



Matt Brockelman

Matt Brockelman joined The Southern Group in 2014. Matt has helped secure millions of dollars in local and state funding for clients in the public and private sector, with expertise in numerous policy areas, including energy, environment, financial services, K-20 education, real estate development, technology, and transportation.

Matt began his career as a lobbyist for the University of North Florida (UNF) and a public affairs officer for the City of Jacksonville. At the state level, Matt has been involved with several high-profile education initiatives, including the Florida G.I. Bill, which provides tuition assistance to honorably discharged veterans of the U.S. Armed Services. Matt has also worked extensively on major legislative packages involving state water policy, as well as a range of issues affecting local government, home rule, and preemption.

In Northeast Florida, Matt consults with clients on real estate development projects, public-private partnerships around job creation, non-profit advocacy, and local government legislative initiatives, particularly on issues related to emerging and disruptive technologies.

In 2013, Matt became the youngest person to receive a fellowship to the Jacksonville Regional Chamber of Commerce's Political Leadership Institute. Matt was also a 2017 Jacksonville Business Journal 40-Under-40 honoree and Leadership Florida graduate. Matt is involved with several nonprofit boards, including Teach for America and Family Support Services of North Florida.

Matt holds BBAs in corporate finance and marketing from UNF, where he graduated in 2012 as the student body president. During his term as president, Matt spearheaded the formation of a partnership between UNF and the Jacksonville Jaguars that resulted in the first-ever dedicated student section at an NFL stadium. Matt was also president of UNF's Sigma Chi chapter and remains involved as a member of the fraternity's local alumni advisory board.

A Jacksonville native, Matt is currently a Jacksonville Waterways commissioner and resides in downtown Jacksonville.



-  Jacksonville, FL
-  brockelman@thesoutherngroup.com
-  904.425.8765
-  [Linkedin.com/mattbrockelman](https://www.linkedin.com/mattbrockelman)

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