

# J. GRAHAM CORRIHER

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## EDUCATION

### **University of North Carolina School of Law**, Chapel Hill, NC

J.D., with honors, May 2012

UNC Chancellors' Scholar (3-year full tuition merit scholarship, formerly the *Morehead Scholarship*),  
Scholars' Co-Chair (2011–12)

*Broun National Trial Team*, President (2011–12), Treasurer (2010–11)

*First Amendment Law Review*, Article & Notes Editor (2011–12), Published Staff Member (2010–11)

Dean's List all semesters

2010 Gressman-Pollitt Award for Oral Advocacy

### **North Carolina State University**, Raleigh, NC

B.A., *summa cum laude*, History, Secondary Education Teaching Certification, May 2007

## LEGAL EXPERIENCE

### **City of Salisbury, NC**

*City Attorney*, July 2018–Present

Served as in house attorney to city council, city manager, and city departments. First in-house counsel position since 1988. Practice areas included land use and planning, utilities law, constitutional law, economic development, public records, open meetings, employment law, contract review, and legal matters involving the police department. Attended all meetings of the city council, the city's planning board and board of adjustment, and the city's Historic Preservation Commission. Managed matters involving outside counsel. Assisted outside counsel in federal regulatory litigation. Drafted and revised city policies and ordinances. Negotiated agreement with private organization for the peaceful relocation of a Confederate monument. Advised city council, city manager, and city departments during COVID-19 pandemic. Admitted to practice in all state and federal courts in North Carolina and in the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit.

### **Woodson, Sayers, Lawther, Short, Parrott, Abramson & Corriher LLP**, Salisbury, NC

*Partner*, July 2015–June 2018

Represented individual and institutional clients in civil court in Rowan and surrounding counties. Represented municipal clients as general counsel and litigation counsel. Represented Rowan-Salisbury School System in bond forfeiture and real property matters. Practice areas include civil and criminal litigation, municipal law, education law, real property law, estate planning, employment law, and contracts.

### **Koontz, Smith & Corriher, Attorneys at Law**, Salisbury, NC

*Attorney*, June 2014–July 2015 (*Summer Associate*, Summer 2010)

Represented clients in civil and criminal court in Rowan County. Practice areas included criminal and civil litigation, estate planning, and employment law.

### **Tharrington Smith, LLP**, Raleigh, NC

*Associate Attorney*, August 2012–June 2014

(*Summer Associate*, Summer 2011, *Law Clerk*, August 2011–May 2012)

Represented public school boards across North Carolina. Practice areas included civil litigation, employment law, special education law, constitutional law, contracts, public records law, student discipline, antidiscrimination law, and bond forfeitures.

**Legal Internships**

*Wake County District Attorney's Office*, Raleigh, NC (Summer 2011)

*The Hon. Charles E. Brown, Chief District Court Judge*, Salisbury, NC (Summer 2010)

**OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE**

**North Rowan High School**, Spencer, NC

*Social Studies Teacher, Basketball Coach*, August 2007–June 2009

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

Farmers & Merchants Bank, *Board of Directors* (2022–present)

Rowan County United Way, *Board of Directors* (2014–2017, 2022–present), *Vice President* (2017)

Rowan Museum, *Board of Directors* (2015–present)

Rotary Club of Salisbury, *Board of Directors* (2017–2019)

Rowan County District Bar, *President* (2018)