

Ernest J. Smith III
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Dedicated Jacksonville native with extensive experience in banking, real estate, and community leadership. Passionate about contributing to the revitalization and development of the Kings Road/Soutel community through strategic planning, local advocacy, and collaboration with diverse stakeholders.

Professional Experience

Vice President - Citi Bank

2010 – Present

- Lead strategic financial operations and client relationship management for a major banking institution.
- Oversee community outreach initiatives aimed at supporting local economic growth and development.
- Develop and implement policies that support equitable financial access and economic empowerment in urban communities.

Realtor - George Barnes Realty

2024 – Present

- Assist clients in buying and selling residential and commercial properties, focusing on Jacksonville's Northside neighborhoods.
- Advocate for sustainable urban development and affordable housing solutions.
- Utilize in-depth knowledge of the local market to support community revitalization efforts.

Community Involvement *(Currently ethics training certified with the City of Jacksonville)*

Urban Core C.P.A.C. (Community Planning Advisory Committee)

2022 – Present

Collaborate with city planners, residents, and stakeholders to advise on urban development and neighborhood improvements in Jacksonville's core areas.

NextUp Jax – Young Professionals, Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce

2022 – Present

Engage young professionals in leadership, networking, and community service to foster economic development in Jacksonville.

Elder - Woodlawn Presbyterian Church

2018 – Present

Provide leadership and guidance to church members, supporting community outreach and social programs.

Local Roots

Lifelong resident of Jacksonville, with deep personal and professional ties to the Northside community.

Committed to fostering inclusive growth and improving quality of life for residents in the Kings Road/Soutel area.

Skills

- Community development & engagement
- Financial planning & management
- Real estate market analysis
- Strategic leadership & board governance
- Public speaking & stakeholder communications