

**April Allen**  
**Director, Government Relations**  
**Continental**

Ms. Allen is the Director of Government Relations for Continental. She is responsible for representing the interest of Continental Tire, Continental Automotive and Continental's ContiTech division to state and local elected officials. Within the Government Affairs department she is responsible for developing a government relations strategy that includes the leadership from the various business units within each division and the plant locations that is designed to create a better understanding of the importance of government relations and the role and importance of ContiPAC. Ms. Allen closely monitors legislation that impacts autonomous and connected driving, environmental policy, workforce development and training, tax incentives and exemptions in all 50 states.

Over the past 20 years Ms. Allen has had unique experiences in the political and government relations arena as well as development, construction and permitting experience. This is in addition to her history in economic development provide the right foundation to represent a global leader in automotive manufacturing.

Prior to her work with Continental Ms. Allen served as the liaison for Continental Tire during the construction and start up of the Sumter Tire plant. She became an integral part of the start up team while reporting to the SC Secretary of Commerce and helping Continental to coordinate permitting, budgets, workforce development issues and the varying political agendas from the state, county, city elected leaders.

Her past work history includes service as the President of a large trade association for professional economic developers. During that time worked to create an economic development guide for candidates for Governor and worked as a team to update a state's incentive package to be more competitive. She also has experience with process engineering and construction firm, representing heavy manufacturing and the automotive and tire industries. Her work with an environmental firm provided the opportunity to site new industrial facilities in four states while coordinating incentives as well as permit needs. During this time she often served as the liaison between the regulatory agencies, the client and the state elected leadership.

Ms. Allen also has substantial experience with economic development incentives and grants, political and non-profit fundraising, event planning and execution and government relations. She has served on the staffs of two state governors and three Secretaries of Commerce. She has worked with both state and national political campaigns and political parties. This combined experience in the political, construction and environmental engineering arenas makes her a trusted advisor to elected officials of both parties and to regulatory staff. Most recently Ms. Allen was asked by the SC Speaker of the House to serve as his designee to represent the needs of manufacturing on the Education Oversight Committee and to serve as the Chair of the Workforce Development Task Force, in addition to serving on the Board of the Manufacturers Alliance.

She is a graduate of Columbia College. Ms Allen and her husband live in Columbia with their two sons.