

As Seen In ... *Forbes*, March 24, 2008

Bridging the Gap Between Business and Government

Featherstonhaugh, Wiley & Clyne, LLP

One might be hard pressed to think of a common element linking Goldman Sachs, the Ultimate Fighting Championship, Metropolitan Life, rap music mogul Russell Simmons and PepsiCo. Their respective industries, business interests and target markets vary widely.

But for all of them, maintaining positive, productive relationships with New York state and city governments is key to the ongoing success of their operations.

Achieving such relationships can be a Herculean feat. It requires diligence, seasoned insight, and the respect and trust of players on both sides. Perhaps no attorney in the state of New York knows that better than Jim Featherstonhaugh, senior partner of the Albany law firm of Featherstonhaugh, Wiley & Clyne, LLP. For nearly four decades, business executives, lawmakers and fellow attorneys have turned to Featherstonhaugh and his talented partners for their legendary ability to help government and businesses find common ground.

The manner in which Featherstonhaugh goes about his work – cheerfully, deftly and assuredly – has helped earn him the loyalty of a broad array of clients, including many *Fortune* 100 companies. Among clients and friends, he is known as “Feathers.” But make no mistake. Featherstonhaugh is no lightweight.

Making History in Government Relations

Featherstonhaugh has been part of the New York State lobbying scene since graduating from law school in 1969. He began his career representing the Civil Service Employees Association (CSEA), easily befriendng state legislators and rallying them in support of his client's positions. In 1982, Featherstonhaugh helped Mario Cuomo, then a Democratic gubernatorial candidate, win a crucial endorsement from the CSEA. As a result, Cuomo asked Featherstonhaugh – an influential Republican and, by then, a trusted advisor – to help coordinate his campaign.

Featherstonhaugh's early achievements speak to his penchant and talent for helping divergent parties relate. They also laid the foundation for a remarkably distinguished career. Once said to belong in the “800-pound gorilla category” of lobbyists, Featherstonhaugh – together with his renowned partners and associates – continues to be a formidable figure in government, legal and business circles.



From left to right:
Jim Featherstonhaugh,
Elizabeth Clyne and
Stephen J. Wiley

Featherstonhaugh, Wiley & Clyne, LLP At a Glance

Government relations powerhouse specializing in relocation, regulatory, lobbying and administrative issues

Senior Partner Jim Featherstonhaugh leverages nearly 40 years' experience; Managing Partner Elizabeth Clyne, more than 20 years

Represents fellow attorneys in legislative lobbying commission and ethics commission matters

Featherstonhaugh and Clyne co-authored chapter on New York state lobbying and election laws for 2007 edition of *Lobbying, PACs & Campaign Finance: 50 State Handbook* (Thomson West).

Business and commercial Partner Stephen J. Wiley brings business counseling acumen to the mix

Where There Is a Will...

“For people who want to do business in New York State, we can help maximize their relationship with state and local government in terms of incentives, responsiveness, regulatory issues and contract disputes. Whenever opportunities or conflicts arise, people tend to come to us.”

Jim Featherstonhaugh, Senior Partner
Featherstonhaugh, Wiley & Clyne, LLP

FEATHERSTONHAUGH, WILEY & CLYNE, LLP

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