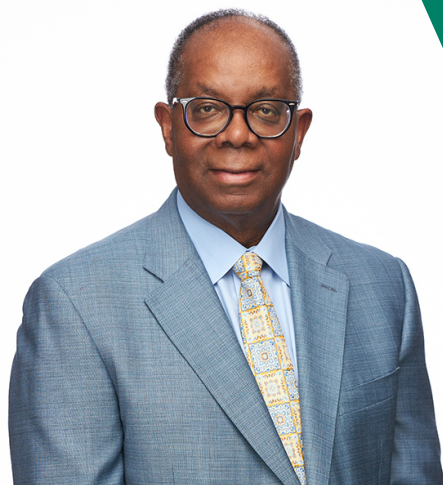


# Larry H. James

Columbus, OH

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## PARTNER

### Overview

Larry has been at the heart of the Columbus business, legal, civic, and political scene for the last four decades. He is a respected litigator, as well as an advisor to local and national leaders.

Larry's clients see him as a true advocate and business partner. He serves as general counsel for various entities, working with clients to navigate Ohio's administrative agencies and their complex rules and regulations. He understands his clients' culture and goals.

While Larry has gained a wealth of legal experience in his 46 years of practice, his main focus is on business and corporate law, as well as general liability defense and employment matters. He counsels clients on best practices, policies and contracts and when necessary, defends clients facing litigation.

Outside the office, Larry volunteers his time to several causes. As co-founder of the African American Leadership Academy, Larry is dedicated to increasing the number of African American leaders in central Ohio. Previously, Larry served as President of the Lincoln Theatre Association Board and President of the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Performing & Cultural Arts, as well as a Board Trustee for the Greater Columbus Arts Council, Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus Zoo and Aquarium, and Columbus Urban League. He also helped establish the Columbus Bar Association's minority clerkship program.

Larry's leadership in arts advocacy and civil rights has led him to be recognized with numerous awards over the years. In 2024 Larry James was honored as a recipient of the James Preston Poindexter Award during the Columbus City Council's annual Black History Month Celebration. The award recognizes those who have established a legacy in Columbus by improving the city and ultimately enhancing the lives of others. He was also honored with the Steve McClure Service Award in 2024 by the Franklin County Treasurer's Office and Franklin County Court of Common Pleas General Division in recognition of his many accomplishments in leadership and service. In 2022 Larry was honored with the

### SERVICES

Business Litigation  
Corporate & Securities  
Corporate Governance  
Outside General Counsel  
Professional Liability  
School & Higher Education

### EDUCATION

Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, J.D., 1977

Wittenberg University, B.A., 1974

### ADMISSIONS

Supreme Court of the United States

Ohio

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Columbus Bar Association's Professionalism Award in recognition of his long history of exemplifying the highest standards in the legal field. In addition, Larry and his wife, Donna James, were presented with the 2022 Harrison M. Sayre Award presented by the Columbus Foundation in recognition of their incredible generosity and philanthropic contribution to central Ohio. When Larry and Donna are not occupied with their philanthropic efforts, they enjoy collecting art. Larry has been known to bring some of this art to the office.

Larry is licensed to practice in front of the District Court for the Northern District of Ohio; District Court for the Southern District of Ohio; U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit; U.S. Supreme Court; U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit; U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit; U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit; District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan; and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

### Experience

Won Summary Judgment on Behalf of a State Department

Represented an Ohio Veterans Coalition in Statutory Interpretation Matter

Won Summary Judgment on Behalf of a Police Department Vice Unit in the Southern District of Ohio

Represented Multiple Applicants to Ohio's Medical Marijuana Control Program in Chapter 119

### Membership & Involvement

- Chair: Gateway Film Center
- Former Chair: United Way Tocqueville; Harlem Renaissance 100 Year Celebration for the City of Columbus; African American Leadership Academy (Founder); Greater Columbus Arts Council; Neighborhood School Development Partnership for the Columbus Public Schools (Co-Chair); Ohio Elections Commission
- Former Board Member: Franklin County Guardianship Services; Trustee of the Kenyon College Board; Cleveland Rock and Roll Hall of Fame; Columbus Museum of Art; Rickenbacker Port Authority; Greater Columbus Convention & Visitors Bureau; Columbus Zoo; Contemporary American Theater Company (CATCO); Columbus Urban League; Veteran's Memorial
- Former President: Lincoln Theatre Association Board; Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Performing & Cultural Arts
- Former Member: Ohio Supreme Court's Board of Bar Examiners

## Honors

- Columbus City Council Poindexter Award: 2024
- Franklin County Treasurer's Office and Franklin County Court of Common Pleas General Division, Steve McClure Service Award: 2024
- Selected to *Ohio Business Magazine's* Ohio 500: 2023
- Columbus Bar Association's Professionalism Award: 2022
- Selected to National Black Lawyers Top 100: 2021
- Selected to Columbus CEO Top Lawyers List: 2020
- Selected to Best Lawyers® in Administrative/Regulatory Law Lawyer of the Year" in Central Ohio: 2019
- Selected to *The Best Lawyers in America*® in Administrative/Regulatory Law and Business Organizations: 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022
- Selected to the Ohio Super Lawyers list: 2006, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024
- The Columbus Foundation's Harrison M. Sayre Award: 2022
- Honoree of the Columbus Association for the Performing Arts (CAPA) Gala Celebration: 2022
- Legacy Honoree of Sankofa: Celebration of Leadership: 2022
- National Fraternal Order of Police President's Award: 2019
- Selected to serve on Magistrate Judge Selection Committee by the U.S. District Court: 2017
- Cleveland-Marshall Law Hall of Fame Inductee: 2018
- Columbus Metropolitan Library Foundation Julian Sinclair Smith Celebration of Learning Award: 2018
- Ohio Civil Rights Commissioners' Community Spirit Award: 2018
- Columbus Museum of Art 2018 Art Celebration Award: 2018
- Greater Columbus Arts Council Partner Award: 2018
- Lincoln Theatre Association Walk of Fame Inductee: 2018
- *Ohio Lawyers Weekly* "Lawyers of the Year": 2000

## Firm News

Larry James Receives Steve McClure Service Award  
Firm News, February 28, 2024

Larry James Honored by Columbus City Council with 2024 Poindexter Award  
Firm News, *Columbus City Council*, February 16, 2024

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Amundsen Davis Attorneys Included in 2024 Ohio Super Lawyers and Rising Stars Lists!  
Firm News, January 1, 2024

### In the Media

*The Morning Journal* Interviews Larry James on Challenges on Road to Success

*Columbus CEO* Interviews Larry James on Amundsen Davis Merger

Larry James Interviewed By *The Columbus Dispatch* on Ohio Democrats Handing Power to Police Unions

### Speaking Engagements

Can an Employee Say That? Employees' Freedom of Speech on Social Media and the Consequences Thereof in the United States and Canada  
Speaking Engagement, National Academy of Arbitrators, Seminar; Boston, MA, May 8, 2024 - May 10, 2024

2024 Legal Counselors' Seminar  
Speaking Engagement, National Fraternal Order of Police, Seminar; Las Vega, NV, February 1, 2024

African American Leadership Academy Alumni Retreat 2024  
Speaking Engagement, AALA, Brothers of the Academy Roundtable Discussion; Newark, OH, January 5, 2024

Qualified Immunity: Myths vs Facts  
Speaking Engagement, Blue View Podcast, September 5, 2023

America Out Loud – College Athletes Can Now Monetize “Name, Image and Likeness”  
Speaking Engagement, October 17, 2022

Is Arizona's New Police Recording Law Constitutional  
Speaking Engagement, Webcast, August 30, 2022

Social Media: Navigating a Changing Legal World, Best Practices  
Speaking Engagement, Ohio Personnel Board of Review, Seminar, May 18, 2022

"Progressive" HR in 2021: The Solution or the Problem?  
Speaking Engagement, 2021 National Lawyers Convention, December 7, 2021

Testified before the Illinois Constitutional Rights and Remedies Task Force regarding qualified immunity.  
Speaking Engagement, Illinois Constitutional Rights and Remedies Task Force, October 2021

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Police, To Serve and Protect

Speaking Engagement, Columbus Metropolitan Club's Forum, Seminar;  
Columbus, OH, June 2, 2021

Ethical Considerations for Attorneys Representing Law Enforcement

Speaking Engagement, National Fraternal Order of Police 2021 Legal Counselor  
Seminar and Labor Summit; Seminar; Las Vegas, NV, March 2021

Pitfalls, Defenses, and Politics of Representing Law Enforcement Officers

Speaking Engagement, National Fraternal Order of Police 2022 Labor Summit,  
Seminar; Las Vegas, NV, February 2021

Virtual Plenary Session on Police Disciplinary Arbitrations: The Problem or the  
Solution?

Speaking Engagement, American Bar Association Labor and Employment Law  
Section 14th Annual Program, Seminar, November 13, 2020

Civil Rights: Modern Quandaries of Law Enforcement

Speaking Engagement, Federalist Society 2020 National Lawyers Convention,  
Seminar, November 11, 2020

Protecting Police: Is Qualified Immunity Unjust?

Speaking Engagement, Federalist Society Cornell Student Chapter, Seminar,  
November 1, 2020

Qualified Immunity Under the United States Constitution and Official Immunity  
Under New Hampshire Law

Speaking Engagement, The New Hampshire Supreme Court Society; Seminar,  
October 28, 2020

Policing in the Community, Does the Past Dictate the Future?

Speaking Engagement, Columbus Metropolitan Club, August 21, 2020

Racism – “Where Do We Go From Here? Policing In the Community: Does the Past  
Dictate the Future?

Speaking Engagement, Columbus Metropolitan Club's Forum, Seminar;  
Columbus, OH, August 19, 2020

Police Unions, Practically Speaking

Speaking Engagement, Federalist Society Labor and Employment Practice Group,  
Teleforum Presentation, July 21, 2020

Zoom Meeting with the Atlanta Community

Speaking Engagement, Zoom, June 2020

Buckeyes Make Voices Heard - June 2020

Speaking Engagement, June 2020

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Creating a List of Subject Matter Experts and Individual Strategies to Respond to Crisis Situations and Interact with the Press

Speaking Engagement, National Fraternal Order of Police 2020 Legal Counselor Seminar and Labor Summit, Seminar; Las Vegas, NV, March 2020

Navigating the Various Court, Administrative and Political Systems that Work to Entrap Young Adults

Speaking Engagement, The Ohio State University's Real Life Wednesday Program, Seminar; Columbus, OH, March 2019

### Published Works

*Twism Enterprises*: Ohio's Landmark Decision on Administrative Deference  
Publication, *Columbus Bar Lawyers Quarterly*, Spring 2024

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