

OCTOBER 19, 2026 | NEWS

Former Senior Legislative Liaison with Ohio Attorney General's Office Heather Plahuta Joins Shumaker Advisors

INDUSTRY SECTOR

Public Sector

SERVICE LINE

Government Law & Policy

RELATED PROFESSIONALS

Heather Plahuta

MEDIA CONTACT

Wendy M. Byrne

wbyrne@shumaker.com

COLUMBUS, OH — Heather Plahuta, former Senior Legislative Liaison with the Ohio Attorney General's Office, has joined Shumaker Advisors as Director of Government Affairs. Her addition further strengthens the firm's state government relations capabilities and expands the strategic support available to clients across Ohio.

A trusted advocate for organizations seeking to advance their priorities and make their voices heard in state government, Heather engages directly with the Ohio General Assembly, offices of statewide elected officials, and executive agencies on behalf of clients. She also helps clients stay informed about legislative, administrative, and executive actions that could affect their businesses and translates those developments into practical strategies for engagement.

"Heather's firsthand experience across multiple levels of Ohio government, combined with her strong relationships and practical understanding of the policymaking process, enhances our ability to anticipate change and advocate effectively for our clients," said Andy Herf, President of Shumaker Advisors. "Her addition reflects our continued commitment to providing informed, results-driven counsel in an increasingly complex government environment."

Heather brings experience from both the executive and legislative branches of state government. As Senior Legislative Liaison with the Ohio Attorney General's Office, her work included criminal justice, charitable gaming regulation, anti-human trafficking measures, operating budget and Controlling Board matters, and proposed policies related to artificial intelligence. In addition, Heather previously served as a Legislative Aide in the Ohio Senate. Together, these roles gave her valuable insight into how the legislative and executive branches work independently and collaboratively to address issues affecting Ohio residents and businesses.

“State government is constantly evolving, and meaningful progress is built on trusted relationships,” said Heather. “I am excited to use my experience and relationships to help clients understand what is happening, ensure their perspectives are heard, and pursue outcomes that make a tangible difference.”

In her new role, Heather will work alongside Shumaker Advisors’ government affairs professionals to develop and execute advocacy strategies, monitor policy developments, and help clients build productive relationships with key decision-makers throughout Ohio government.