

# J.R. Davis

Partner

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J.R. Davis is a partner at Gilmore Strategy Group and the firm's Director of Communications and Media Relations. He has more than a decade of experience in state and national media and media relations, state and federal government communications, and Arkansas politics. Most recently, he served as Governor Hutchinson's Communications Director and Chief Spokesperson, a role he held from January 2015 until October 2019. He held the same position in the Governor's 2014 gubernatorial campaign.

During his time in Governor's office, J.R. was responsible for developing and implementing a number of successful strategic messaging campaigns for a variety of key issues, including but not limited to: the largest and second largest income tax cuts in Arkansas history; establishing Arkansas has the national leader in computer-science education; and the monumental transformation of state government—the largest reorganization effort in nearly 50 years.

As Governor Hutchinson's chief communicator, J.R. has also established himself as an expert in crisis communications. Whether it was disseminating critical information to state and national media during the state's 2017 executions, or directing all state communications during natural disasters, J.R. has the unique ability to assess a situation quickly; develop a clear a concise message; and direct that message to the appropriate audience.

Prior to his role in the Governor's office, J.R. was the Morning Anchor and Senior Political Reporter for the NBC affiliate in Northwest Arkansas. J.R. has also served as the Communications Director and Chief Spokesperson for Congressman Steve Womack in

Arkansas's Third Congressional District and as the Senior Political Reporter for the Fox affiliate in Fort Smith.

J.R. was named to the [2018](#) and [2019](#) “Arkansas 250” list, an Arkansas Business publication highlighting the most influential leaders in the state. He has been a contributor to Talk Business and Politics and Arkansas Money and Politics (AMP), and he is a weekly guest on The Dave Elswick Show on 101.1 FM in Little Rock.

He is a graduate of Arkansas Tech University in Russellville, and he lives in Little Rock with his wife, Donnally.

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