

Benjamin J. Brooks

Partner | Atlanta

Benjamin J. Brooks is a Partner in the Corporate Practice of Smith, Gambrell & Russell, LLP.

Mr. Brooks has practiced in the areas of economic development law and public finance at Smith, Gambrell & Russell since 1998. Mr. Brooks has particular expertise in state and local incentives, municipal and public school finance, 501(c)(3) bonds and other private activity bonds.

Mr. Brooks represents companies that are relocating or expanding, with an emphasis on foreign direct investment. Mr. Brooks negotiates incentive packages with state and local governments and helps companies successfully implement promised incentives. He also structures "bond for title" transactions in Georgia to achieve property tax savings.

He regularly serves as bond counsel, underwriter's counsel and borrower's counsel in tax-exempt bond transactions. Mr. Brooks also represents corporate trustees in initial bond issuance as well as post-default matters.

Mr. Brooks is a member of the National Association of Bond Lawyers, the Georgia Economic Developers Association and the Local Government Section of the State Bar of Georgia. He is a graduate of the Regional Leadership Institute for the Metro Atlanta region.

Mr. Brooks received his B.A. degree from Brigham Young University in 1995 and his J.D. degree, with honors, from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1998. While attending law school, he served as an Articles Editor of the North Carolina Journal of International Law and Commercial Regulation.

Representative Experience:

 Served as bond counsel on six separate "bond for title" issues for Kia Motors and affiliated companies at Kia's West Point, Georgia plant, totaling more than \$2 billion.



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Areas of Practice

Bonds and Public Finance Banking/Financial Institutions Non-Profit Organizations and Trade Associations Governmental Affairs

Bar Admissions Georgia

Memberships

Boy Scouts of America National Association of Bond Lawyers

Languages Spanish

Continued



- Represented a foreign manufacturing company making a U.S. investment of \$600 million with a state and local incentive package worth over \$50 million.
- Served as bond counsel for the Banks County, Georgia School District for tax-exempt bond issues totaling more than \$20 million.