman Bobby Rush and attended by over 40 community advocates and stakeholders.
- Led press team in drafting the Senator’s floor speech, calling on the Senate to reject the confirmation of Judge Brett Kavanaugh to the U.S. Supreme Court.
- Advised the Senator on the impeachment trial proceedings of Donald J. Trump.

Office of Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio 9th), U.S. House of Representatives

Legislative Assistant –Washington, D.C.

April 2015–November 2017

- Principal policy advisor for the financial services, housing, and agriculture legislative portfolios.
- Managed the Congresswoman’s legislative agenda for the House Appropriations Subcommittees on Agriculture, Financial Services and General Government; Transportation, Housing and Urban Development.
- Shepherded legislative priorities through the Appropriations Committee markups and House floor proceedings.
- Regularly drafted floor speeches, briefing memoranda, and oversight letters as required.
- Frequently met and managed relationships with constituents and stakeholders.
- Developed, drafted, and introduced three bills, including the Urban Agriculture Production Act, a bipartisan bill to bolster nutritional and farmers’ market programs and help create the next generation of local, urban farmers.
- Secured congressional authorization for \$95 million appropriation to renovate the 9th congressional district’s federal courthouse.
- Played principal role in the removal of policy riders from 3 appropriations bills to block contract protections for small poultry and livestock farmers.
- Developed and drafted a policy report on piloting a federal housing program to transition federal student loan debt into first-time homeownership opportunities.

Committee on the Judiciary, U.S. House of Representatives

Democratic Legal Fellow –Washington, D.C.

January 2014 –May 2014

- Researched and analyzed case law related to civil rights bills and policy issues that came before the committee.
- Prepared legal briefing memoranda and Member statements for committee hearings and markups.
- Helped develop and draft legislation to restore the voting rights of ex-felons.
- Drafted the committee’s dissenting views on the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act.

Office of Senator Tammy Baldwin (D-Wisconsin), U.S. Senate

Staff Assistant –Washington, D.C.

March 2013 –September 2013

- Drafted constituent correspondence and briefing memos for judiciary legislative staff.
- Tracked and documented constituent opinions and comments on policy issues debated in the Senate.
- Administered staff-led tours of the Capitol for constituents and other guests.
- Helped manage front office by handling incoming calls, visitor greetings, and staff appointments.

OFA-the Campaign to Re-Elect President Barack Obama, Madison, WI

Deputy Voter Protection Director –Madison, Wisconsin

September 2012 –November 2012

- Developed and implemented voter protection plans for 32 municipalities over the course of 8 weeks.
- Trained and supervised 86 attorney poll observers and helped recruit more than 500 campaign volunteers.
- Supervised Election Day legal response team for 2 county regions, resolving 108 voting irregularities.

Wisconsin Government Accountability Board –Election Division

Election Trainer and Policy Advisor –Madison, WI

February 2006 –September 2012

- Aided the state’s chief election attorney in drafting administrative rules, conducting legislative analysis, and creating protocols for assessing voting procedures.
- Created and led training events for election administration officials on election laws and voting procedures.
- Implemented the state’s first online voter list management system in over 400 local municipalities.
- Developed and launched public education campaign on the Wisconsin Voter ID law.
- Coauthored staff policy report and recommendations for enacting statewide early voting.
- Secured \$1.9 million federal grant to develop an online absentee ballot delivery system for military and overseas voters.

EDUCATION

University of Wisconsin Law School, Juris Doctor, 2005

Madison, WI

- Student Competitor in the Frederick Douglass National Moot Court Competition (2004)
- Community Service Coordinator, Black Law Student Association (2004; 2005)
- Law Clerk, the Wisconsin Department of Revenue–Office of General Counsel (January 2005 –May 2005)
- Legal Intern, the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (May 2004 –August 2004)
- Legal Intern, the Wisconsin Department of Licensing and Regulations (May 2002 –August 2002)

Temple University, Bachelor of Arts, *magna cum laude*, Political Science and Economics, 1999

Philadelphia, PA

- Academic Honors: Dean's List (1996-1999) • Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi (Top 10%) • National Political Science Honor Society
- Tutor, College Upward Bound Program for Philadelphia high school students (1997-1999)
- Student Scholar, the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program (1997-1999)