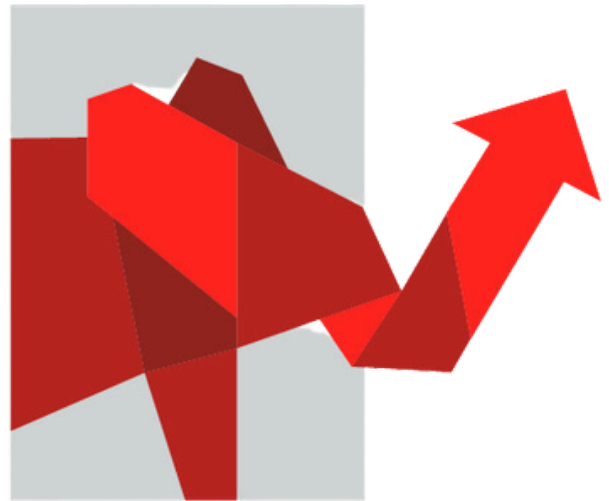




CYGNAL

**30**

**UNDER  
THIRTY**



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AMERICA'S RISING REPUBLICAN OPERATIVES

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2024

**HONOREE BOOKLET**

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“Congratulations to the winners of this year’s ARRO ‘30 Under Thirty’ Awards! Your dedication, hard work, and passion for conservative causes are truly inspiring. You represent the best of our rising generation, and your efforts in government, politics, and advocacy are making a significant impact. Keep pushing boundaries and championing the values we hold dear. Here’s to your continued success and the bright future you are shaping for our nation.”



Chris Lane, Pollster and Director of Client Strategy at Cygnal and Founder of ARRO



Brent Buchanan, President and Founder of Cygnal

“You earned this - a recognition that is not just a testament to your hard work and dedication but also an opportunity to advance your career. We designed this problem to unlock networking possibilities and connect you with influential leaders. Use this chance to learn, grow, and collaborate with your peers as you continue to make a significant impact in politics and policy. Congrats!”



**Addison Merryman**

**Director of Data & Outreach, JLK Political Strategies**

Specializing in data-driven analytics and campaign operations, Addison joined JLK in 2023 to help provide its clients and candidates with a strategic edge. Since 2019, he has worked on campaigns from school board to the U.S. Senate. First as a political director and then as a campaign manager, he led now-Delegate Wren Williams' campaign to victory in two successive, scorched-earth state primaries against sitting incumbents, winning by 26 and 34 points, respectively. He also served Williams as a legislative aide in the General Assembly during Williams' first term as an elected official. Addison graduated from Duke University in 2017 with a BA in history with distinction. Having lived on three continents, Addison and his wife, Erica, are now settled in Richmond across from Virginia's most captivating museums. In his spare time, Addison enjoys competing in online chess, playing guitar, and ministering with his local church.



**Adrianna Dobbs**

**Director of Client Accounts, Politico**

Adrianna is the Director of Client Accounts at Politico. She began her political career in college where she served as the College Republicans Statewide Vice President. During this time, she also worked for the Republican Party of New Mexico and Trump Victory as a Strategic Coordinator, where she opened three minority outreach offices across the state. After college, Adrianna collaborated with local non-profits and served as a campaign coordinator for a Lieutenant Governor campaign. Adrianna recently earned her MBA in Marketing from Louisiana State University. In her free time, Adrianna enjoys traveling, reading, and playing golf.



**Alec Faggion**

**Deputy State Director, Republican National Committee; Michigan Trump Team**

Alec Faggion is a political strategist hailing from Lansing, Michigan. Alec first started his career in the Michigan Legislature working for the Speaker of the House and doing state level campaigning. During the 2020 election cycle, he went to Washington, D.C. and did digital advocacy and fundraising for Republican candidates up and down the ballot. For the 2022 midterms, he went back to Michigan and managed Tom Barrett's race for Congress in Michigan's 7th District. Currently, Alec serves as the Deputy State Director for the Michigan Trump Team. Alec attended Michigan State University and studied political science.

### **South Florida Regional Manager, State CFO Jimmy Patronis**

Amanda Pinto is an accomplished professional with a robust background in external affairs, communications, and political campaigning. She currently serves as the South Florida Regional Manager for Florida State Chief Financial Officer and State Fire Marshal Jimmy Patronis, Amanda and has represented CFO Patronis across Miami Dade and Monroe County since 2019. Amanda is the agency's primary contact in the region for local elected officials. She is also a key figure in local disaster response initiatives for the Office of the Chief Financial Officer. In addition to her role with CFO Patronis, Amanda is the Communications Manager for the Ari Arteaga Foundation, a Miami based non-profit organization that provides need-based scholarships to high school students who want to attend higher performing local schools. She has been responsible for significant fundraising for the organization and large-scale event management. Previously, Amanda has held important positions including Deputy Director of Scheduling for Florida Governor Ron DeSantis, where she managed the Governor's calendar and coordinated logistics. Her experience also extends to grassroots political campaigns, event coordination for Inter Miami CF, and substantial volunteer management. Amanda holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science with a minor in Communications from Florida State University.



**Amanda Marie Pinto**

### **Senior Account Executive, Ascent Strategic**

Austin Buholtz graduated from the University of Florida, earning a degree in Political Science and certifications in Political Campaigning and International Relations. In 2020, he was a part of Florida Congresswoman Kat Cammack's 10-way Republican Primary and General Election victories. Since joining Ascent Strategic as Senior Account Executive, he has worked on various campaigns from Senate and Congressional to state and local races. Additionally, he currently serves as the president of the Central Florida Young Republicans as well as the political director of the statewide chapter, Florida Young Republicans.



**Austin Buholtz**

### **Communications Director, SR Communications**

An Alabama native, Cameron attended the University of Alabama, earning a Bachelor of Arts in History and Political Science. Cameron is the Communications Director for SR Communications, a Birmingham-based political affairs, public relations, and communications firm. Before joining SR Communications, Cameron worked as the Legislative Liaison and Deputy Communication Director at the Alabama Attorney General's office. Prior to his time with the AG, Cameron was the Director of External Affairs for the Alabama Secretary of State's Office, managing the agency's communications and government affairs efforts. Cameron has been an active member of the ALGOP for nearly a decade and has forged an extensive network in Alabama and nationally.



**Cameron Mixon**



**Casey Berger**

**Media Planner, Smart Media Group**

Casey Berger, originally from Hazleton, Pennsylvania, graduated from Penn State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science in 2021. Berger began his career in Pennsylvania politics as an intern for Lou Barletta for U.S. Senate in 2018. In 2020, he joined Jim Bognet's Congressional campaign in PA-8 as a Field Director, where he managed grassroots operations. Following the election, Berger led the campaign's transition into 2022 and served as the Deputy Campaign Manager in one of the nation's most closely watched and competitive House races. Subsequently, Berger joined Smart Media Group as a Political Data Analyst before advancing to the role of Media Planner, where he develops comprehensive media plans for clients in some of the most competitive races across the country.



**Charlie Kolean**

**President, Strategic Political Management**

Charlie Kolean is a political strategist based in Dallas, TX. Kolean has been involved in politics for over a decade as an activist, candidate, and party leader. In 2022, Kolean advised numerous campaigns and political organizations across the country. Kolean has been in party leadership on the State and National level, and he has acted as an advisor to numerous campaigns, PACs, and elected officials. Kolean is a regular political commentator on WBAP radio, BBC, One America News Network, and Newsmax.



**Clay Robinson**

**Associate, Winged Victory Agency**

Clay Robinson is an Associate at Winged Victory Agency, a political consulting firm based in Phoenix, Arizona. At Winged Victory, Clay specializes in messaging, campaigns, and strategic communications. His previous experience includes developing and executing messaging strategies for political candidates and non-profit clients at the Resolute Group and crafting design and branding strategies at Camelback Strategy Group. Additionally, he proudly serves in the Arizona Army National Guard. Clay holds three bachelor's degrees from Arizona State University in Civic and Economic Thought and Leadership, Political Science, and Innovation in Society. He is currently pursuing a master's degree in Global Management with a focus on Public Policy at the Thunderbird School of Global Management.

## **Vice President of Operations, Red Maverick Media**

Connor Smith joined Red Maverick Media in 2018, bringing extensive policy and political experience as well as legislative and executive experience in state government. He has worked on campaigns at every level in states across the nation including Virginia, Maine, Oregon, New Hampshire and Florida. Connor has run day-to-day operations in multiple campaigns including working with his general consultants to establish an operating budget, grassroots volunteer coordination effort and paid field programs. He also has experience managing the legislative office of Virginia Senate Republican Caucus Co-Chair and former Republican candidate for Attorney General Mark Obenshain. For a number of years, Connor ran point on liaising with lobbyists, trade associations, and interest groups to ensure effective passage of Obenshain's priorities. His background in policy and his strong work ethic are a valuable asset to the Red Maverick Media clientele. Graduating from the University of Virginia with a degree in Economics as well as Political Philosophy, Policy and Law, Connor lives in Richmond, Virginia with his wife Lauren and their son Caleb.



**Connor Smith**

## **Chief of Staff, Congressman Tom Kean, Jr.**

Dan Scharfenberger currently serves as the Chief of Staff for Congressman Tom Kean, Jr., overseeing all office operations, strategic planning, and legislative activities. New Jersey's 7th Congressional District spans parts of Union, Somerset, Morris, and Sussex Counties, and all of Hunterdon and Warren Counties. NJ-07 is one of the 18 congressional districts won by Joe Biden in 2020 and held by a Republican. In 2022, Dan managed Tom Kean, Jr.'s successful campaign to the defeat of two-term Democrat Congressman Tom Malinowski by 3.5%. He previously served as Executive Director of Senate Republican Majority PAC in New Jersey, where he played a pivotal role in flipping two New Jersey Senate seats from Democrat to Republican, including the seat of the sitting Democrat Senate President. Earlier in his career, Dan was the Political Director for Kean for Congress 2020, where he came within 1% of defeating the Democrat incumbent. He also served as Regional Political Director for Bob Hugin's US Senate campaign in 2018.



**Dan Scharfenberger**

## **Chief Executive Officer, Direct Persuasion**

Daria Grastara is currently the Chief Executive Officer at Direct Persuasion – a right-of-center digital agency based in Washington, DC. In this role, Daria and her team manage full-funnel marketing campaigns for candidates, political committees, super pacs, non-profits and charities, freedom-economy brands, and Fortune 500 companies. During the 2022 cycle, she served as Digital Director at the National Republican Senatorial Committee (NRSC) under Chairman Senator Rick Scott. Under Daria's leadership, the NRSC became the #1 GOP committee in total raised, total net raised, total number of donors, and total number of new donors for the first time ever. The Digital Operation raised \$100 million dollars from grassroots voters and invested a historic \$35 million in growing the donor database and technical infrastructure to benefit future cycles. Previously, she served as Digital Advertising Director for President Donald J. Trump's reelection campaign. Managing a team of 30 specialized ad buyers, Daria oversaw \$450 million in paid advertising – the highest any presidential candidate has spent on digital media on both sides of the aisle. She also helped raise \$1.3 billion for President Trump and the Republican National Committee – the highest any Republican group has raised from grassroots donations to this day. During the 2018 cycle, Daria was on the digital fundraising team at the National Republican Congressional Committee (NRCC) and later named Digital Director for the NRCC's Independent Expenditure Unit. Prior to that, Daria was on Jeb Bush's 2016 presidential campaign and is an alumna of FP1 Strategies and the House Republican Conference. She has won the American Association of Political Consultant (AAPC)'s "40 Under 40" award in 2021, as well as FamousDC's "Best of Digital" award in 2018. She serves on the Advisory Boards for two advertising technology companies as well as the College of William & Mary's Washington Center.



**Daria Grastara**



**Diego Rebollar**

### **Associate, PT Strategy**

Diego Rebollar is a seasoned operative with experience on the federal, state and local levels. Diego first got involved in politics in high school when he would rollerblade around his neighborhood and knock doors for his city councilman. After graduating from The George Washington University, Diego returned home to Michigan to work on John James' 2020 U.S. Senate campaign. Subsequently, Diego served as a Regional Political Director in the Hampton Roads Region on Glenn Youngkin's 2021 gubernatorial campaign. In 2022, Diego was the National Grassroots Outreach Director at the NRSC. In that role, he helped run Operation Vamos, the NRSC's historic national Hispanic field and comms program. Operation Vamos had field staff in 9 states and broke over 5 million voter contacts. This past year, Diego was the Northern Virginia Director for Secure Your Vote Virginia, Governor Youngkin's unprecedented coordinated effort encouraging Virginia Republicans to vote early in the 2023 legislative elections. Currently, Diego is an associate at PT Strategy, a political consulting firm that specializes in general consulting, direct mail, and digital. In his free time, you can find Diego golfing or rooting on his hometown Detroit Red Wings.



**Freddie Adkins**

### **Communication Director, Senate Majority Caucus (Missouri)**

Freddie Adkins grew up in the suburbs of Chicago, acquiring a Rahm Emanuel level of passion for politics, without the colorful language. He attended the University of Missouri in Columbia where he served as the Executive Director of the Mizzou College Republicans. In 2018, he went to work for the Missouri Republican Party leading the research efforts to help defeat Claire McCaskill. After working for the State Party, Freddie joined the House Republican Campaign Committee team, leading as the statewide field director the last two cycles, electing Republicans, and defeating Democrats. Most recently Freddie served as communication Director for Dean Plocher's secretary of state race as well as working on numerous campaign's digital team through the Palm Strategic Group. In addition to his campaign efforts, Freddie has worked for Former Senator Roy Blunt's office, and he currently serves as President Pro Tem Caleb Rowden's Communication Director. Most recently Freddie received the Missouri Times 30 under 30 award. Freddie often quotes the Dale Carnegie book, "How to Win Friends and Influence People," and if you ask most anyone who knows Freddie, you can tell he has taken the lessons to heart. In his time in Missouri politics, he has proven to be a key ingredient on any successful campaign or legislative effort."



**Hollace Wright**

### **Deputy Research Director & Cortex Project Manager, Fulcrum Intel**

Hollace Wright is a seasoned research analyst with a passion for policy, international relations, and politics. As Deputy Research Director and Cortex Project Manager at Fulcrum Intel, Hollace manages key research projects for both political and corporate clients while leading Cortex, Fulcrum's media surveillance and intelligence service, helping clients achieve their goals in any field. Previously, Hollace served in Tennessee Governor Bill Lee's reelection campaign before moving to his official communications office in 2022, where she developed a knowledge of how to leverage actionable intelligence into meaningful communications. Hollace graduated from East Tennessee State University (ETSU) in 2021 with a double major in French and International Relations and a minor in Economics. During her studies, she interned for the Turkish Heritage Foundation in Washington, DC, and also led ETSU's Model United Nations program.

### **Campaign Manager, JLK Political Strategies**

Ian Parish grew up in the Appalachian small town of Luray, VA, nestled in the heart of the Page Valley. A graduate of Liberty University, he earned notoriety for winning a D+21 seat in Virginia's House of Delegates, the first Republican win in almost a century. In 2023, he was the only manager to not only win the re-election campaign for a top-targeted Republican incumbent, but to navigate an intense recount process to secure victory by a margin of 53 votes. He has also managed two NRCC top-targeted House seats. His primary drive every day is one thing: winning. Ian lives in Richmond, Virginia – at least, when he's not visiting the Blue Ridge Mountains he loves so much.



**Ian Parish**

### **Triumph Campaigns**

Jake began his political journey during his time at South Dakota State University by putting together yard signs for then-Congresswoman Kristi Noem and Senator John Thune. After graduation, he joined Triumph Campaigns with Justin Brasell and traveled the country, working on multiple campaigns at varying levels. Most recently, Jake worked with U.S. Senators Cindy Hyde-Smith and Lisa Murkowski on their re-election campaigns. Jake currently lives in Jackson, MS and serves as the Campaign Manager for Senator Roger Wicker.



**Jake Monssen**

### **Associate/Political Strategist, Strategy Management LLC**

Jared's political journey began during his freshman year in college, volunteering for Governor Kay Ivey's 2018 campaign. By 2020, he had taken on the role of Field Director for the Mobile County Republican Party, followed by a similar position for Governor Ivey's reelection campaign in 2022. In the spring of 2022, Jared joined Strategy Management as an intern, where he honed his skills in copywriting and graphic design for various campaigns. His dedication and talent led to a permanent position at Strategy Management, where he now excels as an Associate and Political Strategist. Jared has successfully managed numerous campaigns, including several that unseated incumbents, and has played a crucial role in managing PACs and Super PACs both within Alabama and nationwide. A graduate of the University of South Alabama, Jared is actively involved with local Republican parties and the Alabama Republican Party. He also serves as the Senior Vice-Chairman of the Young Republican Federation of Alabama, demonstrating his commitment to fostering young leadership in the political arena.



**Jared Downing**



**JR Kennelly**

### **Director of Strategic Partnerships, Koch Industries' i360**

JR Kennelly is the Director of Strategic Partnerships for Koch Industries' i360 in Washington, D.C. In this role, he grows and manages relationships with key clients and stakeholders ranging from Fortune 500 companies to some of the nation's top targeted races. Previously named one of Florida Politics' 30 under 30 rising stars, Kennelly came to i360 with a long resume in Republican politics. He has served as a Regional Director for Governor DeSantis' campaign, an executive aide on the DeSantis Inaugural Committee, as the Director of Scheduling at the Executive Office of the Governor, and as a Regional Director for Trump Victory. Kennelly is a graduate of the University of Alabama, where he earned undergraduate degrees in economics and political science.



**Katelyn Seago**

### **Director of Board, Council, Roundtable, and Club at Republican Governors Association**

Katelyn "KK" Seago is the Director of Board, Council, Roundtable, and Club Memberships at the Republican Governors Association. In this role, she manages the Association's relationships with corporate donors, sourcing new potential partners and raising capital to support the Association's mission of electing Republican governors across the country. Prior to joining the RGA, KK worked at the Republican National Committee for more than three years in their Finance Department, first as the Deputy Director of the Committee's Chairman's Advisory Board and President's Club Committee that oversaw direct mail fundraising, and then as Deputy Finance Director for the Northeast region for the Committee's major donor fundraising operation. Before the RNC, KK was on Capitol Hill working in a number of different roles for Republican members of Congress in both the House and the Senate. She worked for her home-state senator, Sen. Thad Cochran (R-MS), as an intern during his chairmanship of the Senate Appropriations Committee, then served as a scheduler for House Republican Conference Chair Liz Cheney (R-WY), before working as a special assistant to Rep. Michael McCaul (R-TX), then the top Republican on the House Foreign Affairs Committee. KK is a native of Jackson, MS and graduated Mississippi State University with a degree in Psychology in 2018. At Mississippi State, she served as an Orientation Leader and was very active in the University's Bulldog Club, which engages fans, alumni, and loyal supporters of MSU to generate financial support that benefits the overall educational and athletic experience for the University's student-athletes, and she remains very engaged in alumni efforts with the University today. In addition to that, she works as Sales Associate part-time at Anthropologie's Georgetown location and is also an active participant at National Community Church in Washington, DC.



**Kevin Norton**

### **External Relations Coordinator, Delve Corporate Development Lead at Delve Deep Learning**

Kevin Norton manages external relations and strategic partnerships at Delve, a competitive intelligence and risk advisory firm, where he helps Fortune 500 companies, their associations, and campaigns and causes navigate complex political and reputational issues. He also is the Corporate Development lead at Delve Deep Learning, an AI-native startup. Kevin has been in DC for seven years and has committed to advocating for free enterprise and conservative causes. In addition to his current roles at Delve and Delve Deep Learning, Kevin is DC Chapter Co-Chair for Maverick PAC, a membership-based PAC committed to electing dynamic conservatives. Previously, Kevin worked on Ed Gillespie's 2017 gubernatorial campaign, interned in the House of Representatives and for a former Secretary of Defense, and managed fundraising operations for political campaigns and nonprofits.

### **Owner, KBG Data LLC**

Kylie Bongaardt is a Republican campaign strategist with a focus on the use of data and analytics to win campaigns across the country. Prior to starting KBG Data, Kylie was the Data Director for Tim Scott's Presidential SuperPAC, coordinating large voter contact programs across early primary states. Kylie previously served as the Political Director to the Pennsylvania House Republican Campaign Committee and successfully assisted the caucus in increasing its majority in the state house. During that time, Kylie overhauled the use of data at the Committee and created a central database for the caucus. Before her time in Harrisburg, Kylie worked at the National Republican Congressional Committee serving as the Database Administrator and Deputy Data Director where she maintained the committee's internal national voter file and met with over 160 campaigns to advise on their strategic decisions. Kylie is a graduate of Johns Hopkins University and lives in Baltimore, MD.



**Kylie Bongaardt**

### **Political Director, Jack Ciattarelli for Governor**

Luke Ferrante is the current Political Director for Jack Ciattarelli's 2025 Campaign for New Jersey Governor. Luke started his political career with the Ciattarelli team in 2017 and worked as a Field Director on Jack's historic 2021 Campaign which saw Republicans have the best election day in the state in decades. Since then he has continued to work on Political Campaigns in New Jersey managing Nick De Gregorio's Campaign for Congress (NJ-05) and then serving as Political Director for the New Jersey Republican State Committee before returning to the Ciattarelli team this April.



**Luke Ferrante**

### **Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of Congressman Lance Gooden (TX), Founder, The S.F.P. Group**

Micah Bock serves as Deputy Chief of Staff for Congressman Lance Gooden (TX). Micah is also the founder and president of S.F.P. Consulting, a national consulting firm specializing in building dedicated audiences for public figures, corporations, and nonprofits. The S.F.P. Group manages national profiles for a wide array of political figures, including former White House advisors, current Congressional representatives, multinational corporations, nationally recognized nonprofits, and multiple Congressional candidates. Prior to founding the S.F.P. Group, Micah served as the youngest Communications Director in the 117th Congress, handling communications portfolios for the youngest member of Congress, as well as, the only Ukrainian-born member of Congress. Micah manages an aggregated media audience of over 3 million people each day, with a total viewership range of 150-200 million unique views per month. Micah has successfully built grassroots campaigns that have reshaped the modern political landscape, while also spearheading legislative proposals that now form the backbone for key policy positions in Congress.



**Micah Bock**



**Nicole Fondots**

### **Vice President, Strategy & Accounts, Techne Media**

Nicole Fondots is a seasoned consultant with expertise rooted at the intersection of politics and digital media. In the political arena, she directly served on the 2020 presidential campaign team and has since contributed strategic recommendations for local, state, and national races as an agency partner, managing multimillion dollar campaigns for persuasion and direct response efforts. On the advocacy front, she has spearheaded strategic initiatives for highly regulated corporations as well as think tank partners. In her role as Vice President of Strategy & Accounts at Techne, she is an integral resource known for her strong relationship-building, strategic insights, and data-driven approach. Nicole's commitment to advancing right-of-center candidates and causes is reflected in her work and personal pursuits. In her free time, she serves as a director on the communications committee for the Young Republican National Federation and is actively involved with the DC GOP, most recently, representing the District as an alternate delegate for the 2024 convention.



**Sam Greener**

### **Deputy Director, RLCC**

A Virginia Native, Sam currently serves as the Deputy Director of the Republican Legislative Campaign Committee. Despite his youth, he is a grizzled political veteran having been on the front lines in some of the most competitive battlegrounds since the 2017 cycle. In his career, Sam has had the privilege of working on the ground for Ed Gillespie's highly competitive governor's campaign, serving as deputy campaign manager and finance director for one of the most competitive congressional races in the country in 2022, and playing a significant role in the strategy and fundraising in two different election years at the Republican State Leadership Committee (RSLC). His dedication and tireless work ethic have resulted in his candidate outperforming the top of the ticket by double-digits and a national campaign committee shattering fundraising records. In his spare time, Sam likes to golf, cook, and go over to his parents' house for Sunday dinner.



**Sam Markstein**

### **National Political Director, Communications Director, Republican Jewish Coalition (RJC)**

Sam Markstein is currently the National Political Director and Communications Director at the Republican Jewish Coalition (RJC). Founded in 1985, RJC serves as the unique bridge between the Jewish community and Republican decision-makers. RJC has a well-established reputation as the most influential Republican Jewish organization in the country, with over 100,000 members nationwide. In 2020 and 2022, Sam managed and executed unprecedented multi-million-dollar Jewish outreach campaigns in key battleground states in support of GOP candidates, resulting in Republicans receiving the highest percentage of the Jewish vote in over 40 years - including record-smashing levels of support in Florida and Georgia. In 2024, RJC fully expects to build on its historic success. Prior to joining RJC, Sam worked on the political campaigns of high-profile candidates at the state, federal, and national levels. Sam also actively represents RJC in the media as the organization's national spokesman, appearing in outlets including Fox News, NBC, CNN, Bloomberg, The New York Post, USA Today, Newsmax, The Jerusalem Post, The Times of Israel, and Israel Hayom. Sam graduated from Johns Hopkins University in 2015 majoring in International Studies with a double-minor in Entrepreneurship & Management, and Marketing & Communications. He received his JD from the Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, DC in 2023.

### **President, SmartPoint Data Strategies**

Sam Stern is the President of SmartPoint Data Strategies, a firm specializing in data management, data engineering, data hygiene, and data analysis. His career began with grassroots involvement in a local campaign in his home state of New York. He then served as a Data Engineer for a national consulting firm in Texas before moving to Iowa, where he worked his way up to Chief Information Officer at a major direct voter contact firm, managing a team that processed and reported on tens of millions of data points. In 2022, Sam founded SmartPoint Data Strategies to help conservative campaigns, consultants, and organizations optimize and build their data infrastructure, manage voter files and contact data, and conduct research, analysis, and micro-targeting to help Republicans win.



**Sam Stern**

### **Director of Strategic Engagement & Advocacy, Heritage Action for America**

Thad C. Brock is the director of strategic engagement and advocacy at Heritage Action for America. In his current role, he oversees Heritage Action's digital operations and cultivates strategic partnership opportunities with corporate businesses, staff on Capitol Hill, and grassroots organizations in the conservative movement. With extensive communications and marketing experience, he has redefined the playbook for successful issue advocacy campaigns at the state and national levels. Prior to his position at Heritage Action, he served in several agency roles under President Donald J. Trump's first administration. Thad is a native of Henrietta, Texas, and graduated from Texas Tech University with a degree in public relations.



**Thad Brock**

### **Chief of Staff, Maryland House Minority Leader Jason Buckel Deputy Political Director, Hogan for Maryland**

Tori is a seasoned political strategist with a rich background in campaign management and legislative affairs. Her career in politics began in 2012 as an intern for Paul Formica's campaign for U.S. Congress in Connecticut's Second Congressional District. There, she honed her skills in grassroots organizing through phone banking, door knocking, and supporting campaign events and fundraisers. Since then, she has worked in various roles on numerous campaigns at the local, state, and federal level in Connecticut and Maryland. Tori's career was further amplified in 2018 when she served as the Field Organizer for Governor Larry Hogan's re-election campaign. Since 2022, Tori has served as the Political Director for the Maryland House Caucus Campaign Committee. Since January 2023, Tori has served as Chief of Staff to Maryland House Minority Leader Jason Buckel. In June 2024, Tori joined former Governor Larry Hogan's Senatorial campaign as Deputy Political Director. With a career marked by dedication, loyalty, strategic insight, and a deep commitment to political excellence, Tori continues to play a vital role in shaping Maryland's political landscape. In her free time, you can find her cheering on the New York Yankees, New England Patriots, or traveling.



**Victoria Laird**