



SMITH|HARTVIGSEN^{PLLC}

Attorneys at Law

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PROFESSIONAL BIOGRAPHY

Mr. Johnson has been bond counsel on hundreds of public projects for cities, counties, special and local districts, interlocal agencies, municipal building authorities, school districts, etc. Frequently, these financings help communities advance economic development and enhance fiscal stability. However, Mr. Johnson has also helped communities surmount distressing financial circumstances. His services require him to work closely with state and local officials at essentially all levels. Mr. Johnson has experience with basically all types of public financings, from the most sophisticated to the commonplace, including general obligation bonds, excise and sales tax bonds, water or sewer revenue bonds, mineral lease revenue bonds, industrial development revenue bonds, road bonds, lease revenue bonds, and more.

Mr. Johnson regularly helps create or modify special and local districts, including interlocal agencies. Often this helps communities obtain better financing on public projects, such as creating a special service district to acquire the assets of a non-profit water company because a governmental entity can usually obtain grants and low interest loans that are not available to a non-profit company. In addition, multiple communities can join forces in creating a special district for joint public projects, like recreation centers. Special districts also can help communities isolate liabilities associated with public projects.

Mr. Johnson also serves as general counsel to the City of Cedar Hills, Mapleton City, Town of Brian Head, and Town of Goshen. He has experience with basically all aspects of municipal and local government law. With this practice focus, other communities also invite Mr. Johnson to assist with annexations, disconnections, economic development, eminent domain, employee challenges, etc.

Mr. Johnson is a noted presenter at conferences and often educates government officials on municipal financings, joint public projects, the creation and operation of special and local districts, annexations, eminent domain, and other aspects of local government law.

Upon graduation from law school, Mr. Johnson clerked for Justice I. Daniel Stewart of the Utah Supreme Court 1994-1995.

PRACTICE AREAS

Municipal Bonds

Municipal and Local Government Law

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

1994 Utah State Bar and Federal Courts

National Association of Bond Lawyers (NABL)
Utah Municipal Attorneys Association

AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS

2008 *Utah Business Magazine*, Utah Legal Elite, Government Law
Chair, J. Reuben Clark Law Society, Salt Lake City Chapter
Editor, BYU Law Review

PUBLICATIONS

Religious Persecution as a Ground for Asylum, *BYU Law Review* 1995

EDUCATION

Juris Doctorate, magna cum laude, Order of the Coif, Brigham Young University, 1994
M.B.A. Western Washington University, 1990 (with honors)
B.S, Brigham Young University 1986

LANGUAGES

Spanish