

A native of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, **Jim Blackburn** graduated from Wake Forest University with a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Political Science and a Juris Doctor degree from the University of North Carolina Law School at Chapel Hill.

Jim became an Assistant Attorney General with the North Carolina Justice Department under Attorney General Robert Morgan, becoming an advisor to multiple state agencies and arguing criminal appeals for the State in both the Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court as well as arguing federal constitutional cases in various federal courts across North Carolina.

In 1974, Jim became the Director of the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division and a Special Deputy Attorney General until 1976 when he joined the office's Special Prosecution Division, handling criminal cases across North Carolina.

In the fall of 1977, Jim became the First Assistant United States Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina, which represents forty-four of North Carolina's counties from Raleigh to the coast. For four years he prosecuted federal criminal cases in Raleigh, Fayetteville, New Bern and Wilmington. In 1979, he was the lead prosecutor in the triple murder case of former Green Beret Dr. Jeffrey MacDonald. In the spring of 1980, Jim was appointed United States Attorney and remained in that position until late September, 1980, when he resigned to enter private law practice in Raleigh. Throughout the 1980's and through 1992, Jim was a prominent North Carolina attorney, handling both criminal and civil matters.

In 1993, Jim left the practice of law. Although appearing to be at the top of his profession based on all standard measures of success, inwardly, he suffered fro...

Testimonials

"I was fortunate to hear Jim Blackburn speak at a Bank Directors meeting and I knew right away Jim would relate to our people. Jim's story conveys that no matter how low your life circumstances get, you never, never give up. He reinforces that wherever you are in your walk of life; your mountaintop successes or your deep valley lows, your faith, family, friends and your relationships with people are the most important aspects of life. Boddie-Noell has a vision and values statement we strive to live by. At the heart of our vision and values is "Simply Doing What is Right". Jim did what was right in facing his problems and turning his life around. What a GREAT story of having it all, losing it and starting over."

- President, Restaurant Operations Boddie-Noell Enterprises, Inc..

Jim Blackburn

Speech Topics

Personal Growth Overcoming Adversity Motivation Health & Wellness Business Ethics

