

An accomplished senior communications executive with over 20 years in the public and private sectors with unparalleled experience leading global initiatives at the highest levels of government, civil society and the for-profit sector. Energized by aligning diverse groups to bridge cultural divides and create opportunities that achieve policy and business objectives. Obama Administration Presidential Appointee.

Communications/Marketing: Demonstrated leadership ability in protecting organizational reputation while advancing a global strategic agenda across all sectors.

Stakeholder Engagement: Expertise in designing strategies that invoke participation from diverse stakeholders, including corporations, government entities and civil society.

High-Profile Event Production: Producer of numerous high-level events and summits in the United States and around the world that have advanced international initiatives.

Public Diplomacy/Global Affairs: Sought-after subject matter expert and senior advisor to U.S. Government officials and global leaders on diplomatic engagement and corporate etiquette.

CAREER SUMMARY

HIGHTOUCH Engagement, LLC (formerly Clay Doherty, LLC) (2016 - present)

Founding Principal

Launched private consultancy practice in August 2016. Serve as Global Strategic Advisor to organizations in both the public and private sectors focused on strategic communications, stakeholder engagement, marketing strategies, global affairs, public diplomacy/protocol and high-profile event production.

- Proposed and established partnership between the **National Museum of American Diplomacy, CBS Television Studios** and **Revelations Entertainment** resulting in the donation of the sets and props from the television show *Madam Secretary* to ultimately be featured exhibit in Diplomacy & Entertainment section.
- Served as Senior Advisor for Protocol & Special Events to the **World War One Centennial Commission** producing numerous events including *National Cathedral Centennial Service of Remembrance*; the *First Colors Ceremony* that officially opened the U.S. National WWI Memorial; kick-off fundraising event on USS Intrepid with Starbucks CEO Howard Schultz; the Secretary of the Navy's New York City Fleet Week VIP Welcome Reception.
- Senior Advisor for Communications, Marketing and Branding to **Roots of Peace**, the globally-recognized humanitarian organization dedicated to landmine removal and replanting war-torn regions. Led efforts to rebrand organizational initiatives and produce high-level stakeholder engagement events at the United Nations.
- Served on the transition team of Dr. Raj Shah following his appointment as President of the **Rockefeller Foundation**. Led first-year strategic communications initiatives that successfully achieved buy-in for Dr. Shah's new vision for the foundation with numerous stakeholders, partners and foundation's global staff.

United States Agency for International Development, USAID (2010-2016)

Presidential Appointee at the federal agency responsible for administering all non-military foreign aid.

Deputy Director/Acting Director, Office of Public Engagement (2010-2013)

Director of Protocol & Special Events (2013-2016)

Charged with strategic planning, organizational development and daily activities to shape and communicate the global mission of USAID to the American people and around the world. In 2013, was asked by USAID leadership to create senior advisory position to oversee diplomatic engagement, protocol, distinguished visits and events. Produced more than 200 annual VIP visits, events and formal ceremonies around the world. Managed staff of 15 and oversaw \$2.5M+ in government contracts. Security Clearance: SECRET.

- Served on team that modernized USAID brand narrative to more effectively communicate Congressionally-mandated brand guidelines in delivering humanitarian assistance "*From the American People*."
- Appointed U.S. Government Representative to the **Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)** Development Communicators Network.

United States Agency for International Development, USAID (2010-2016) *(continued)***Deputy Director/Acting Director, Office of Public Engagement (2010-2013)****Director of Protocol & Special Events (2013-2016)**

- Appointed Senior U.S. Government Representative and Special Advisor to Atifete Jahjaga, President of the Republic of Kosovo to lead largest summit ever held in country. Represented the United States in high-level meetings that approved the summit outcomes including creation of the *Kosovo Women's Chamber of Commerce*.
- Served as executive producer for three-day \$1.2M **USAID Frontiers in Development Forum** in 2012 and 2014. This invitation-only, Davos-style forum engaged 800+ government officials, civil society, academic and corporate leaders resulting in new strategic partnerships including the creation of the *U.S. Global Development Lab*.
- Served as Protocol Lead for the Governments of India, Ethiopia and the United States at the **2015 Call to Action Summit on Maternal and Child Health** in New Delhi, India. Efforts resulted in the adoption of the *Delhi Declaration*, the official Summit Communique by representatives of the 22 governments in attendance.
- Received numerous awards for producing major events for senior leadership of the U.S. Government including **White House Summit on Global Development** (*White House Communications Agency*); **White House Faith Leaders Luncheon** (*first official event of the 2015 visit of HH Pope Francis*); Off-Broadway events during UN General Assembly that launched major global initiatives with Secretary of State Hillary Clinton; Stakeholder events with Second Lady Dr. Jill Biden and Secretary of State John Kerry during the 2014 **African Leaders Summit**.

No Limits Foundation, Washington, DC (2009-2010)**Senior Advisor, Communications and Public Affairs**

Led communications, branding and public affairs initiatives for the foundation created by Hillary Clinton's 2008 presidential campaign leadership team, led by Ann Lewis. Collaborated to create on-line and in-person opportunities to inspire campaign activists to become policy advocates for pressing global challenges.

Hollenbeck Associates, San Francisco, CA (2005-2009)**Senior Vice President (2007-2009)****Vice President, Communications and Public Affairs (2005-2007)**

Recruited by PR agency president to establish public affairs practice for firm, resulting in new agency revenue stream and ability to create strategic public affairs initiatives for new and existing clients. Achievements resulted in promotion to Senior Vice President leading day-to-day agency operations. Developed and implemented client communications strategies while overseeing daily agency operations, client capture management, and supervising all mid- and junior-level staff. Cultivated and nurtured relationships with the firm's top accounts, creating unique strategic communications campaigns that achieved distinct strategic corporate objectives .

- Led public affairs initiatives for **Focus Features Film Studios** in support of world premiere of the movie *MILK*. Efforts increased participation by government officials including Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi.
- Secured agency's largest accounts including **Avery Dennison North America** and **Zales Jewelers**. Launched four new product lines including the first *Apple-compatible DesignPro* software program for Avery.com. Created "Z Trends" online blog for *Zales* featuring new styles and led to monthly feature in *In-Style Magazine*.
- Increased global brand awareness for **Trader Vic's Restaurant Group** via strategic media campaigns uniquely reflecting cultural sensitivities of regions they operate in, including Europe, Asia and Middle East.
- Organized executive-level meetings for clients with local, national and international government officials on policy initiatives and interests resulting in established, long-term relationships and partnership opportunities.
- Established philanthropic partnerships between agency clients and non-profit organizations resulting in over \$500,000 in direct support for local and national charities.

Wesley Clark for President (2003-2004)**LGBT Outreach Director (Arizona); Lead Staff Aide (Tennessee)**

Coordinated LGBT outreach for the Wesley Clark presidential campaign in Arizona during the U.S. presidential primary campaign. Successfully produced largest campaign rally in Arizona the weekend ahead of the election. Following Arizona primary, moved to Memphis, TN and served as staff aide to General and Mrs. Clark, including on election night when he decided to end his presidential campaign.

Democratic Party of Wisconsin, Coordinated Campaign (2002)**Finance Director**

Led fundraising for the Coordinated Campaign in Wisconsin during the 2002 political campaign cycle. Efforts successfully raised \$2.5M in six months helping to elect Democratic candidates including Governor Jim Doyle.

Democratic National Committee, DNC (2001-2002)**Executive Director, Gay and Lesbian Leadership Council (Since renamed the LGBT Leadership Council)**

Led external engagement and development initiatives within the LGBT constituency of the Democratic Party. Raised over \$5M and achieved all finance goals through a mixture of grassroots fundraising and high dollar fundraising through direct solicitations and major events, including two donor dinners with President Clinton.

Science Applications International Corporation, SAIC (1999-2001)**Arms Control Policy Analyst, Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD)**

Contracted in-house support to the **Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD)** supporting the implementation of conventional arms control treaties primarily in Eastern Europe. Team Lead on *Treaty on Open Skies*.

Security Clearances: TOP SECRET-SCI/NATO/ATOMAL/COSMIC/CNWDI

Defense Group Incorporated, DGI (1997-1999)**Defense Policy Analyst**

Served as policy analyst on several Department of Defense contracts at the newly established **Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA)**, including serving on the team responsible for writing the annual *Counterproliferation Program Review Committee (CPRC) Annual Report to Congress*. **Security Clearances: TOP SECRET/NATO.**

Parliament of Australia, Canberra, ACT Australia (1996)**Parliamentary Fellow**

Served with Joint Standing Committee responsible for overseeing Foreign Affairs, Defense, and Trade issues for the Parliament of Australia. Supported daily work of the committee, drafted official reports, organized VIP meetings and Joint Parliamentary trips related to committee oversight.

EDUCATION

Corporate International Master's (CIM) Program

Global partnership between three leading business schools. Each conferred a separate, unique graduate degree.

- **Georgetown University, McDonough School of Business** - Executive Masters, International Business
- **Ramon Llull University, ESADE Business School** - Corporate Master of Business Administration (MBA)
- **Brazilian School of Public/Business Administration (FGV/EBAPE)** - Executive Masters, Business Mgmt.

American University, School of Public Affairs - Masters of Arts, Political Science

Hampden-Sydney College - Bachelor of Arts, Political Science

United States Naval Academy - Coursework toward BSc, Political Science. Honorably Discharged.

EXECUTIVE EDUCATION

The Protocol School of Washington - Licensed Consultant, Corporate Etiquette & International Protocol

United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) - Certified Expert, United Nations Protocol

Federal Executive Institute, U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) - Emerging Leaders Program

Hampden-Sydney College - Professional Certificate, Public Service Leadership

PROFESSIONAL ROLES OF SERVICE IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST

Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library & Museum (2016-2019) - Member, Board of Trustees

Hillary Clinton for President, 2008 - Member, National and California LGBT Steering Committees

Democratic National Convention 2008, Denver - Hillary Clinton Pledged District Delegate (elected)

Democratic National Convention 2004, Boston - Director of Media Logistics

Democratic National Convention 2000, Los Angeles - Public Affairs Team Lead