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## Columbus Chamber lobbyist Tugend takes job at Kegler Brown

**Business First**

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The top lobbyist for the Columbus Chamber of Commerce has landed a post at one of the region's largest law firms.

Kegler Brown Hill & Ritter Co. LPA said it hired **Steve Tugend** to lead its [government and legislative affairs](#) practice area. He'll also serve as a member of Kegler Brown's administrative and gaming law teams.

Tugend spent the past six years as vice president of government relations for the Columbus Chamber, the [largest](#) business chamber in the region with 2,000 members. Kegler is one of the 10 largest firms in Central Ohio with 58 local lawyers, according to *Columbus Business First* research.

**Michael Zatezalo**, Kegler Brown's managing director, said in a release that Tugend has "cultivated a substantial network of public and private sector relationships that he brings with him as he joins the firm."

"Through his extensive work with economic development issues for the chamber, Steve brings a unique perspective that includes work with both business and government," Zatezalo said.

Tugend has a bachelor's degree in Russian Area Studies from **Wittenberg University** and a law degree from **Ohio State University**.