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Kountoupes Denham Carr & Reid adds Key Senate Democratic Leadership Aide

MJ Kenny, Deputy Floor Director to Democratic Whip, Senator Richard Durbin (D-IL)

WASHINGTON, April 30, 2018 – Kountoupes Denham Carr & Reid (KDCR Partners), one of Washington’s premier bipartisan government affairs firms, announced today that MJ Kenny will join the firm as a Principal. KDCR Partners’ diverse clientele includes Intel, Best Buy, Exelon, Airbnb, Volvo Cars, CVS Health, and Unum.

Kenny joins KDCR Partners with nearly a decade of service on Capitol Hill having developed a keen insight into Senate Floor procedure and a deep understanding of a broad set of policy issues. Most recently, he served as Deputy Floor Director to Democratic Whip, Senator Dick Durbin of Illinois, a senior member of the Senate Judiciary, Appropriations, Agriculture and Rules Committees.

“We are so excited to have MJ join the firm, as he has provided daily strategic advice to members of the Democratic caucus on all matters before the Senate and brings unmatched experience in the process, politics, and personalities of Congress.” said Lisa Kountoupes, Founder and President.

In this role, Kenny was involved with every major legislative initiative undertaken by Senator Durbin and the Senate Democratic Leadership team. He regularly worked with senators and senior staff to shepherd key priorities into law, including annual appropriations spending bills, criminal justice reform, and health care and tax legislation. Kenny worked on multiple Farm Bills and surface transportation reauthorizations, along with the often-lengthy budget caps and debt ceiling debates and the annual National Defense Authorization Act.

Kenny also managed Senator Durbin’s daily floor messaging, which led to the elevation of key priorities such as the DREAM Act and for-profit college reform, and he was responsible for helping generate the Senator’s amendment strategy for every piece of legislation that received floor consideration from the 112th to the 116th Congresses, on issues ranging from medical research funding to crop insurance. He provided counsel on the Senate’s complex rules, knowing how to use the procedures of the institution to achieve legislative and political success both in the Majority and Minority.

As a senior leadership aide, he participated in weekly planning meetings for Senate Democratic legislative directors and committee staff directors, and regularly briefed House Democratic legislative directors on all matters related to the Senate.

“MJ has worked with each Senate committee to help usher major legislative and executive items through the Senate. He has a distinguished reputation as a skilled political staffer. Having played a key role in determining weekly caucus floor strategy, lawmakers and staffers appreciate MJ’s keen insight into the appropriations and authorization processes,” said Partner, Lori Denham.

Kountoupes Denham Carr & Reid is a bipartisan, results-driven firm that offers clients invaluable assistance in navigating the legislative and political landscape in Washington, D.C.