



Joelle Phillips

President
AT&T Tennessee

Joelle Phillips has served as president of AT&T Tennessee since 2013. She brings over a decade of experience in the telecommunications industry and over two decades of experience in the legal profession to her current position.



As president of AT&T Tennessee, Phillips works closely with community and business leaders, elected officials and others at AT&T to continue to bring advanced communications technologies, including mobile 4G LTE and other broadband services, to consumers and businesses.

From 2011 – 2013, AT&T has invested nearly \$1.3 billion in its Tennessee wired and wireless networks.

She is also responsible for managing AT&T's extensive philanthropic and community engagement efforts in Tennessee including the AT&T Aspire program focused on high school success and work force readiness and the AT&T It Can Wait campaign to end texting while driving. Phillips serves as a board member for several community organizations, including the Boards of the United Way of Middle Tennessee, Leadership Nashville, and the Tennessee Business Roundtable. Phillips is also a member of the Steering Committee for Nashville's Agenda.

Phillips is a 12-year veteran of AT&T and its predecessor companies. Beginning her career in the

legal department, she moved through positions of increasing responsibility at the state and regional level- She was recognized by the Nashville Business Journal's peer-selected "Best of the Bar" awards as Corporate Counsel as well as a Telecommunications specialist. Prior to joining AT&T, Phillips practiced law with firms in Nashville and Atlanta and served as a judicial law clerk to United States Court of Appeals Judge Rhesa Hawkins Barksdale.

Phillips is a *summa cum laude* graduate of Washington and Lee University School of Law and holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Birmingham-Southern College in Theatre.

Phillips joined AT&T as a lawyer, but her interest in communications technology predates her work as a telecom lawyer. Phillips is a native of Auburn, Alabama, and her father, Dr. Sidney Neal James, taught electrical engineering at Auburn University for 35 years. In addition to his academic career, James worked with NASA and with South Central Bell on telemetry and other communications issues.

Joelle is married to fellow W&L Law alumni [Brant Phillips](#). Brant is a partner with Nashville-based Bass, Berry and Sims Law Firm, where he is a member of the firm's Executive Committee and co-chairs the firm's Securities and Shareholder Litigation Practice Group.