
CHAMBERS USA 2025

The Leading Lawyers and Law Firms in the USA

Alabama





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Banking & Finance

Banking & Finance
Leading Firms
Band 1
Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Maynard Nexsen
Band 2
Balch & Bingham LLP
Burr & Forman LLP
Dentons Sirote
Band 3
Compton Jones Drescher
Jones Walker LLP
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Boles H Hampton <i>Boles Holmes White LLC (ORL)</i> ◇
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Lowry Kris <i>Maynard Nexsen</i>
Mills Gail L. <i>Burr & Forman LLP</i>
Mixson Dwight <i>Burr & Forman LLP</i>
Band 2
Compton Paul <i>Compton Jones Drescher</i>
Drescher J David <i>Compton Jones Drescher</i>
Kinman David R. <i>Maynard Nexsen</i>
Moore Charles <i>Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP</i>
Morrow Randall <i>Maynard Nexsen</i>
Pickering John <i>Balch & Bingham LLP</i>
Webb James <i>Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP</i>
Band 3
Bernstein Julia <i>Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP</i>
Brandt Michael <i>Wallace, Jordan, Ratliff & Brandt (ORL)</i> ◇
Denney Damon <i>Burr & Forman LLP</i>
Friedman Samuel <i>Dentons Sirote*</i>
Roberts, Jr. Atkins <i>Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP*</i>
Snider Ronald <i>Jones Walker LLP</i>
Up-and-coming individuals
Corbitt Tate J <i>Balch & Bingham LLP</i>
Associates to watch
Wallace Paul <i>Maynard Nexsen</i>
* Indicates individual with profile.
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Banking & Finance: Mainly Regulatory
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Boles H Hampton <i>Boles Holmes White LLC (ORL)</i> ◇
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Lewis Debra Taylor <i>Balch & Bingham LLP</i>
Waters Michael <i>Jones Walker LLP</i>
Band 2
Bushby Jason <i>Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP</i>
Carothers Robert <i>Jones Walker LLP*</i>
Compton Paul <i>Compton Jones Drescher</i>
Couch Christopher <i>Phelps Dunbar LLP (ORL)</i> ◇
Drescher J David <i>Compton Jones Drescher</i>
McCain Jenny <i>Maynard Nexsen</i>
Neighbors Brad <i>Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP*</i>
Shevin Maurice L. <i>Dentons Sirote*</i>

Band 1

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
What the team is known for
 Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP is a sophisticated law firm in Alabama known for its coverage of all aspects of commercial lending, public finance and regulatory matters. It offers guidance on regulatory compliance, transactions and corporate issues to public and private banking and financial services clients. Noted for its expertise in capital raises and tax credit work. The firm is adept at advising clients on cross-state financing work.

Strengths
 "Bradley is the best in the business – they know the law and the regulatory community on an individual level. Any time, day or night, it seems like I can get someone to help with whatever issue I have."
 "Bradley is well versed in a variety of legal concerns. Concerns are handled with urgency and attorneys explain complex legal matters."
 "The team at Bradley are experts in their respective fields and are always responsive."

Notable practitioners
Jason Bushby is well regarded for advising banks, mortgage servicers, trade associations and other financial services clients on their regulatory issues. **Strengths:** "Jason is fantastic on

mortgage regulatory requirements, risk analysis, and addressing and preventing issues." **Charles Moore** frequently advises borrowers in relation to financing and acquisitions. His experience also extends to matters involving mortgage warehouse credit facilities. **Strengths:** "Charles always provides timely counsel when needed, and his documents are well prepared." "Charles brings a mix of skills. He is very good at lending but also very skilled generally in bank representation, very thorough and diligent." **Brad Neighbors** represents banking and financial institution clients in regulatory and compliance issues, often advising on risk management. **Strengths:** "Brad receives the highest marks for responsiveness, quality of service and depth and breadth of knowledge and expertise, while maintaining a keen understanding of the bank's specific needs." **James Webb** is well regarded for his expertise in real estate transactions. He regularly acts for lenders and borrowers, including developers and corporates. **Strengths:** "James is a very good and very tactical, practical lawyer. He makes things easy to get done." **Julia Bernstein** is recognized for her expertise in both secured and unsecured transactions and complex commercial loans. She has experience acting for both lenders and borrowers. Atkins Roberts enjoys a strong reputation for his handling of complex real estate transactions, including those relating to affordable housing. He has experience acting for property developers. **Strengths:** "Atkins is very good; clients love working with him."

Maynard Nexsen
What the team is known for
 Maynard Nexsen is a law firm with well-developed commercial lending, public finance and regulatory expertise. Housing a sizable team of specialists who ably handle Alabama and cross-state transactions, the firm represents a number of major banking and financial services clients and has notable experience working for education boards, healthcare providers and municipalities on complex transactions. The firm also provides guidance on bond issuances, asset refinancing and construction project financing.
Strengths

"I have always felt it is the top firm in our region. It has long-tenured lawyers with nearly every specialty covered. They are always incredibly attentive." "They have a very strong team who know what is important to their clients, and they operate and execute at a very high level accordingly."

"Maynard Nexsen have the knowledge and ability to anticipate potential risks and avoid or mitigate them and are quick to answer questions, both during business hours and after hours."

Work highlights

Maynard Nexsen served as primary debt counsel to Milo's Tea Company and its affiliates in a \$275 million corporate credit facility.

Notable practitioners

Kris Lowry is a highly regarded lawyer in the banking and finance space, with expertise in acquisitions, financial structurings and syndicated loans. **Strengths:** *"Kris is one of the best lawyers I have ever worked with."* David Kinman regularly represents financial institutions and other commercial entities in complex transactions. He currently chairs the firm's commercial finance practice and is active in the real estate, healthcare and logistics sectors, among others. **Strengths:** *"David has deep experience and expertise in lending and a strong sense of what is reasonable in any given situation."* **Jenny McCain** has expertise in financial regulatory matters and predominantly focuses her practice on M&A involving financial institutions. **Strengths:** *"Jenny does a great job staying ahead of industry trends and serving her clients."* **Randall Morrow** has experience across numerous financing transactions, including syndicated and senior financings. He is adept in representation of both borrowers and lenders. **Strengths:** *"Randall is responsive and professional."* **Paul Wallace** assists lenders and borrowers in a variety of commercial transactions. **Strengths:** *"Paul does a tremendous job of executing in an efficient and effective manner and is extremely responsive."*

Band 2

Balch & Bingham LLP

What the team is known for

Balch & Bingham LLP is a well-respected law firm in the Alabama market with an established reputation in the public finance and banking regulatory fields. It maintains long-standing relationships with both state and federal regulators as well as independent banking institutions and frequently works on bonds that finance projects in the healthcare, energy, education and housing sectors. The firm has extensive experience handling bank-related M&A, asset-based and syndicated loans and high-value capital raises.

Strengths

"We are very pleased with their service and would suggest highly their services to anyone; any complex situation we have encountered has always been dealt with professionally and with expertise."

Work highlights

Balch & Bingham LLP served as project finance counsel for Holtec in connection with a \$1.5 billion Department of Energy loan guarantee, and project counsel for Holtec's restart of the shutdown

800MW Palisades nuclear plant.

Notable practitioners

Debra Taylor Lewis is regularly called on to assist financial institutions, real estate developers and owners with complex transactions and regulatory matters. She has impressive expertise acting for key banking authorities and associations. **Strengths:** *"Debra is a great communicator with outstanding expertise. She is also very thorough and timely."* **John Pickering** acts as bank counsel on a range of loans, with further experience in project financing. **Strengths:** *"I wish John could replicate himself. He has closed countless transactions for me and is absolutely phenomenal."* Corbitt Tate is highlighted for his expertise in drafting and negotiating commercial loan documents and loan restructurings in the real estate sector.

Burr & Forman LLP

What the team is known for

Burr & Forman LLP in Alabama has a strong reputation in the lending field. Known for its regional practice, representing commercial lenders and regularly advising on syndicated and real estate mortgage loans in various states. Also possesses sector-specific expertise in areas such as construction, retail and healthcare.

Strengths

"We have had a good experience with them. They are very responsive and have handled a whole variety of business matters."

Notable practitioners

Gail Mills is experienced at advising financial institutions in the sale of various real estate portfolios such as medical offices. **Strengths:** *"Gail is very sophisticated. She does complex and sophisticated work."* **Dwight Mixson** has a reputable practice acting on matters of construction financing for developments in the residential and healthcare sectors. He is particularly adept at handling financing matters concerning senior living facilities. **Strengths:** *"I've had especially good service from Dwight Mixson. He's very responsive and I've had a good experience with him. "Dwight is very thorough and does a good job. He tries to get deals done cooperatively."* **Damon Denney** counts several banks and commercial real estate owners among his enviable client list. He has experience acting for his clients in complex transactions and financings.

Dentons Sirote

What the team is known for

Dentons Sirote PC has a notable banking and finance team, with experience representing borrower and lender-side clients. It fields a significant practice in the negotiation and structuring of loans for financial institutions. The firm is adept at advising on the financing of construction projects from a range of sectors including residential.

Strengths

"The more complex and sophisticated the matter, the better we feel about having Dentons Sirote on our side! They understand how we work and how our industry works, and have real time awareness." *"We have yet to come across an issue Dentons wasn't able to guide us through. Dentons is always a phone call away."*

Work highlights

Dentons Sirote provides advice and counsel to Avadian Credit Union on contract drafting, regulatory compliance and business development.

Notable practitioners

Maurice Shevin comes recommended for his experience in consumer credit regulations. His enviable client list includes several businesses, financial institutions and trade associations. **Strengths:** *"Maurice is an outstanding lawyer."* **Samuel Friedman** handles the full spectrum of banking and finance work, advising both borrowers and lenders. He offers significant expertise in real estate finance. **Strengths:** *"We appreciate Sam's balance between risk and practical business needs. He is a strong client advocate."* *"We would highly recommend Sam. He has excellent knowledge and service."*

Band 3

Compton Jones Dresher

What the team is known for

Compton Jones Dresher is a Birmingham-based firm noted for its dual strengths in banking and finance, and real estate matters. The firm is regularly mandated on advising banks on commercial and real estate lending, as well as on banking regulatory issues.

Strengths

"They are highly knowledgeable experts in their field, very quick to conclude, very good at interpreting law into actionable business decisions."

Work highlights

Compton Jones Dresher LLP have assisted Graham Capital with their \$50 million formation and equity funding.

Notable practitioners

Paul Compton is a founding partner of the firm and is highly regarded for advising financial services clients on regulatory issues, as well as M&A matters. **Strengths:** *"Paul Compton is one of the best lawyers in terms of appreciating business goals and incorporating them into legal work, while being cost effective. David Dresher is well known for his work for lenders and banks on a range of compliance issues, including the development of contracts. He gains recognition for his expertise in mortgage banking matters. Strengths: "David is an extremely knowledgeable, effective advocate especially in complex collection matters."*

Jones Walker LLP

What the team is known for

Jones Walker LLP is an established law firm in Alabama's market, with expertise in both banking regulatory and public finance matters. Particularly noted for its ability to advise on M&A within the finance sector and also advises clients on regulatory compliance issues.

Strengths

"Great work in all transactions that involve this department; they always do excellent work."

"I have been particularly pleased with the breadth of their expertise. They have worked with us in several areas and regardless of the need, they have been able to produce expertise within the firm."

Work highlights

Jones Walker represented an organizing group in the \$30 million chartering of Nova Bank in Huntsville, Alabama.

Notable practitioners

Michael Waters has significant experience representing financial institutions on M&A, capital finance transactions and regulatory matters. His client base includes domestic banks and bank holding companies. **Strengths:** “Michael is very knowledgeable and detailed.” **Robert Carothers** routinely serves as counsel to a number of community banks in Alabama. His practice sees him predominantly advising on bank mergers and acquisitions. **Strengths:** “Robert is a wonderful talent and great resource.”

Other Ranked Lawyers

Hampton Boles of Boles Holmes White LLC routinely advises financial clients on a variety of corporate concerns. He draws particular acclaim from sources for his experience in regulatory matters.

Michael Brandt of Wallace, Jordan, Ratliff & Brandt, LLC provides guidance to financial institutions, including banks and bank holding companies, on a range of matters including acquisitions and reorganizations.

Christopher Couch of Phelps Dunbar LLP is adept at advising digital bank clients on regulatory issues, as well as advising traditional banks and

financial services clients on the launch of new products and transactional matters. **Strengths:** “Christopher is a very good lawyer with a very good reputation.”

Bankruptcy/Restructuring

Bankruptcy/Restructuring
Leading Firms
Band 1
Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Burr & Forman LLP
Maynard Nexsen
Band 2
Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz
Christian & Small LLP
Holland & Knight LLP
Band 3
Balch & Bingham LLP
Dentons Sirote
Jones Walker LLP
* Indicates individual with profile.
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP

What the team is known for

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings has a market-leading legal team in Alabama for bankruptcy work, assisting distressed businesses and municipalities on big-ticket Chapter 11 and Chapter 9 matters across the state. The firm is recognized for its regulatory compliance advice to banking clients and its stellar reputation in bankruptcy-related litigation. It has extensive experience handling cases in the mining, energy and healthcare sectors and is further noted for its work in loan restructuring and securities fraud.

Strengths

“The Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings team has talented members.”

“Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings are a very experienced firm.”

“Bradley provides a comprehensive range of knowledge and services and has a very deep bench.”

“Bradley has a high level of expertise. The team puts the clients first.”

Work highlights

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP represented Northpoint Commercial Finance in the Chapter 11

Bankruptcy/Restructuring
Senior Statespeople & Eminent Practitioners
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Carmody Richard P. Adams & Reese (ORL) ◇
Hall Michael L. Burr & Forman LLP
Eminent Practitioners
Lupinacci Timothy M. Baker, Donelson, Bearman *
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Bender Jay R. Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Hartley Jeffery J. Helmsing, Leach, Herlong (ORL) ◇
Lamar Jayna Partain Maynard Nexsen
Meek Derek Burr & Forman LLP
Sparks Daniel Christian & Small LLP
Band 2
Bensinger Bill Christian & Small LLP
Glennos Chris Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Murphree Leland Buchalter, A Professional (ORL) ◇ *
Retherford Jeremy Balch & Bingham LLP
Vogtle Jr. Jesse S. Holland & Knight LLP *
Band 3
Cahill Matthew M. Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell *
Griffin Jr. T. Parker Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Hightower Bradley Christian & Small LLP
Joseph Joe A. Burr & Forman LLP
Porterfield Stephen B. Dentons Sirote *
Pruitt Eric Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell *
Ray Eric Holland & Knight LLP
Solomon Marc P. Burr & Forman LLP
Walding Brian Walding LLC (ORL) ◇
Band 4
Brazeal, III C. Ellis Jones Walker LLP
Jamison Heather A. Burr & Forman LLP
Moore Cathleen C. Limbo (ORL) ◇
Shaw Michael Anthony Jones Walker LLP *
Thompson Ryan Maynard Nexsen
Up-and-coming individuals
Humphries Thomas B. Christian & Small LLP
Parrott Evan Maynard Nexsen
Associates to watch
Bulgarella Wesley Maynard Nexsen

case of Toppos.

Notable practitioners

Jay Bender is held in high esteem for his able

handling of restructuring matters and Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings for both creditors and debtors. His clients include companies in the energy, natural resources and construction sectors, as well as public bodies. **Strengths:** “Jay is extremely knowledgeable and helpful around bankruptcy law. He is a great adviser.” “Jay is very experienced and knowledgeable.” “Jay is a fantastic lawyer.” **Chris Glennos** is particularly skilled in handling bankruptcy matters, with recognized expertise in litigation. He acts for a range of clients across the healthcare, construction and finance sectors. **Strengths:** “Chris is an excellent lawyer.” “Chris is an exceptional attorney with requisite experience to handle large complex bankruptcy matters and litigation.” “Chris is top-notch.” Parker Griffin assists with workouts and loan restructurings, as well as consumer bankruptcy disputes on both the creditor and debtor sides. His clients include senior living companies and construction companies, in addition to a number of banks. **Strengths:** “Parker is one of our most trusted partners.”

Burr & Forman LLP

What the team is known for

Burr & Forman has an outstanding bankruptcy and creditors' rights law group in Alabama, with experience assisting distressed companies in the coal and mining, manufacturing, retail and automotive industries. The team represents a number of nationally significant financial institutions and investment funds in an array of contentious and noncontentious bankruptcy and restructuring matters as well as Chapter 11 claims. The firm has extensive strength in depth and a team of expert bankruptcy attorneys across Alabama and throughout the Southeast.

Strengths

“Burr & Forman is a very experienced firm.”

“Burr & Forman is excellent.”

Notable practitioners

Michael Hall is a leading figure in the market who is widely recognized for his work in commercial bankruptcy and litigation, which includes Chapter

7 and Chapter 11 proceedings. **Strengths:** “Michael is one of the best and smartest strategists.” **Derek Meek** frequently represents both debtors and creditors in bankruptcy matters. He has a strong track record of advising high-profile international corporates. **Strengths:** “Derek is a superstar.” “Derek is an excellent lawyer.” Joe Joseph is respected for his adroit representation of creditors in bankruptcy and restructuring matters. He also acts for equipment lessors on recovery actions. **Strengths:** “Clients love Joe as he’s very pragmatic and does exactly what needs to be done.” Marc Solomon represents a wide range of clients, including secured and unsecured creditors and debtors, in contentious restructuring matters and Chapter 11 filings. **Strengths:** “Marc is a first-rate lawyer.” Heather Jamison advises banks, landlords and businesses on matters relating to Chapter 11 bankruptcies and property-related mandates.

Maynard Nexsen

What the team is known for

Maynard Nexsen in Alabama continues to be known equally for its handling of complex insolvency law matters and financial transactions as well as more straightforward commercial loan defaults. A major part of the practice consists of secured creditor representations, as well as advising debtors and receivers. The team can offer a broad range of experience that includes matters in the healthcare, financial services, energy and education sectors. Its expertise includes bankruptcy dispute resolution as well as acquisitions of distressed assets across the country.

Strengths

“Maynard Nexsen has good lawyers who are highly responsive.”

“Maynard Nexsen has go-to lawyers.”

Work highlights

Maynard Nexsen represented Axos Clearing as a creditor in the involuntary bankruptcy of Jamie John Worden.

Notable practitioners

Jayna Partain Lamar offers a wealth of expertise across the full spectrum of issues in the bankruptcy space, including distressed asset acquisitions and Chapter 11 proceedings. She especially earns recognition for her experience acting for creditors. **Strengths:** “Jayna is excellent and a good advocate for her clients.” “Jayna is smart and technical.” **Ryan Thompson** is an emerging individual in the bankruptcy law space in Alabama. He is well versed in both creditor and debtor-side representation. **Strengths:** “Ryan is respected by local lawyers and judges.” **Evan Parrott** is establishing a growing practice in the Alabama bankruptcy market, representing both debtors and creditors. **Strengths:** “Evan is a really fine lawyer.” “Evan is fantastic.” **Wesley Bulgarella** has attracted plaudits for his work in complex Chapter 11 proceedings. **Strengths:** “Wesley is a great young lawyer.” “Wesley is collaborative and can resolve complicated problems.”

Band 2

Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC

What the team is known for

Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz is recognized for its specialist expertise in the restructuring of defaulted commercial loans, typically representing financial institutions. The team assists with financial services litigation, as well as asset restructuring and compliance issues, while also possessing deep knowledge of bankruptcy issues in the healthcare sector. The firm is also notable for its knowledge regarding loan acquisitions.

Notable practitioners

Timothy Lupinacci offers particular strength in loan recovery proceedings, notably on the lenders’ side. He is chair and CEO of Baker Donelson. **Strengths:** “Timothy is one of the best lawyers.” “Timothy has a very good skill set for bankruptcy.” Matthew Cahill is noted for handling a range of bankruptcy matters. He is particularly adept at advising on the workout of defaulted loans. **Strengths:** “Matthew is a good lawyer and knows the bankruptcy world well.” **Eric Pruitt** is adept at handling an array of matters in the bankruptcy and restructuring space, including workouts and loan restructurings. He is head of the firm’s corporate restructuring and bankruptcy team. **Strengths:** “Eric is a very skilled lawyer.” “Eric is a terrific lawyer.”

Christian & Small LLP

What the team is known for

Christian & Small is a law firm in Alabama with a recognized bankruptcy practice with numerous significant clients in the financial, healthcare and energy sectors. The team demonstrates an aptitude for handling high-value cases with an emphasis on Chapter 7 bankruptcy matters, preference adversary proceedings and fraudulent transfers. It offers notable representation of clients in Chapter 11 bankruptcy cases, as well as trustees, and is particularly recognized for nationally significant work within the coal mining industry.

Strengths

“Christian & Small has very knowledgeable attorneys.”

“Christian & Small has exceptional talent with experienced lawyers.”

“Christian & Small represents clients in an efficient and effective way.”

“Christian & Small has top-notch lawyers who do great work.”

Work highlights

Christian & Small LLP represented Mission Coal Company, LLC and ten affiliated companies as local counsel in their Chapter 11 cases.

Notable practitioners

Daniel Sparks offers a broad bankruptcy practice, often representing financial institutions and lenders on high-value bankruptcy disputes. His wide-ranging practice has lately encompassed acting for creditors, debtors and trustees across a range of Chapter 7 and 11 bankruptcy matters. **Strengths:** “Daniel is a good advocate for his clients and understands how to get things done.” “Daniel

comes up with interesting and novel concepts on how to approach problems.” “Daniel is very effective.” **Bill Bensinger** is noted for his experience in Chapter 7 and Chapter 11 litigation. His impressive track record includes representing clients before the Supreme Court. **Strengths:** “Bill has experience representing both creditors and debtors and does so with a lot of success.” “Bill is brilliant.” “Bill has good instincts.” “Bill is highly respected.” **Bradley Hightower** represents clients in commercial and bankruptcy litigation, with notable involvement in matters arising from Chapter 7 and Chapter 11 cases. **Strengths:** “Bradley is a great lawyer. He is super smart and judges really respect him.” Thomas Humphries is building a strong reputation for his work in the Alabama bankruptcy market. He is very active on Chapter 7 work in particular. **Strengths:** “Thomas always looks for ways to resolve matters.” “Thomas is a star on the rise.”

Holland & Knight LLP

What the team is known for

The team at Holland & Knight regularly acts as bankruptcy counsel to debtors and lenders in high-value Chapter 11 proceedings. The firm has further experience advising on fraud and fraudulent claims. Its clients span a range of sectors including utilities and manufacturing, and the firm is able to draw on a network of offices in different states.

Strengths

“Holland & Knight has tons of talent and expertise for anything thrown its way.”

“Holland & Knight anticipate issues, take initiative and are tuned in to the market.”

Work highlights

Holland & Knight represented Corporate Billing in the subchapter V bankruptcy case filed by King Wholesale Parts Marketing.

Notable practitioners

Jesse Vogtle has a practice that is primarily focused on bankruptcy matters. He acts for both creditors and debtors, as well as clients bidding on the assets of distressed companies. **Strengths:** “Jesse has outstanding command of the law. He is business-savvy and readily able to understand the commercial issues and provide legal options.” “Jesse Vogtle has an incredible ability to combine his legal knowledge and business savvy to expedite resolutions to complex situations.” “He is very good to have in your corner.” “Jesse is practical, results-oriented and understands the big picture.”

Eric Ray handles a diverse range of bankruptcy and restructuring matters. He has noted expertise acting for financial and fast food franchises. **Strengths:** “Eric is a smart lawyer.”

Band 3

Balch & Bingham LLP

What the team is known for

Balch & Bingham has a respected legal team in Alabama, particularly noted for its close relationship with utility providers. Its wide range of experience extends to the natural resources and real estate sectors. The group also advises banks, capital funds, private equity firms and financial institutions as creditors and secured lenders

on major bankruptcy and restructuring matters. Balch & Bingham maintains a strong market reputation for its work on Chapter 11 bankruptcies and in workout situations.

Strengths

“Balch & Bingham does a great job.”

Work highlights

Balch & Bingham LLP represented Regions Bank in the chapter 11 bankruptcy filing of Judson College.

Notable practitioners

Jeremy Retherford is highly regarded in the market for his experience handling bankruptcy matters, loan facilities and Chapter 11 claims. His diverse clientele includes banks, oil and gas, and utilities companies and commercial landlords.

Strengths: *“Jeremy is an excellent attorney on all fronts.” “Jeremy’s bankruptcy expertise brings a lot of value to the table.”*

Dentons Sirote

What the team is known for

Dentons has a growing practice in the bankruptcy space in Alabama. The firm is particularly noted for its representation of creditors and bankruptcy trustees, with notable expertise in Chapter 7 cases.

Strengths

“Dentons Sirote has extremely capable lawyers.”

“The Dentons Sirote team is extremely knowledgeable and efficient.”

Work highlights

Dentons Sirote represented Andre M. Toffel, as Chapter 7 trustee.

Stephen Porterfield possesses notable experience representing both trustees and creditors, particularly in Chapter 7 and Chapter 11 proceedings. His clients include those from the manufacturing and finance sectors. **Strengths:** *“Stephen is an excellent and fantastic lawyer.”*

Jones Walker LLP

What the team is known for

Jones Walker is a go-to for bankruptcy and restructuring matters in Alabama. The team routinely guides clients through Chapter 11 and other forms of bankruptcy. The group is active in the energy, financial services, maritime and aviation sectors.

Strengths

“Jones Walker is responsive and delivers on time.”

“Jones Walker is highly intelligent and innovative in its problem-solving.”

“Jones Walker remains abreast of existing and evolving case law.”

“Jones Walker has skilled lawyers.”

Work highlights

Jones Walker LLP represented First Southern Bank in Chapter 11.

Notable practitioners

Ellis Brazeal is best known for assisting creditors with recovery actions, handling matters across various different sectors. **Strengths:** *“Ellis is terrific and has an excellent bankruptcy practice.” “Ellis does a good job and is easy to work with.”*

Michael Anthony Shaw co-leads the CMBS and creditors’ rights team. He routinely represents banks and private lenders in complex bankruptcy

and restructuring matters. **Strengths:** *“Tony’s unique ability to distill complex concepts into straightforward language sets him apart.”*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Richard Carmody of Adams & Reese has longstanding experience acting on behalf of unsecured creditors in bankruptcy proceedings and advising on asset purchases and sales. **Strengths:** *“Richard commands a room like no other.”*

Jeffery Hartley of Helmsing, Leach, Herlong, Newman & Rouse is highly experienced in a wide array of bankruptcy matters, enjoying a prominent position at the forefront of the market. **Strengths:** *“Jeffrey is a preeminent practitioner.” “Jeffrey is a superstar.”*

Cathleen Moore is noted for advising on Chapter 11 bankruptcy disputes, in which she represents debtors, creditors and other parties. **Strengths:** *“Cathleen is an experienced and responsive attorney.”*

Leland Murphree of Buchalter, A Professional Corporation is primarily focused on handling restructurings and bankruptcy disputes.

Brian Walding of Walding LLC is respected in Alabama’s bankruptcy sphere. He gains market recognition for his abilities representing creditors in litigation mandates, and for acting as trustee. **Strengths:** *“Brian is a good practitioner who has developed a strong practice.” “Brian is very knowledgeable and responsive.” “Brian gives good practical advice on how to achieve objectives.”*

Construction

Construction	Construction	Band 1
Leading Firms	Leading Individuals	
Band 1	Band 1	Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP	Archibald Jim <i>Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP</i>	What the team is known for
Band 2	Rogers E Mabry <i>Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP</i>	Bradley Arant offers a strong bench of lawyers with noted capabilities in handling complex construction litigation, as well as drafting and negotiating construction contracts for high-value projects. The firm is experienced in representing a range of clients in the industry, including joint venture partners.
Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz	Band 2	Strengths
Balch & Bingham LLP	Burkhart Chuck <i>Balch & Bingham LLP</i>	<i>“Bradley’s lawyers have excellence in customer service and subject matter expertise. They are responsive and we feel as if we are an important client of theirs through every interaction.”</i>
Burr & Forman LLP	Garrison Kevin R <i>Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell *</i>	<i>“They have a wealth of knowledge and unlimited resources within the group; they have done a great job for us from all aspects. They are very responsive – nights and weekends included.”</i>
Band 3	Hubbard J. Lister <i>Capell & Howard</i>	<i>“They have extensive knowledge of the nuance that comes with the construction industry and a resume that helps us be successful based on things learned</i>
Adams & Reese	Lewis Arlan D. <i>Blueprint Construction Counsel, LLP</i>	
Blueprint Construction Counsel, LLP	Owen David W. <i>Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP</i>	
Capell & Howard	Pugh David <i>Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP</i>	
Christian & Small LLP	Band 3	
Maynard Nexsen	Davis Kathy <i>Carr Allison (ORL) ◇</i>	
Phelps Dunbar LLP	Nettles Donald <i>Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell *</i>	
* Indicates individual with profile.	Price Oscar <i>Wallace, Jordan, Rattiff & Brandt, LLC (ORL) ◇</i>	
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.	Ray Charles <i>Charles Ray, PC (ORL) ◇</i>	
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.	Rogers Jannea <i>Adams & Reese *</i>	
	Smyly R. Carlton <i>Phelps Dunbar LLP</i>	
	Waldrop, Jr. Glenn <i>Lightfoot, Franklin & White (ORL) ◇ *</i>	
	Wanhatalo David <i>Burr & Forman LLP</i>	
	Up-and-coming individuals	
	Anderson IV Conrad <i>Balch & Bingham LLP</i>	

in the past. We wouldn't use anyone else."

"Bradley's work product has been excellent. They have demonstrated a lot of expertise in this area, which can be specialized. They bring a lot of experience and are really good with responsiveness." "They are experts in their practice field and have a deep bench of resources."

Work highlights

Bradley represented W.G. Yates & Sons in a delay and defective work lawsuit seeking over \$34 million in damages.

Notable practitioners

Jim Archibald has over 25 years of experience in the construction field. He is sought after by contractors and construction companies for defense against construction defect, delay and project termination claims, among other matters. **Strengths:**

Jim Archibald does a lot of arbitration and he is really good. Mabry Rogers is well regarded for his experience in high-stakes dispute resolution, including contentious procurement matters and contract or negligence claims. David Owen chairs the construction practice at Bradley Arant and is highly sought after by contractors and subcontractors for his expertise in contentious matters. He has additional expertise in closing and drafting contracts for high-value construction projects. **Strengths:** "David is a seasoned construction lawyer that understands the business and the legal issues common to the industry. He helps formulate practical solutions, learns quickly, and is a strong advocate." **David Pugh** is a highly regarded lawyer in the construction sector, offering significant expertise in the drafting of contracts for various projects, as well as leading litigation matters arising from construction projects.

Band 2

Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC

What the team is known for

Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz is a highly regarded construction firm with a strong track record in dispute resolution. The firm is noted for its deft handling of a wide range of contentious construction mandates.

Strengths

"They have expertise and are responsive to client needs. They are more than capable of handling complex and sophisticated matters."

Notable practitioners

Kevin Garrison regularly represents owners, developers, contractors and suppliers in complex construction disputes. He also handles contract negotiation and projects advice. **Strengths:** "Kevin is excellent to work with. He is very knowledgeable, creative, and responsive to client needs."

Donald Nettles is recognized for his capable handling of complex contentious matters arising from construction projects and his work in negotiating contracts.

Balch & Bingham LLP

What the team is known for

The team at Balch & Bingham regularly deals with the full suite of contentious and noncontentious construction matters, from contracting arrange-

ments for new development projects to defect and breach of contract claims.

Strengths

"I'm confident when we run into a legal issue we cannot solve internally the firm will be able to handle it; the firm has skilled attorneys in many areas of law."

Notable practitioners

Chuck Burkhardt has a broad practice that encompasses the drafting and negotiation of all manner of contracts, as well as construction litigation and dispute resolution. **Strengths:** "Chuck is very knowledgeable in his field and has always provided sound legal advice." "Chuck has been invaluable in assisting in preparing contracts and subcontracts that mitigate significant risk for us, and has helped us work through some legal challenges with positive outcomes." Conrad Anderson has extensive experience advising clients on contentious construction matters. He is notable for his work in disputes arising from defects in construction projects. **Strengths:** "Conrad is a great attorney."

Burr & Forman LLP

What the team is known for

Burr & Forman assists clients with both contentious and noncontentious construction matters. Clients including construction companies, manufacturers and contractors.

Work highlights

Burr & Forman LLP represented McClain Contracting Co. under the Contracts Dispute Act following an abrupt termination, involving counterclaims.

Notable practitioners

David Wanhatalo is well versed in advising clients on both transactional and dispute matters. He regularly handles contract drafting and negotiation. **Strengths:** "David is an excellent lawyer with a good understanding of the construction industry and the aspects of contracts that are most likely to lead to issues later in the project."

Band 3

Adams & Reese

What the team is known for

Adams & Reese regularly deals with clients handling contentious matters that arise during construction projects. It offers expertise advising insurance companies, as well as construction companies.

Strengths

"We have brought some extremely complex cases to our attorney team at Adams & Reese and they have been able to handle everything we have thrown at them."

Work highlights

Adams & Reese LLP represented Steward Construction Co in a construction defect suit alleging breach of contract claims.

Notable practitioners

Jannea Rogers is particularly respected for her advice on contentious construction matters. She regularly advises clients who are active in the insurance sector. **Strengths:** **Jannea Rogers** is knowledgeable and objective.

Blueprint Construction Counsel, LLP

What the team is known for

Blueprint Construction Counsel is a construction boutique which offers wide-ranging services in development projects, commercial matters and disputes. The firm also advises clients as outside general counsel.

Arlan Lewis has an impressive construction practice that sees him represent clients such as developers and contractors. He often works on the negotiation and drafting of contracts and agreements, as well as contentious matters. **Strengths:** "Arlan is very thoughtful, very strategic, very even-keeled. He takes the time to dive into issues and has much experience and knowledge across the board."

Capell & Howard

What the team is known for

Capell & Howard is recognized for its attorneys' adept representation of clients in the construction space with regard to contentious and noncontentious matters.

Lister Hubbard is an experienced practitioner who handles a range of construction matters. His clients include government agencies and corporations.

Christian & Small LLP

What the team is known for

Christian & Small LLP enters the rankings following recognition for its capable contentious construction work.

Work highlights

Christian & Small LLP represented Stantec against the State of Alabama Department of Transportation and two other plaintiffs in a \$23 million defective bridge design build lawsuit.

Notable practitioners

Todd Weston is a key contact at the firm.

Maynard Nexsen

What the team is known for

Maynard Nexsen is recognized for its experience in contract negotiation and project work.

Strengths

"They have a strong understanding of construction contract law; a strong understanding of Alabama state statutes and laws and have demonstrated an ability to provide strong legal guidance."

Work highlights

Maynard Nexsen has represented the East Alabama Medical Center in its \$64.9 million construction of a behavioral health center and additional wing of the hospital.

Notable practitioners

Lee Sheppard is a key contact at the firm.

Phelps Dunbar LLP

What the team is known for

Phelps Dunbar LLP has experience in both contentious and noncontentious matters for a range of construction clients.

Strengths

"They have always proven highly knowledgeable about the subject matter of the engagement and they provide what is essentially real-time responsiveness."

"Phelps distinguished itself by its intimate knowledge of the construction industry and its applica-

tion of that knowledge.”

Work highlights

Phelps Dunbar LLP serves as primary outside general counsel for Doster for a range of matters, with representation including contract negotiations, dispute advice and representation in arbitration and litigation.

Carlton Smyly is recognized for his deep experience in construction arbitration and contract negotiations. **Strengths:** “Carl is very qualified and always does an excellent job.” “Carl demonstrates superior construction knowledge and is litigation-savvy.”

Other Ranked Lawyers

Kathy Davis of Carr Allison handles a considerable amount of construction-related litigation, as well as contracts and projects. She serves as chair of the firm’s construction law group.

Oscar Price of Wallace, Jordan, Ratliff & Brandt, LLC is a seasoned adviser to contractors with regard to contentious and noncontentious matters arising from construction projects.

Charles Ray is an experienced and highly respected sole practitioner who offers wide-ranging skills in transactional, commercial and regulatory construction matters.

Glenn Waldrop of Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC is highly respected for his expertise in the construction sector. He primarily assists clients with contentious matters, including by alternative dispute resolution.

Corporate/Commercial

Corporate/Commercial
Leading Firms
Band 1
Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Burr & Forman LLP
Maynard Nexsen
Band 2
Balch & Bingham LLP
Dentons Sirote
Jones Walker LLP
Band 3
Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz
Butler Snow LLP
Phelps Dunbar LLP
* Indicates individual with profile.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP

What the team is known for

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings is a top-tier law firm in Alabama with a deep bench of expertise to draw upon. It offers a full suite of services, assisting clients from initial startup, through capitalization to business maturity. The firm advises on transactions as well as supporting matters, including taxation issues. It possesses a deep understanding of M&A and securities matters and frequently acts for family-owned businesses, in addition to counting several public companies and financial institutions among its varied client list. The firm displays strength in assisting domestic clients with international operations and mandates.

Strengths

“They have the ability to advise on complex matters. The team is always responsive and willing to make themselves available.”

“The Bradley Arant team do top-notch work and are very personable and responsive. A great regional firm.”

“They provide high quality work, are very responsive and have an unparalleled knowledge of their client’s business.”

Corporate/Commercial
Senior Statespeople & Eminent Practitioners
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Thuston Lee Burr & Forman LLP
Eminent Practitioners
Christian Edward R Burr & Forman LLP
Curran Gregory S Maynard Nexsen
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Grenier Beau Jones Walker LLP
Kushner Harold Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Sklar Bradley J Dentons Sirote*
Tracy Timothy J Balch & Bingham LLP
Band 2
Carlisle Todd Dentons Sirote*
Childs Jr James W Maynard Nexsen
Dulin John Maynard Nexsen
Gregg Timothy W Maynard Nexsen
Mason April Burr & Forman LLP
Maxey Stuart Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Price Gene Burr & Forman LLP
Robison J. Andrew Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Band 3
Carothers Robert Jones Walker LLP*
Cooper John H Dentons Sirote*
Cornelius Maggie Johnson Maynard Nexsen*
Gant Jr John W Jones Walker LLP
Irby III Russell L Butler Snow LLP*
Marcoux Michel Maynard Nexsen
McClanahan Randall Butler Snow LLP*
Segers Timothy Balch & Bingham LLP
Smith Frederic Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP*
Still Chris Balch & Bingham LLP
Thomason Michael Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Thompson Tracy Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
West Hal Phelps Dunbar LLP
Whatley Callie Burr & Forman LLP
Wood Bradley Maynard Nexsen
Up-and-coming individuals
Feltham Daniel Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP*
Rhynne III Sims Burr & Forman LLP*
Sparks Butler Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP*

“It is helpful that they have SME clients in different markets and fields so our operating footprint and needs are covered.”

Work highlights

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP advised Vulcan Materials on the sale of its ready-mix assets in Texas to Smyrna Ready Mix.

Notable practitioners

Harold Kushner advises on a broad range of financial mandates, including acquisitions, financing and investment funds matters. He has key expertise advising clients on capital raising processes. **Strengths:** “Harold is very smart, efficient, organized and experienced. He’s one of the top attorneys in the city.” “Harold has been outstanding in whatever I have asked him to do.” “Harold is one of the best corporate lawyers in the country. He understands business and the law, and is a problem solver who deals with the issues.”

Stuart Maxey regularly acts for private equity firms and investment funds on acquisitions. **Strengths:** “Stuart brings a lot of wisdom to the table. He listens and collaborates with us to come up with solutions that are unique, well thought out and agreeable to all the parties involved.” “Stuart’s counsel is highly valued within our team and his work is exceptional. “ Andrew Robison handles high value and cross-border work, taking in M&A and financing matters. He often handles deals in the technology, real estate and insurance sectors.

Strengths: “He is easy to work with, highly ethical, extremely hard-working, and a joy to be around as a business partner and thought leader.” “Andrew has strong technical expertise and his common-sense approach is welcomed. He is efficient with his and clients’ time and delivers on commitments.” “We really like him, he’s seen a lot of deals and takes the time to understand how the deal is different and what the client is looking for. He gave us great counsel. “ **Frederic Smith** advises clients on corporate matters including mergers and acquisitions, financings and joint ventures. **Strengths:** “Frederic is very responsive, his communication style is easy and he is quick to get to the business terms. “ **Michael Thomason** counsels clients in

relation to various transactions and investment matters, including those concerning real estate investments, and joint ventures. His clientele spans a range of sectors, including healthcare and construction. **Strengths:** “Michael is a talented deals lawyer who knows our business and priorities. He gets deals done.” “From my 15 years of experience, he sits in his own league when it comes to intelligence, creativity, efficiency and responsiveness.” “Michael is a fantastic attorney.” **Tracy Thompson** is a respected individual in the Alabama market with notable expertise advising clients on domestic and international M&A mandates. She is also adept at capital raising processes and refinancing transactions. **Strengths:** “Tracy represents our company on mergers and acquisitions. She is a very skillful negotiator who has a wealth of knowledge and experience.” “Tracy is wonderful. She is extremely smart, very efficient and organized.” **Daniel Feltham** is recommended for buyer and seller-side M&A transactions across a range of industries, from healthcare to fast-moving consumer goods. **Strengths:** “Danny is a diligent worker and his attention to detail is second to none. He adds tremendous value across the board on all legal matters. We highly value the partnership.” **Butler Sparks** regularly assists with matters relating to high value acquisitions and corporate restructuring, as well as real estate transactions. **Strengths:** “Butler is great to work with, understands exactly what we can and can't live with, and gets to market outcomes quickly and cordially.”

Burr & Forman LLP

What the team is known for

Burr & Forman is a leading law firm in Alabama, which maintains a strong focus on regional economic development in the wider Southeast. The firm typically acts for public and private companies in the manufacturing, automotive, transportation, insurance, hospitality and financial services sectors. It represents clients in an array of matters, from company formation to strategic acquisitions and sales, as well as corporate structuring. Its clients also benefit from the team's experience acting on deals with significant cross-border elements.

Strengths

“They are a really good team who are highly supportive and adept at navigating international matters.”

“The Burr & Forman team is friendly. They have the depth and ability to draw in partners with many different specialties as the case requires.”

“Burr & Forman made the transaction work and everything was good to go for the business and in our best interests.”

“The team are able to get to the heart of complex matters while not overcomplicating issues with a ‘get it done’ approach. They consider the client's perspectives and satisfaction as paramount.”

Work highlights

Burr & Forman represented Ecotrak, a facilities management software provider, in the sale of the controlling interest to a private equity sponsor.

Notable practitioners

Lee Thuston is a senior consultant with notable expertise in the manufacturing and automo-

tive sectors and regularly assists clients with joint ventures and supply chain agreements. Edward Christian handles an impressive array of corporate and commercial matters, including acquisitions, financing and mandates involving economic incentives. **Strengths:** “I've always enjoyed working with Ed. He's a great lawyer and truly cares about clients' success while getting to the right legal answer.” **April Mason** is respected in the Alabama corporate market and is noted for her work in the manufacturing and healthcare sectors. She has additional expertise in franchise agreements. **Gene Price** advises on commercial matters, including acquisitions and private equity fund formation and investments. **Callie Whatley** has extensive experience of business formation, mergers and acquisitions and capitalization for early-stage and is well established in the manufacturing and renewable energy businesses, as well as for service industry clients such as restaurants and health clubs. **Strengths:** “Callie gives very measured advice and fully understands how you need to apply it.” Sims Rhyne handles all facets of corporate and M&A work, as well as restructuring and reorganizations. He acts for corporate and private equity clients. **Strengths:** “Sims is extremely responsive and will go the extra mile to make sure the situation gets resolved correctly. He's also great at keeping negotiations cordial while getting us what we need.” “Sims is very knowledgeable on private equity and the structuring of those transactions.” “Sims is an excellent M&A lawyer who works efficiently and with great attention to detail. He is able to build trust and work collaboratively with opposing counsel and get deals done.”

Maynard Nexsen

What the team is known for

Maynard Nexsen is a top law firm in Alabama with a well-developed reputation for private equity work, advising investment funds both in the state and across the country. It regularly acts for clients in the banking, insurance, healthcare and manufacturing sectors, advising on the full gamut of corporate governance and transactional issues. The firm is recognized for its strong track record in representing public and private companies, financial institutions and family businesses. It is particularly adept at handling complex acquisitions, sales and securities mandates.

Strengths

“The Maynard Nexsen team delivers tremendous value. They are responsive and get back to us in a timely manner while taking the time to understand our business and its needs.”

“The Maynard team continues to provide excellent service and I view them as a true partner in our business.”

“The team is responsive, able to think creatively on complex issues and provides easy access to senior partners.”

Work highlights

Maynard Nexsen represented Encompass Health Corporation in its successful exclusion of a shareholder proposal.

Notable practitioners

Gregory Curran is a highly regarded lawyer who regularly advises on the full range of corporate

transactions, including M&A and equity financing. **Strengths:** “Gregory is one of the standouts in the market.” James Childs regularly advises on a wide array of corporate mandates, including M&A, sales and fund formation. **Strengths:** “James is available, thorough, thoughtful and really understands the business visions on all transactions.”

John Dulin is widely noted for his experienced handling of M&A, capital raising and regulatory matters. Timothy Gregg is an experienced corporate practitioner handling M&A, private placements of notes, and securities mandates. He is also noted for his additional strength in regulatory matters. **Strengths:** “Tim is responsive and he is a stand-up individual. We enjoy working with him.”

“Tim is a go-to lawyer for our securities and governance matters.” **Maggie Johnson Cornelius** is recommended for securities transactions, as well as for the full scope of governance and reporting mandates. **Strengths:** “Maggie's strengths are attention to detail, responsiveness and reliability.”

“Michel Marcoux is a highly reputed lawyer in the corporate and commercial area. His experience includes handling private offerings, interest transfers and equity investments. **Strengths:** “Michel consistently provides commercial, actionable advice in a very responsive and timely manner.”

Bradley Wood is an esteemed corporate and commercial practitioner, who routinely offers counsel to clients on M&A, restructurings and real estate mandates. **Strengths:** “Bradley is very talented and responsive.”

Band 2

Balch & Bingham LLP

What the team is known for

Balch & Bingham has a notable legal practice in Alabama that shows a deep understanding of the energy sector, with a dedicated power production team specialized in advising on big-ticket acquisitions and sales in the power production market. It has noted expertise in heavily regulated industries and is familiar with the demands of various regulatory bodies. Further clientele stems from sectors such as food and beverages and construction. The firm offers comprehensive advice on joint ventures and private equity.

Strengths

“Balch & Bingham is a strong corporate group with great strategic vision. The Balch team has a deep bench of well-qualified team members.”

Work highlights

Balch & Bingham LLP advised Holtec International on its \$3 billion acquisition of decommissioned nuclear facilities.

Notable practitioners

Timothy Tracy is a preeminent lawyer with an impressive practice, advising on commercial matters related to the energy sector. He acts for clients on transactions involving joint ventures and M&A for both public and private sector companies. **Strengths:** “Timothy is a great tax attorney.”

“Timothy Segers holds a notable practice in the Alabama market, gaining recognition for his corporate law expertise. He is well placed to handle acquisitions, sales and restructurings. **Strengths:** “Tim is a trusted partner for our legal needs. His

strategic vision for transactions combined with his excellent tax knowledge makes him an invaluable part of our team." **Tim** is one of the most capable corporate and transactional lawyers I know." **Chris Still** assists utility and energy clients with the sale and acquisition of high-value assets including power plants and renewable energy projects.

Dentons Sirote

What the team is known for

Dentons Sirote in Alabama has a solid legal team that offers a full range of corporate legal services, with particular expertise in private equity, tax structuring and transactional real estate. It demonstrates further proficiency on corporate restructuring, securities and joint venture mandates. The firm undertakes matters in a range of industries, including healthcare and financial services.

Strengths

"The Dentons Sirote team is highly knowledgeable of the mergers and acquisitions industry and capable of handling sophisticated matters."

"The team are quick and responsive in a succinct and understandable manner. All legal support from Dentons has been with a customer-focused mindset that puts us and our needs first and foremost."

"Dentons Sirote is service-driven and provides timely, well thought-out advice."

Notable practitioners

Bradley Sklar is an outstanding lawyer with a broad practice that includes acting for clients on entity formation, debt restructuring, joint ventures, acquisitions and a wide array of transactional tax mandates. **Strengths:** "Bradley has a businessman's perspective and thus the ability to understand the business and its nuances." "Bradley offers great responsiveness and is a very talented lawyer. He is a well-rounded business adviser." "Brad consistently provides timely, high quality advice and guidance in an extremely fast-paced and challenging environment." **Todd Carlisle** advises clients on transactions and regulatory matters, as well as matters relating to securities and corporate due diligence. **Strengths:** "Todd has vast knowledge in many areas. I appreciate his insights on the topics at hand and business overall."

Todd Carlisle is incredibly diligent, courteous and practical. He understands where we're trying to get to and will work very hard to get us there, whatever the difficulties and regulatory hurdles. John Cooper advises on a range of transactions including sales and purchases of businesses. He offers particular expertise in fund formation matters. **Strengths:** "Customer service is always a priority for John and he always helps to provide valuable information in a format that allows us to make business decisions at speed."

Jones Walker LLP

What the team is known for

Jones Walker is a recognizable law firm in the Alabama market. It offers strength across M&A, capital markets and private equity matters, as well as financing transactions. The firm acts for clients across a wide range of sectors, including manufacturing, healthcare, construction and finance.

Strengths

"The team have a deep understanding of many complex legal and tax issues and have been instrumental in helping me navigate some very important business decisions."

"Jones Walker's level of dedicated service, consistent responsiveness and laser-focused attention to detail was extremely impressive."

Work highlights

Jones Walker LLP advised Stainless & Nickel Alloy Piping Products on the \$120 million sale of outstanding equity interest in the company.

Notable practitioners

Beau Grenier is an experienced attorney with expertise in corporate and securities projects. He boasts additional expertise on the sale of assets and equity interests. **Strengths:** "Beau is a terrific lawyer, he knows the law, can come up with solutions and he is good at negotiating." "Beau is extremely experienced, gifted and a great negotiator. He is always looking ahead." "Beau is as good a deals lawyer as anybody anywhere. In addition to his legal skills, Beau has superior management and business skills." **Robert Carothers** is noted for his expertise in acting on behalf of banks, advising on matters involving sales, stock offerings and acquisitions. John Gant has extensive experience across a range of deals, from M&A and real estate transactions to stock redemptions. **Strengths:** "John is an amazing attorney with a broad knowledge of every single issue that I have had. I am very impressed with everything he does." "John's business acumen is outstanding and he has a firm grip on the related tax matters."

Band 3

Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC

What the team is known for

Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz is especially noted for its activity in the financial services sector in Alabama. The firm represents businesses of all sizes, from startups to major corporations, in a variety of securities offerings, tax mandates and M&A. Its varied client list includes banks, healthcare providers and real estate investment trusts.

Notable practitioners

BG Minisman is a key contact.

Butler Snow LLP

What the team is known for

Butler Snow in Alabama has a strong legal practice focusing on M&A and asset purchases. The firm has ample experience covering both traditional M&A and private equity transactions. It offers significant expertise in complex matters covering various jurisdictions, and in numerous industries ranging from manufacturing to healthcare. The firm is adept at advising clientele on capital investment mandates.

Strengths

"The responsiveness and subject matter expertise of the team is highly valuable. They are able to draw on a deep bench of talented lawyers capable of handling a variety of complex corporate matters."

Work highlights

Butler Snow LLP advised Buckner Retirement Services on its acquisitions of the operations of the Stayton at Museum Way.

Notable practitioners

Russell Irby is a well-regarded corporate lawyer, who ably assists companies in a variety of industries with M&A and asset sales. **Randall McClanahan** has a strong practice in M&A transactional matters. He regularly advises clients on sales and acquisitions.

Phelps Dunbar LLP

What the team is known for

Phelps Dunbar LLP has an experienced team known for its work representing companies through transactional matters. The attorneys are able to support in negotiation and advise on local tax regulations, as well as other pieces of due diligence. They have particular expertise handling matters in the healthcare industry.

Strengths

"Working with the Phelps Dunbar team is an absolute pleasure. They are always available to discuss or work through an issue."

Work highlights

Phelps Dunbar LLP provided all local counsel to Orlando Health, Inc. on the acquisition of five hospital health systems from Tenet Health System.

Notable practitioners

Hal West of Phelps Dunbar LLP advises clients on an array of matters, such as asset purchases, loan borrowing and corporate restructuring. **Strengths:** "Hal is a smart, talented attorney who has a wonderful demeanor." "Hal is a practical and experienced borrower's counsel who advocates in an effective but efficient way for his clients."

Employee Benefits & Executive Compensation

Employee Benefits & Executive Compensation
Leading Firms
Band 1
Maynard Nexsen
Band 2
Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Dentons Sirote
Band 3
Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz
Burr & Forman LLP
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Beaube Beth Maynard Nexsen
Band 2
Levy Jack Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Schiele Robinson Laura Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings
Simonetti D J Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell *
Band 3
Hinkle Logan Burr & Forman LLP *
Maples Jay Dentons Sirote *
Powers Andrea Bailey Baker, Donelson, Bearman *
* Indicates individual with profile.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Maynard Nexsen

What the team is known for

Maynard Nexsen has a highly regarded team in the area of employee benefits and executive compensation. It acts on a broad spectrum of matters including retirement plans and employee stock purchase plans, as well as EBEC-related issues arising during transactions. The firm regularly advises clients from a wide range of sectors, including healthcare, insurance and technology.

Strengths

"The team has deep expertise in the area and their advice is sound and considered."

"The team at Maynard Nexsen are very responsive to issues presented to them and add value quickly as and when matters arise."

"The team is extremely knowledgeable, easy to work with and provide very detailed responses. I am very confident that those I work with are able to handle any situation I send their way."

"The team are extremely responsive, responding quickly to provide any needed information and advise and have a deep bench to asset when needed. You get boutique level service with big firm resources."

"Maynard Nexsen have excellent legal knowledge and attorneys who are focused on how to get things done. They can communicate complex subjects so that non-legal persons can understand."

Work highlights

Maynard Nexsen served as lead company counsel for Capstone On Campus Management on a leveraged employee stock ownership plan transaction.

Notable practitioners

Beth Beaube is a highly esteemed employee benefits and executive compensation attorney who is well known for her leading practice in Alabama.

She regularly advises clients on a wide range of matters, including retirement plans, employee stock purchase plans and incentive compensation plans. She additionally boasts expertise in handling executive compensation agreements.

Strengths: *"Beth is a valued member of the team and provides prompt and sound advice as needed. "Beth is extremely helpful and knowledgeable. She works very hard to provide thorough and well thought-out responses to situations we encounter and keep us in compliance as new regulations come out." "Beth has been instrumental in helping to work through a litany of projects." "Beth is the most impressive lawyer I have worked with. She has very in-depth knowledge."*

Band 2

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP

What the team is known for

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP offers a broad range of services, advising clients in creating and adapting benefit plans as well as ERISA regulatory compliance. It is also adept in handling issues that may arise in the context of mergers and acquisitions.

Notable practitioners

Jack Levy has a well-regarded executive compensation practice, often acting on behalf of healthcare clients. He also has experience handling broader employee compensation matters. **Strengths:** *"Jack is a great lawyer."* **Laura Schiele Robinson** is well reputed for her practice in employee benefits and executive compensation, advising on a range of matters. **Strengths:** *"Laura is a great lawyer and very highly regarded."*

Dentons Sirote

What the team is known for

Dentons regularly deals with a broad range of issues, such as 401(k) plans, cash balance defined pension plans and ESOP formation and maintenance. It particularly boasts expertise in defending large companies in ERISA statutory claims and tort claims. The team can also handle employee benefit and executive compensation matters that may arise from corporate transactions such as mergers and acquisitions.

Strengths

"The team offer unique legal theories and thorough analysis of options to minimize litigation risk."

"The team were well versed and knowledgeable in the subject we sought their assistance in."

"The team were always on top of our inquiries and extremely responsive."

"The team possess the ability to handle a broad spectrum of subjects and have always provided excellent advice."

Notable practitioners

Jay Maples has an established practice advising large corporations in drafting and maintaining ESOP plans, as well as 401(k) plans and transactional EBEC issues.

Band 3

Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC

What the team is known for

Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC holds a reputable practice in employee benefits and executive compensation. It often creates benefit plans for large corporates and offers advice in regulatory compliance for current existing benefit plans. It additionally offer services in contentious matters, such as ERISA claims, class actions and insurance claims.

Notable practitioners

D J Simonetti boasts a well-regarded practice for advising in employee benefits and executive compensation matters relating to high value corporate transactions. **Andrea Bailey Powers** regularly advises clients on the administration and creation of qualified retirement plans, health and welfare plans, and equity plans.

Burr & Forman LLP

What the team is known for

Burr & Forman LLP is active in advising corporations on various employee benefits and executive compensation mandates. It is adept in matters concerning pension plans, as well as health plans and incentive compensation plans. The firm additionally offers expertise dealing with clients in contentious matters, such as HIPAA breaches and regulatory issues relating to existing compensation plans.

Notable practitioners

Logan Hinkle is best known for his expertise in assisting his clients with the regulatory complexities relating to executive compensation and employee benefits. He has notable experience assisting with matters concerning health plans, qualified plans, deferred compensation and deduction limitation rules. **Strengths:** *"Logan is very experienced and knows exactly what he's doing. "Logan is a really smart attorney."*

Environment

Environment
Leading Firms
Band 1
Balch & Bingham LLP
Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Kazmarek Mowrey Cloud Laseter LLP
Band 2
Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC
Maynard Nexsen
Starnes Davis Florie LLP
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Cox III William S. <i>Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP</i>
Gidiere III P Stephen <i>Balch & Bingham LLP</i>
Moore III C Grady <i>Balch & Bingham LLP</i>
Truitt J. Alan <i>Kazmarek Mowrey Cloud Laseter LLP</i>
Turner D. Bart <i>Kazmarek Mowrey Cloud Laseter LLP</i>
Williams Chris <i>Kazmarek Mowrey Cloud Laseter LLP*</i>
Band 2
Burns Steven A. <i>Balch & Bingham LLP</i>
Kuehnert Joel <i>Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP</i>
Band 3
Barber Julia <i>Balch & Bingham LLP</i>
Davis Richard <i>Starnes Davis Florie LLP</i>
DeLawrence Thomas <i>Balch & Bingham LLP</i>
Espy Schuyler <i>Burr & Forman LLP (ORL) ◇</i>
Johnson John M. <i>Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC</i>
Jones Rhon E. <i>Beasley Allen Law Firm (ORL) ◇</i>
Larkin Radney IV W. <i>Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC*</i>
Pritchett Rebecca <i>Maynard Nexsen</i>
Up-and-coming individuals
Oliver Thomas <i>Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP*</i>
Associates to watch
Beier Delaney <i>Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP*</i>
* Indicates individual with profile.
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Balch & Bingham LLP

What the team is known for

Balch & Bingham has a top-class environmental law team in the Alabama market covering the full range of environmental and related natural resources concerns, including permitting, air and water quality and regulatory compliance issues. The firm offers transactional support and litigation prowess to a range of clients, and is particularly noted for its representation of large utilities, energy companies and power producers. It is able to draw on the support of a network of regional offices.

Strengths

"Each attorney is very specialized."

Notable practitioners

Stephen Gidiere regularly represents energy sector clients in a wide range of environmental matters and offers expertise in the CAA and CWA. He is also experienced in representing clients in contentious mandates. **Strengths:** "A very capable lawyer." Grady Moore is head of the firm's environmental department. He handles a variety of matters in the environmental sphere, such as regulatory advice in high-value transactional mat-

ters, as well as contentious matters relating to environmental agencies. **Strengths:** "Grady Moore is highly experienced." Steven Burns has substantial expertise in environmental regulatory, compliance and litigation. He has a special focus on the representation of power companies. **Julia Barber** has a well-respected environmental practice, with experience in compliance, regulatory and litigation within air and water law. **Thomas DeLawrence** has a solid environmental law practice with proficiency in the Clean Water Act, permitting and other regulatory work. He often advises on the environmental aspects of transactional mandates.

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP

What the team is known for

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings has a market-leading legal practice in Alabama that is active across the environmental regulatory compliance, transactional support and litigation spectrum on behalf of major players in the heavy industry and real estate sectors. The firm regularly represents chemical, energy and manufacturing companies. The team is particularly noted for focused expertise in the handling of environmental assessments and litigation in hazardous waste-related mandates.

Strengths

"The team is extremely proactive, creative and responsive."

"Bradley has outstanding attorneys. They are prompt in responding to questions and provide excellent legal advice."

"Bradley combines deep expertise in regulatory compliance, litigation and transactional matters to offer holistic solutions tailored to client needs."

Work highlights

Bradley continued to advise Solutia on remediation work in connection with the Anniston PCB Site, a Superfund Alternative Site.

Notable practitioners

William Cox is highly renowned for his experience in the environmental sector, which includes acting on air and water contamination, litigation and regulatory compliance matters. **Strengths:** "Mr. Cox is extremely knowledgeable as it relates to ADEM and its regulations. He is extremely helpful in providing and proofing material and handles difficult litigation very well." **Joel Kuehnert** provides high-end advice on mass torts involving environmental issues. His experience includes advising clients on voluntary cleanup programs and regulatory compliance. **Strengths:** "Working with Joel is an excellent experience. He has an intelligent way of digesting issues and providing feedback on the best course of action." **Thomas Oliver** is recognized for his broad environmental practice, which includes dispute resolution and regulatory advice. **Strengths:** "Trey is always available and very responsive to any legal questions." "Trey offers meticulous attention to detail and thorough preparation." **Delaney Beier** is noted for her broad expertise in environment law across all major sector statutes. Delaney supports clients on permitting and compliance through to enforcement proceedings and litigation. **Strengths:** "Delaney

has a strong knowledge of ADEM regulations and related litigation."

Kazmarek Mowrey Cloud Laseter LLP

What the team is known for

Kazmarek Mowrey Cloud Laseter is a respected legal environment boutique with a strong Alabama presence. The firm focuses principally on contentious issues and offers particular depth in the management of complex environmental and toxic tort litigation. It is also well versed in regulatory compliance and permitting issues, with niche expertise in OSHA-related environmental issues.

Strengths

"Not only is KMCL's team very strong, its partnerships with other highly qualified professionals has been very valuable."

Work highlights

Kazmarek Mowrey Cloud Laseter LLP represented the City of Phenix, Alabama in a lawsuit filed by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management following violations of its NPDES discharge permit.

Notable practitioners

Alan Truitt is renowned for his advice across the full spectrum of environmental matters, including regulatory compliance and dispute resolution.

Strengths: "Alan is an excellent technical lawyer, with good judgment of the regulations." Bart Turner commands respect in the market for his skilled work on toxic torts and environmental matters involving air and water pollution. **Strengths:** "Bart Turner is very responsive and comprehensive." **Chris Williams** counsels clients on complex environmental disputes and noncontentious mandates involving waste management, compliance and contamination issues. **Strengths:** "Chris is capable of handling all environmental matters with a calm demeanor and logical approach." "I have been impressed with Chris's professionalism, sophistication and awareness." "He always hits the mark on land remediation and water issues."

Band 2

Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC

What the team is known for

Lightfoot, Franklin & White is a litigation-focused legal practice active in Alabama, dealing with toxic tort defense mandates as well as environmental class actions and chemicals exposure. It regularly acts for chemical or heavy industry clients, notably including herbicide, pesticide, paper and textile manufacturers.

Strengths

"They have strong knowledge of the science and subject matter."

Work highlights

Lightfoot, Franklin & White LLP served as lead trial counsel for DuPont de Nemours in a series of cases alleging PFOA contamination.

John Johnson is an experienced litigator who wins praise for his representation of clients in an impressive array of environmental disputes. He handles personal injury cases and matters

relating to contamination claims, including class actions. Larkin Radney is well regarded for his environmental litigation practice. He has decades of experience representing clients in environmental mass tort, contamination and pollution cases. **Strengths:** "A really capable lawyer." "He is thorough, and he has lot of knowledge in the toxic tort world and in forever chemicals."

Maynard Nexsen

What the team is known for

Maynard Nexsen in Alabama has an established legal practice combining environmental litigation and regulatory compliance expertise. The firm offers environmental law support on large transactions and also fields lawyers with significant trial experience, including in complex mass and toxic torts.

Strengths

"I find the Maynard team to be outstanding in its preparation and knowledge."

Work highlights

Maynard Nexsen represented South Star Battery Metals Corporation in the environmental matters connected with its \$1 billion opening of a graphite mine in Alabama.

Rebecca Wright Pritchett is well regarded for her experienced handling of administrative environmental matters, including enforcement, permitting and cleanup mandates. She also represents clients in dispute resolution. **Strengths:** "Her professionalism and knowledge are extraordinary."

Starnes Davis Florie LLP

What the team is known for

Starnes Davis Florie is an experienced law firm in Alabama well regarded for its team of experts in the environmental space. It handles both regulatory matters and litigation as well as toxic tort.

Notable practitioners

Richard Davis is a skilled practitioner who attracts praise for his experienced counsel on a wide array

of environmental mandates. His broad practice includes advising clients on contentious matters, concerning hazardous waste, mining and the CWA, among other issues. **Strengths:** "Richard is a good litigator."

Other Ranked Lawyers

Schuyler Espy of Burr & Forman LLP draws on her experience in the Alabama Department of Environmental Management to support her environmental practice. She is adept at handling matters related to air and water contamination, as well as other regulatory compliance matters.

Rhon Jones of Beasley Allen Law Firm is often involved in high-stakes environmental litigation. He has particular expertise in matters involving water contamination. **Strengths:** "An excellent toxic tort litigator."

Healthcare

Healthcare
Leading Firms
Band 1
Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Burr & Forman LLP
Maynard Nexsen
Band 2
Holland & Knight LLP
Jones Walker LLP
Band 3
Phelps Dunbar LLP
* Indicates individual with profile.
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP

What the team is known for

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP has a market-leading legal practice in Alabama that is preeminent in the healthcare field. It is noted for its representation of a number of the state's largest hospital systems. The firm advises healthcare clients on the full spectrum of corporate services, including securities issuances, regulatory and contentious matters. It also assists a broad range of notable healthcare companies, including senior living facilities, physicians and hospices, among others. The team has key expertise in large-scale corporate work in this sector, including business spin-outs and joint ventures, as well as construction, financing, affiliation and operation-related matters.

Strengths

"Bradley has an outstanding group of lawyers."

Healthcare
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Doughton Susan Dominick Feld Hyde, P.C. (ORL) ◇
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Bogard Howard Burr & Forman LLP
Clark Jennifer Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Luke Colin H. Holland & Knight LLP
Murphy Dan Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Pool James Maynard Nexsen
Band 2
Brockman Richard J. Burr & Forman LLP
Harwood Judd Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Lanier John Maynard Nexsen
Band 3
Cameron Smith Angie Burr & Forman LLP
DeMoss Lauren Maynard Nexsen
Fleming Kelli Burr & Forman LLP
Hoover James Burr & Forman LLP
Larremore Kristen Holland & Knight LLP
Martin Daniel Balch & Bingham LLP (ORL) ◇ *
Porter Joel C. Maynard Nexsen
Band 4
Campbell Joe Baker, Donelson, Bearman (ORL) ◇ *
Henry James F. Phelps Dunbar LLP
Pitman Beth Holland & Knight LLP
Ritchey Joseph T. Dentons Sirote (ORL) ◇ *
Sullivan G. Thomas Phelps Dunbar LLP

"The team have the sophistication of a larger firm with more access. I have not found a transaction or matter too complex for them."

"Bradley Arant is our go-to counsel. The team never lose sight of what's important."

"The team provide well-reasoned, practical recom-

mendations with complex issues and are very efficient on time spent."

Work highlights

Bradley advised UAB Health System Authority on its \$450 million acquisition of St Vincent's Health System from Ascension Health.

Notable practitioners

Jennifer Clark wins accolades for her work on healthcare regulatory mandates, with notable expertise in administrative law. She is also adept at handling transactional and contentious work in the sector. **Strengths:** "Jennifer could not be better in her approach." **Dan Murphy** is a highly regarded lawyer who is recognized for his deep knowledge of regulatory and transactional mandates in the healthcare sector. **Strengths:** "Dan is responsive, practical and smart." "His advice was invaluable. He is very good at navigating different situations."

Judd Harwood is recognized for his healthcare work in Alabama. He is well reputed for assisting healthcare clients with complex transactional matters. He advises on healthcare joint ventures, hospital acquisitions, equity financings, affiliation agreements and the negotiation of various commercial agreements. **Strengths:** "Judd is the ideal outside counsel. He is knowledgeable, thoughtful and responsive." "Judd is smart, efficient and a good negotiator."

Burr & Forman LLP

What the team is known for

Burr & Forman LLP is a top-tier law firm in Alabama that represents a number of healthcare providers, including physician practices, insurers, pharmacies, and senior living and long-term care centers. It leverages its varied expertise to offer

a full range of corporate services to healthcare clients advising on regulatory compliance, acquisitions, sales, funding, overpayment recoupment and HIPAA issues. Its practice also possesses extensive knowledge of certificate of need applications. The firm is additionally able to handle qui tam litigation and medical malpractice suits.

Strengths

"Burr & Forman has been an exceptional service provider and counsel. Their knowledge is exceptional, timely and thorough."

"The team have a comprehensive, exhaustive approach to create solutions and remedies to difficult requests."

"Burr & Forman has superior legal expertise. The team has managed very complex issues and have a strong command of the legal framework of each scenario."

"The team's expertise and attention to detail is unmatched. They are the best in the business."

Work highlights

Burr & Forman assisted Bradford Health Service in the purchase of an alcohol and substance abuse facility in Texas.

Notable practitioners

Howard Bogard has a highly esteemed healthcare practice that spans the full range of complex regulatory and transactional mandates, with extensive expertise in acting for companies which are being acquired by private equity. **Strengths:** *"Howard is the best and has a great understanding of today's healthcare environment. "Mr. Bogard sets the standard for this type of legal practice with his encyclopedic knowledge and approachable demeanor. He is the best attorney I have ever known."* Richard Brockman is well known in the market for advising nursing homes and assisted living facilities on the full gamut of transactional and regulatory matters, including certificates of need. **Angie Cameron Smith** is recognized for her broad range of abilities within the healthcare sector, especially in the nursing home area. She regularly assists clients with regulatory and compliance guidance, as well as representation in contentious mandates. **Kelli Fleming** regularly provides counsel to healthcare clients on a wide array of transactional, regulatory and due diligence mandates, including HIPAA compliance, negotiating service agreements, obtaining certificates of need and more. **Strengths:** *"Kelli has exceptional knowledge and expertise." "Kelli is knowledgeable, responsive and reasonable."* **James Hoover** is noted for his deft handling of healthcare litigation, but also has experience in regulatory matters, such as obtaining certificates of need. He offers clients experience acting on False Claims Act, license revocations and complex qui tam disputes. **Strengths:** *"James is an excellent attorney and has been the cornerstone of my legal experience."*

Maynard Nexsen
What the team is known for
 Maynard Nexsen has a highly regarded legal team known for representing major healthcare systems in Alabama and across the nation. The firm advises on the full spectrum of matters, including regulatory compliance, transactions and the integration of healthcare systems and hospitals. It is

equally knowledgeable about supporting issues affecting this sector, including IT, real estate and employment. It possesses additional experience advising on internal investigations and representing healthcare clients in disputes.

Strengths

"The team have excellent knowledge and responsiveness."

Work highlights

Maynard Nexsen served as outside regulatory counsel to Chattanooga Orthopedic Group.

Notable practitioners

James Pool is a trusted practitioner held in high regard for his wide-ranging expertise in complex healthcare transactions and regulatory compliance mandates. **Strengths:** **James Pool** is the absolute best. **John Lanier** regularly represents healthcare providers in regulatory compliance mandates. He advises both public and private clients on regulatory issues and disputes, as well as assisting on transactional mandates. **Lauren DeMoss** provides guidance on regulatory compliance, transactions, litigation and contract negotiation to clients in the healthcare space. Her clients include public health authorities and private clinics. Joel Porter is well noted for his work on regulatory matters in the healthcare sector. His practice also includes supporting hospitals and healthcare providers on transactional and tax mandates, with a particular strength advising cardiology and gastroenterology practices.

Band 2

Holland & Knight LLP

What the team is known for

Holland & Knight LLP's Alabama practice offers a comprehensive body of expertise in healthcare law. Areas of strength include False Claims Act actions, obtaining and opposing certificates of need, and a variety of other regulatory matters. The firm is also well versed in healthcare related transactional matters, such as acquisitions and disposals. It is well placed to advise both providers and public authorities.

Strengths

"Holland & Knight has vast knowledge of all aspects of the healthcare industry. The team has subject matter experts in all areas of healthcare."

"Holland & Knight stands out due to its deep industry knowledge and proactive approach. They are highly respected, exceptionally intelligent and consistently creative in their strategies."

"The team have repeatedly demonstrated their capability when handling complex and sophisticated matters for us."

"Our organization hasn't had an encounter that Holland & Knight wasn't able to handle smoothly. They are experts in the healthcare field."

Work highlights

Holland & Knight LLP represented the Hoover Health Care Authority in its Certificate of Need filing and resulting contested case.

Notable practitioners

Colin Luke is a highly regarded attorney in the market for advising on state and federal regulatory compliance mandates, including certificate of need applications. He also handles transac-

tional work, including affiliation transactions, as well as acquisitions in the healthcare industry.

Strengths: *"His level of knowledge of the healthcare industry is unmatched." "Colin is incredibly intelligent and highly knowledgeable about the healthcare landscape in Alabama. He consistently provides excellent client service and his insights are invaluable." "Colin is a seasoned attorney and a wealth of knowledge. He has our full confidence when supporting our endeavors." "Colin is first class to all he knows and serves. " **Kristen Larremore** is a healthcare practitioner who acts for clients on a wide range of regulatory and transactional mandates. Her clients include national health systems and provider networks. **Strengths:** *"Kristen is highly skilled and brings a thoughtful, thorough approach to her work." "Kristen is an exceptional attorney who I trust explicitly." **Beth Pitman** is frequently seen advising a wide variety of healthcare providers on regulatory and compliance matters. She is adept at assisting with transactions within the sector, but also provides further experience in dealing with HIPAA-related matters. **Strengths:** *"Beth is responsive and has a great attitude for helping to dig into issues."***

Jones Walker LLP

What the team is known for

Jones Walker LLP has a well-respected Birmingham-based healthcare team regularly advising a variety of healthcare sector clientele on matters ranging from restructuring and transactional work to compliance advice and internal investigations. The firm also handles healthcare-related disputes, including those relating to the False Claims Act and the Anti-Kickback Statute.

Notable practitioners

John Beaulieu Grenier is a key contact at the firm.

Band 3

Phelps Dunbar LLP

What the team is known for

Phelps Dunbar LLP has experience in dealing with transactional matters in the healthcare industry, including real estate healthcare developments, joint venture matters and acquisitions. The firm also regularly advises clients in contentious matters, including medical malpractice suits.

Strengths

"The team have excellent client service and excellent understanding of unique legal issues within Alabama."

Work highlights

Phelps Dunbar LLP provided all local counsel to Orlando Health on negotiation, regulatory support and related issues related to its \$910 million acquisition of five hospital health systems.

James Henry is best known for his handling of healthcare dispute resolution and certificates of need. His broad clientele includes physicians, long-term care providers and hospitals.

Strengths: *"James is thorough, responsive, accurate and most importantly, correct in his legal analysis. I am confident in his ability to handle any small or complex question I send his way."* Thomas Sullivan of Phelps Dunbar LLP is promoted into rankings for his exceptional work in both the

healthcare transactional and regulatory space. **Strengths:** "Tom is a great lawyer with strong general healthcare and transaction experience, as well as strong experience navigating corporate legal nuances within Alabama."

Other Ranked Lawyers

Joe Campbell of Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC regularly provides support to healthcare providers and hospitals on a broad range of commercial mandates.

Susan Doughton of Dominick Feld Hyde, P.C. offers physician and hospital clients support on regulatory matters.

Daniel Martin of Balch & Bingham is highly active in handling healthcare disputes and advising cli-

ents on fraud-related matters including litigation and internal investigations related to the False Claims Act and the Anti-Kickback Statute.

Joseph Ritchey of Dentons advises on healthcare regulatory and compliance matters. He is also well versed in handling transactional mandates relating to acquisitions and the sale of healthcare practices. **Strengths:** "Joseph is a very knowledgeable attorney and he really follows through on his commitments."

Intellectual Property

Intellectual Property
Alabama
Leading Firms
Band 1
Balch & Bingham LLP
Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Maynard Nexsen
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Browning Brandon Maynard Nexsen*
Caprio Frank Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP*
Chatterton Marcus Balch & Bingham LLP*
Denniston Michael Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP*
Hall Stephen H. Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP*
J Landau Nicholas Maynard Nexsen*
Smith Pam Balch & Bingham LLP*
Sykes Paul Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP*
Vincent India Ametrine Law (ORL) ◇
Up-and-coming individuals
Gipson Jake M. Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP*
* Indicates individual with profile.
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP

What the team is known for

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings brings to bear a strong base of intellectual property expertise, often advising clients in various sectors including religious groups, food and beverages as well as cosmetic services. The firm frequently manages domestic and international IP portfolios, and represents clients in complex litigation.

Strengths

"With Bradley we like that we can have a very in-depth discussion with actionable advice that is explained in layman's terms."

"The firm is extremely responsive and very good at its role."

Work highlights

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings managed all patent prosecution and all trademark prosecution for T-H Marine Supplies.

Notable practitioners

Frank Caprio regularly advises clients on IP litigation and patent prosecution. He also has expertise in IP transactions and the negotiation of licensing agreements. **Michael Denniston** is a strong IP lawyer who frequently advises clients on litigation including fraudulent trademark issues. He has expertise advising clients on various industries including THC products, cosmetic services and manufactured materials. **Strengths:** "Mike is a brilliant lawyer and is great in helping position us competitively." Stephen Hall has substantive expertise in patent and trademark issues. He frequently manages portfolios for manufacturing clients and universities. **Strengths:** "Stephen is a good lawyer." "He is the kind of lawyer who gives me the different possible scenarios that play out, with different business considerations to factor in." **Paul Sykes** is a notable litigation lawyer with expertise in fintech and telecommunications technology. **Strengths:** **Paul Sykes** is a really good litigator. **Paul Sykes** is an excellent lawyer who has long been a fixture in this practice area. Jake Gipson

has a growing IP practice with expertise advising on FinTech and electrical technology. **Strengths:** "Jake is really good. He is able to look at technology and picks up on the nuances of our company."

Maynard Nexsen

What the team is known for

Maynard Nexsen has significant expertise in IP with particular strengths in engineering, life sciences and computer science. The firm frequently manages portfolios for a range of clients including those involved in biotech and software development.

Notable practitioners

Brandon Browning regularly acquires and enforces patents for his clients as well as defending clients against infringement claims. He has expertise in domestic and international patent matters. Nicholas Landau is an expert patent attorney with particular expertise in the life sciences and biotechnology industries. He frequently manages international patent portfolios, strategically protecting and enforcing his clients' brands.

Other Ranked Lawyers

India Vincent of Ametrine Law has expertise in managing large trademark portfolios in both establishing numerous trademarks and in litigation to enforce or defend trademark disputes.

Strengths: "I think the greatest strength in working with India is her ability to make really complicated issues understandable and applicable to our business."

Band 1

Balch & Bingham LLP

What the team is known for

Balch & Bingham's intellectual property practice represents a wide variety of clients in Alabama and across the USA. The firm is seen frequently advising electric utility manufacturers and media companies, among others.

Notable practitioners

Marcus Chatterton frequently represents utility companies and media clients in matters such as patent prosecution and IP litigation. **Pam Smith** has an established trademark and copyright practice. She frequently enforces portfolios and helps to prosecute trademark applications. **Strengths:** "Pam is a good lawyer who does primarily trademark work."

Labor & Employment

Labor & Employment
Leading Firms
Band 1
Burr & Forman LLP
Lehr Middlebrooks Vreeland & Thompson, P.C.
Littler Mendelson, PC
Maynard Nexsen
Band 2
Balch & Bingham LLP
Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Band 3
Jackson Lewis P.C.
Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, PC
Starnes Davis Florie LLP
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Middlebrooks David J Lehr Middlebrooks Vreeland
Singer Fern H Watterson & Singer PC (ORL) ◇
St. Clair Jay D Littler Mendelson, PC*
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Coleman John Burr & Forman LLP
Miller Carole G Maynard Nexsen
Starling III Jeff Balch & Bingham LLP
Yuengert Anne Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Band 2
Hargrove John Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Lehr Richard Lehr Middlebrooks Vreeland & Thompson
Miller T Matthew Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Pennington James C Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak
Powell IV Charles A Littler Mendelson, PC*
Smith David M Maynard Nexsen
Umbach III Arnold W Starnes Davis Florie LLP
Vreeland Albert L Lehr Middlebrooks Vreeland
Band 3
Ahnert Janell M Littler Mendelson, PC*
Brown Stephen E Maynard Nexsen
Debruge Marcel Burr & Forman LLP
Holmes John B. Maynard Nexsen
Houston Mays Stephanie Maynard Nexsen
Kauffman Douglas B. Balch & Bingham LLP
Lightfoot Jr Warren B. Maynard Nexsen
Lucas Michael L Burr & Forman LLP
Metheny Bryce Burr & Forman LLP
Penfield Matthew Maynard Nexsen
Stiles Matthew Maynard Nexsen
Swain Jennifer Littler Mendelson, PC*
Thompson Michael Lehr Middlebrooks Vreeland
Willis Kathryn M. Burr & Forman LLP
Band 4
Averitt Anne Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Barlotta Rachel Baker, Donelson, Bearman (ORL) ◇*
Brown Richard Constangy, Brooks, Smith (ORL) ◇
Brown Whitney Lehr Middlebrooks Vreeland & Thompson
Hancock William Galloway Scott Moss (ORL) ◇
Hwang Ingu Burr & Forman LLP
Kelly Scott Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, PC
Perkins Alfred Starnes Davis Florie LLP
Roberts Stuart Maynard Nexsen
Scroggins Thomas Burr & Forman LLP*
Walston David Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart
Warren David Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart
Young Breanna Starnes Davis Florie LLP
* Indicates individual with profile.
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Labor & Employment: Mainly Plaintiffs
Leading Firms
Band 1
Wiggins Childs Pantazis Fisher Goldfarb, LLC
Band 2
Haynes & Haynes PC
Heather Leonard PC
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Goldfarb Jon Wiggins Childs Pantazis Fisher Goldfarb, LLC
Leonard Heather Heather Leonard PC
Band 2
A. McGowan Candis Wiggins Childs Pantazis Fisher
D. Trueblood Temple Wiggins Childs Pantazis Fisher
Haynes Alicia Haynes & Haynes PC
Band 3
C. Allen Andrew Law Offices of Andrew C. Allen (ORL) ◇
Fonteneau Kira The Workers Firm LLC (ORL) ◇
Morel Adam Adam Morel PC (ORL) ◇
Pantazis Dennis Wiggins Childs Pantazis Fisher Goldfarb
Porter Adam M. Law Office of Adam M. Porter (ORL) ◇

Band 1 Labor & Employment

Burr & Forman LLP

What the team is known for

Burr & Forman is a market-leading, full-service law firm operating out of Alabama with standout expertise in traditional union-related labor matters and an active and accomplished litigation practice. It is noted for its activity in the manufacturing and automotive industries, representing a number of internationally renowned clients. The firm has extensive experience dealing with OSHA and FMLA matters. It is recognized for its expertise in union avoidance campaigns and complex employment law disputes. It also advises clients on discrimination charges as well as class actions.

Strengths

"Burr & Forman has tailored legal expertise, proactive guidance and consistent support across legal and employment issues."

"The team have much knowledge. They are the number one law firm in this area."

"The attorneys at Burr & Forman are incredibly knowledgeable. Burr & Forman has a large network of attorneys specializing in different areas of law."

"Burr & Forman demonstrated exceptional legal expertise and dedication. The firm's strengths lie in its strategic approach to complex cases and its commitment to client service."

"Burr & Forman has handled many lawsuits that other law firms said were difficult. They are very astute and knowledgeable in commercial implications of business relations."

Work highlights

Burr & Forman served as lead counsel for Auto-Zone in a class action under the FLSA with over 100 plaintiffs.

Notable practitioners

John Coleman handles an impressive range of high-stakes labor and employment mandates, including OSHA cases. He possesses key expertise representing clients in the manufacturing sector. **Strengths:** "John's work is always excellent. He is thorough, tenacious and he communicates

well." **Marcel Debruge** is noted for his expertise in labor and employment mandates involving the automotive and manufacturing sectors, including advising clients in relation to union matters. Michael Lucas is experienced in complex contentious employment law claims and in representing clients before both state and federal courts. Head of department **Bryance Metheny** acts on collective actions regarding FLSA violations, representing clients from the manufacturing, automotive and natural resources sectors, among others. His experience includes collective bargaining agreement negotiations. **Strengths:** "Bryance possesses exceptional emotional intelligence, allowing him to approach situations with assertiveness when necessary while skillfully tailoring his communication to suit his audience." "Bryance is approachable, reliable and knows the law and my company backwards and forwards." Kathryn Willis offers extensive experience on a range of labor and employment matters, including discrimination claims involving FMLA and ADA. She also handles internal investigations. **Ingu Hwang** is well versed in handling employment matters relating to discrimination and retaliation in the workplace, as well as wage and hour investigations. **Strengths:** "Ingu has deep understanding of industry trends and provides strategic solutions based on legal analysis." "He is a great lawyer and always willing to answer calls and provide the most sound advice." **Thomas Scroggins** is highly regarded for his expertise handling union matters on behalf of large companies. He has particular experience working with clients in the automotive sector.

Lehr Middlebrooks Vreeland & Thompson, P.C.

What the team is known for

Lehr Middlebrooks Vreeland & Thompson in Alabama possesses an impressive bench of lawyers with notable expertise in union matters. It is noted for its sophisticated understanding of issues in the manufacturing, energy and healthcare sectors. The firm advises on training franchises, as well as representing clients in discrimination and retaliation cases. It acts on regional and national matters, including class and collective actions, and EEOC proceedings as well as harassment claims.

Strengths

"Lehr Middlebrooks set themselves apart by their dedication to serving their clients. They continue to treat each client with care and concern as if they were their only client."

"They have detailed, in-depth knowledge of local and national employment law."

"They are top-notch, responsive and I trust their expertise."

Work highlights

Lehr, Middlebrooks Vreeland & Thompson PC successfully defended Legal Services of Alabama and its board of directors in a race discrimination, retaliation, libel and conspiracy lawsuit brought by its former executive director.

Notable practitioners

David Middlebrooks is a highly regarded practitioner who handles a variety of disputes concerning discrimination allegations, including those involving EEOC investigations. He has additional expertise covering ERISA and other labor and employment matters. **Strengths:** “David understands what it means to take care of his clients. His knowledge is extensive but his ability to simplify things so that they are easily understood is amazing.” **Richard Lehr** represents clients in a wide array of labor and employment mandates, including HR issues, contracts and labor relations. **Strengths:** “Richard is the epitome of a legal professional. He is attuned to our needs and provides excellent service and advice.” “Richard is responsive, wise, experienced and communicates clearly.” **Albert Vreeland** is an experienced practitioner who focuses his practice on ERISA class actions, discrimination, retaliation and libel accusations, as well as FLSA matters. **Strengths:** “Al Vreeland is very strong, responsive and communicates clearly.” **Michael Thompson** is recognized for his experience with discrimination claims, regulatory compliance and collective actions under the FLSA. He regularly represents both private corporations and municipalities. **Strengths:** “Mike is extremely knowledgeable and responsive.” **Whitney Brown** possesses notable expertise in contentious labor mandates, including EEOC charges. Her broad range of clients stem from sectors such as healthcare, manufacturing and finance. **Strengths:** “Whitney is an invaluable resource. We always want her on our side of the table.”

Littler Mendelson, PC

What the team is known for

Littler Mendelson stands out in Alabama's legal market for its full spectrum of expertise in labor and employment, with a diverse client base consisting of educational institutions, manufacturers and food distributors, among others. The firm is sought after for its assistance on complex employment matters that go to trial. Its expertise covers EEOC, collective action, harassment and discrimination claims. It can leverage the strength of a network of national and international offices.

Strengths

“The team are strong experts in the law and local practice and give very clear guidance and quick responsiveness.”

Work highlights

Littler Mendelson PC defended Bright Horizons Children's Centers against a former employee's claims of race and gender discrimination and retaliation.

Notable practitioners

Jay St. Clair handles an impressive range of complex labor and employment mandates, including discrimination and retaliation cases, as well as FLSA and OSHA claims. Charles Powell is renowned for his work on contentious labor and employment matters, including discrimination, retaliation and wage and hour cases. **Strengths:** “Charles is a true pleasure to work with and we appreciate having him on our team.” **Janell Ahnert** handles a broad range of labor and employment mandates, including discrimination, harassment and retaliation cases. She has notable experience of collective actions. **Jennifer Swain** represents

clients in employment litigation before both federal and state courts. She demonstrates extensive experience in discrimination and EEOC charges, among others.

Maynard Nexsen

What the team is known for

Maynard Nexsen has a market-leading legal practice in Alabama that continues to demonstrate its effectiveness handling matters relating to the ADA and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act. Its typical clients include major players in a range of sectors, including healthcare, education and mining. The firm advises on a full range of labor and employment law issues in the state and nationally. It offers a wealth of experience in trade secrets and collective bargaining agreements and represents clients before arbitrators.

Strengths

“The team is extremely knowledgeable, responsive, thoughtful and aware of complex business considerations. Maynard is the best I have worked with in terms of service and responsiveness.”

“Maynard has superior expertise in labor and employment law, local knowledge of the courts and judges and extensive litigation experience.”

“They have handled many a complex matter and have someone for everything. I know my lawyer is a text or call away in a pinch.”

Work highlights

Maynard Nexsen served as lead litigation counsel for Warrior Met Coal Mining in alleged wrongful actions against miners on strike, brought by the Secretary of Labor.

Notable practitioners

Carole Miller is highly regarded for her experience in labor and employment matters, including discrimination, termination and overtime claims. She has a notable specialty representing financial institutions in labor and employment matters.

Strengths: “Carole is one of the best attorneys.”

David Smith is an experienced litigator who is highly regarded in the labor and employment space, handling discrimination and union matters. **Stephen Brown** is an experienced practitioner who regularly acts on noncompete, retaliation and discrimination mandates. He possesses further capabilities to advise on workplace harassment mandates. **John Holmes** is highly regarded in the labor and employment market and offers particular expertise in union matters, including strike actions. **Stephanie Houston Mays** is highly experienced in representing clients in labor and employment matters, including internal investigations, wrongful termination, discrimination and retaliation cases. **Warren Lightfoot** is an experienced lawyer who represents clients in allegations of discrimination and retaliation disputes. He also regularly handles the enforcement of noncompete clauses. **Strengths:** “Warren is knowledgeable and pleasant.” **Matthew Penfield** advises clients on a broad range of matters, including discrimination, breach of contract and immigration-related mandates, among others.

Matthew Stiles offers clients extensive support on labor and employment matters. His broad practice includes employee benefits, as well as collective bargaining. **Strengths:** “Matt is the gold standard when it comes to unions and collec-

tive bargaining and government contracts, and the employment law issues that go along with them.” **Stuart Roberts** covers several areas of labor and employment law. He has considerable experience in FINRA arbitrations, class actions and employment termination mandates.

Band 2 Labor & Employment

Balch & Bingham LLP

What the team is known for

Balch & Bingham in Alabama is noted for its excellent industry knowledge, servicing an enviable list of clients in the higher education, healthcare and utilities sectors. Its lawyers frequently represent clients in contentious trade secret and discrimination matters and often advise clients on labor regulation and compliance. The firm is also adept at handling RICO Act violations. It is further noted for advising on retaliation cases, breaches of contract, hostile environment claims and workforce reductions.

Strengths

“Balch & Bingham have excellent attention to detail, a willingness to listen and an ability to problem-solve and negotiate. They were extremely knowledgeable regarding all of the laws and regulations.”

“The team are very good at evaluating conflicting solutions and putting order to priorities, and have subject matter expertise in employment law in Alabama.”

“The team is wonderful and very client-centric. I know they have other clients but every time we work with them I feel like we're the most important client.”

Jeff Starling is esteemed for his skilled handling of complex discrimination claims, RICO violations and EEOC charges. He chairs the firm's labor and employment practice. **Douglas Kauffman** is an experienced labor and employment lawyer who represents clients on discrimination and retaliation claims. He has also assisted various clients with matters regarding large-scale reduction in force. **Strengths:** “Douglas is an excellent legal counsel to us.”

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP

What the team is known for

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings in Alabama represents a diverse client list on labor and employment law matters, including major players in the healthcare, technology, and food and beverage sectors. Its litigation experience covers discrimination, harassment, FEGLIA and wrongful termination claims. It also handles traditional labor disputes and is well versed in regulatory employment matters. The firm is experienced in handling mediations and arbitrations. It is further equipped to advise on retaliation claims and collective bargaining agreements.

Strengths

“Bradley's attorneys have deep levels of experience and expertise. They have never turned us away in finding someone to help us manage or handle a case.”

Notable practitioners

Anne Yuengert is a highly experienced practi-

tioner who advises clients on allegations of discrimination, as well as retaliation, FMLA violation and hostile work environment claims. **John Hargrove** boasts strong expertise in discrimination, retaliation, OSHA investigations and collective bargaining cases. Matthew Miller maintains a strong reputation for the breadth of his employment practice, which includes handling discrimination, state law tort claims and FLSA matters. His clientele includes companies in the insurance and technology sectors, among others. **Strengths:** "Matthew's experience and knowledge make him stand out." "He is extremely able, courteous and responded to all situations and questions in a timely manner." **Anne Averitt** has a strong profile advising on discrimination, retaliation and harassment claims. She demonstrates expertise in employment termination cases and class actions. **Strengths:** "Anne is extremely knowledgeable and responsive. She has a good background of experience in order to lay out practical options and risk assessment with any given situation."

Band 3 Labor & Employment

Jackson Lewis P.C.

What the team is known for

Jackson Lewis has a broad labor and employment law practice in Alabama handling a steady diet of wage and hour, discrimination and class action mandates. The firm frequently defends clients against EEOC claims and FMLA mandates. It has an extensive national footprint, drawing upon other Jackson Lewis teams across the USA.

Work highlights

Jackson Lewis PC defended United Launch Alliance against wrongful termination and religious discrimination claims filed by a former employee.

Notable practitioners

Lynlee Wells Palmer is a key contact at the firm.

Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, PC

What the team is known for

Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart has a recognizable presence in Alabama, consisting of labor and employment law specialists, with a well-established Birmingham office. The firm has a particularly strong client base in the higher education market. It is well versed in traditional labor matters, assisting clients with collective bargaining and disputes. It regularly handles defense work against OFCCP claims as well as advising on discrimination, Title VII violations, trade secrets and retaliation mandates.

Strengths

"Ogletree has high-quality lawyers."

"The team are very knowledgeable and proficient, and we have been pleased with their quality of work."

"The team give us very strategic advice, are extremely responsive and have deep matter subject expertise on a very niche area of employment law."

Notable practitioners

James Pennington handles a wide variety of employment mandates, including large multistate actions, collective bargaining, discrimination and Title IX mandates. **Strengths:** "James is an out-

standing attorney. He goes above and beyond to support our needs." **Scott Kelly** is recognized for his expertise in employment investigations and audits for a broad client list which includes universities and media agencies. **Strengths:** "Scott is fantastic, he is a true subject matter expert who is thoughtful and proactive in tracking changes and regulations." "He has been practicing in federal contract compliance for a long time. He has tremendous knowledge and is fantastic to work with." **David Walston** acts on a wide range of labor and employment matters, such as discrimination allegations, OSHA and EEOC charges. **David Warren** offers strong expertise in a variety of employment law mandates. His work in the field encompasses Title VII and EEOC claims, as well as discrimination and retaliation claims.

Starnes Davis Florie LLP

What the team is known for

Starnes Davis Florie is a law firm in Alabama with copious experience in the defense of discrimination, harassment and retaliation claims. It has additional expertise covering workplace safety, employment terminations, union-related issues, noncompete agreements and other matters. Its notable clients include healthcare companies and insurers.

Strengths

"Starnes Davis Florie have diverse legal expertise concentrated in one firm and have excellent client-facing practices and skills."

"Employment matters are frequently urgent, and Starnes always rises to the occasion. The team are prepared and never miss internal or external deadlines."

Notable practitioners

Arnold Umbach is highly experienced in a wide array of contentious labor and employment work, including collective actions, workplace safety, wrongful termination and discrimination issues.

Strengths: "Arnold is an excellent attorney with great litigation experience skills and a robust advice practice. He is quick to respond and a pleasure to work with." **Alfred Perkins** is a respected practitioner who has strong experience in discrimination matters, including EEOC claims. He has further experience advising on defamation mandates.

Strengths: "Alfred is a great attorney and excels at client service." **Breanna Young** focuses on labor and employment law. Her experience includes advising on race discrimination, racial harassment and retaliation cases, as well as collective actions. **Strengths:** "Breanna is thorough, efficient and gets excellent results."

Band 1 Labor & Employment: Mainly Plaintiffs

Wiggins Childs Pantazis Fisher Goldfarb, LLC

What the team is known for

Wiggins Childs Pantazis Fisher Goldfarb, LLC is widely acknowledged as having the leading plaintiff-side employment practice in Alabama. Its attorneys offer a broad spectrum of expertise covering discrimination and retaliation claims, personal injury, whistle-blower and wage and

hour matters, including collective actions.

Notable practitioners

Jon Goldfarb is highly regarded for his expertise representing plaintiffs in a variety of labor and employment matters, including class action, discrimination and retaliation claims. **Candis McGowan** is a well-reputed attorney assisting plaintiffs with class action and wage and hour mandates, among others. **Temple Trueblood** is highly respected in employment litigation, representing plaintiffs before numerous Alabama courts. **Dennis Pantazis** is experienced in handling class actions, as well as qui tam and whistleblower issues.

Band 2 Labor & Employment: Mainly Plaintiffs

Haynes & Haynes PC

What the team is known for

Haynes & Haynes PC frequently attracts plaintiff-side instructions in employment discrimination matters. The firm is recognized for its uncompromising approach to litigation.

Notable practitioners

Alicia Haynes is a well-known lawyer in the employment discrimination area. She assists plaintiffs with harassment and retaliation cases, among others.

Heather Leonard PC

What the team is known for

Heather Leonard's plaintiff-side employment law practice is well recognized among the state's leading defense counsel.

Notable practitioners

Heather Leonard is held in particularly high esteem for her longstanding practice in the employment sector. She represents plaintiffs in relation to disputes that arise out of discrimination, harassment, wrongful termination and FMLA/ADA issues.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Rachel Barlotta of Baker Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz assists clients with discrimination, harassment and noncompete mandates. She is the head of the labor and employment department at the firm. **Strengths:** "Rachel is always very quick to respond and is thorough."

Richard Brown of Constangy, Brooks, Smith & Prophete is an experienced practitioner who acts on a wide range of labor and employment matters, including unfair labor practice charges, union campaigns and collective bargaining agreements. **Strengths:** "Richard is extremely knowledgeable." **Andrew Allen** is an experienced labor and employment attorney who is routinely called upon to advise plaintiffs on wrongful termination matters. **Kira Fonteneau** of The Workers Firm LLC is well versed in advising plaintiffs on discrimination matters and wage-related disputes.

William Hancock of Galloway Scott Moss & Hancock is a notable individual in the Alabama labor and employment space, with key expertise in the development of employment policies. He is fur-

ther capable of representing clients in court and arbitration proceedings.

Adam Morel is a well-regarded attorney in Alabama with experience in dealing with labor and employment litigation matters, regularly operating on the plaintiff side.

Adam M. Porter is recognized for his representa-

tion of plaintiffs in a range of employment related lawsuits including wrongful terminations, discrimination, sexual harassment and more.

Fern Singer of Watterson & Singer is an experienced labor and employment practitioner who offers clients support in alternative dispute resolution, including acting as a mediator.

Litigation

Litigation: Appellate
Leading Firms
Band 1
Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Maynard Nexsen
Band 2
Balch & Bingham LLP
Burr & Forman LLP
Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC
Spotswood Sansom & Sansbury LLC
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Segall Robert Copeland, Franco, Screws & Gill
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Ayers Marc Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Bains Jr Lee E Maynard Nexsen
Haden Ed Balch & Bingham LLP
Latta Forrest Burr & Forman LLP
Neiman John Maynard Nexsen
Newton Sybil Starnes Davis Florie LLP
Smith Scott Burnett Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Band 2
King M Christian Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC
Lembke Matthew Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Tidmore Emily J Spotswood Sansom & Sansbury LLC
Tompkins Jason Balch & Bingham LLP*
Up-and-coming individuals
Blackmon Stanley E Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
* Indicates individual with profile.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

The editorial is in alphabetical order by firm name.

Bailey & Glasser, LLP

What the team is known for

Bailey & Glasser, LLP is best known for its expertise in representing individuals, families and other entities in a variety of medical malpractice matters, catastrophic injury claims and product liability litigation.

Strengths

"The firm has a dynamic e-discovery team that can handle complex litigation with hundreds of thousands of documents."

"The firm has a system in place for client intake and follow up that is very robust."

"The firm has a tremendous bench, all of whom have the experience, passion and trial skill to bring significant value to any litigation."

Litigation: General Commercial
Leading Firms
Band 1
Balch & Bingham LLP
Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC
Maynard Nexsen
Band 2
Burr & Forman LLP
Spotswood Sansom & Sansbury LLC
Starnes Davis Florie LLP
Band 3
Bainbridge, Mims, Rogers & Smith, LLP
Barze Taylor Noles Lowther LLC
Christian & Small LLP
Dentons Sirote
Holland & Knight LLP
Scott Dukes & Geisler, PC
Band 4
Butler Snow LLP
Helmsing, Leach, Herlong, Newman & Rouse, PC
Huie, Fernambucq & Stewart, LLP
McDowell Knight Roedder & Sledge LLC
Band 5
Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz
Battle & Winn
Copeland, Franco, Screws & Gill
Hand Arendall Harrison Sale LLC
Ken Perry Law Firm LLC
White Arnold & Dowd
Wilmer & Lee, Attorneys at Law

"They are very skilled and tactical attorneys."

Work highlights

Bailey & Glasser represented plaintiffs in the 3M Combat Arms Earplugs multidistrict litigation.

Notable practitioners

David Selby is best known for his expertise in representing clients in complex personal injury matters, particularly those involving product liability claims. He is practice group leader of the firm's mass torts practice. **Strengths:** "He's incredibly thoughtful and skilled." **David Selby** is a tremendous lawyer. "David understands his clients and how to get things done."

Bainbridge, Mims, Rogers & Smith, LLP

What the team is known for

Bainbridge, Mims, Rogers & Smith, LLP provides commercial litigation services to an array of clients, ranging from major corporations to small or

medium-sized enterprises and private individuals. The firm is experienced handling class actions at state and federal level, with niche knowledge of the construction and employment areas. It offers additional expertise in environmental disputes.

Strengths

"It's a very good firm with very good litigators."

Bruce Rogers commands respect in the market for advising on the full spectrum of commercial disputes. He has a focus on estates, trusts and insurance litigation. Alfred Smith is a deeply experienced litigator who comes highly recommended for his commercial disputes practice. He offers considerable expertise to clients facing environmental, toxic tort and securities claims.

Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC

What the team is known for

Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC is highlighted for its expertise across a wide range of commercial litigation and business disputes. The department is well versed in handling class actions, shareholder disputes and construction litigation. It has notable strength acting for clients in the hospitality industry.

Strengths

"The team really great. I appreciated its level of organization."

"The team is highly efficient and very knowledgeable."

"It has very high quality individuals on the team who are also very responsive."

"We consistently receive communications to help us stay abreast of important broad legal information which is greatly appreciated."

Notable practitioners

Sara Turner is an experienced litigator recognized for her broad practice, which sees her handle disputes involving the hospitality, life sciences and automotive sector, among others. She chairs Baker Donelson's hospitality industry team. **Strengths:** "Sara is an excellent professional." "She is very innovative and doesn't stop at the superficial answer, she likes to dig deep. I admire and respect her tremendously."

Balch & Bingham LLP

What the team is known for

Balch & Bingham LLP possesses a high-caliber litigation practice offering impressive strengths in trial and appellate matters, alongside wider

Litigation: General Commercial		
Senior Statespeople		
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners	Novak Tabor <i>Ball, Ball, Matthews & Novak (ORL) ◇</i>	
Boyd David R <i>Balch & Bingham LLP</i>	Porter Maibeth <i>Maynard Nexsen</i>	
Cavender C Paul <i>Burr & Forman LLP</i>	Rogers Bruce F <i>Bainbridge, Mims, Rogers & Smith, LLP</i>	
McGivaren Jr Crawford S <i>Phelps Dunbar LLP (ORL) ◇</i>	Segall Robert <i>Copeland, Franco, Screws & Gill</i>	
Leading Individuals		
Band 1		
Ezelle Jay <i>Starnes Davis Florie LLP</i>	Hollis Lee <i>Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC</i>	
Prater Harlan <i>Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC</i>	Hymmer David <i>Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP</i>	
Spotswood Robert <i>Spotswood Sansom & Sansbury LLC</i>	Kimble Cavender <i>Balch & Bingham LLP*</i>	
Band 2		
Barze, Jr R Bruce <i>Barze Taylor Noles Lowther LLC</i>	McCarthy Brian <i>McDowell Knight Roedder & Sledge LLC</i>	
Bolus John <i>Maynard Nexsen</i>	Ragsdale Barry <i>Dominick Feld Hyde, P.C. (ORL) ◇</i>	
Childs Larry B. <i>Holland & Knight LLP</i>	Scott John W <i>Scott Dukes & Geisler, PC</i>	
Dowd Augusta <i>White Arnold & Dowd</i>	Smith Jr. Alfred <i>Bainbridge, Mims, Rogers & Smith, LLP</i>	
MacKenzie Robert <i>Starnes Davis Florie LLP</i>	Stuart Sharon <i>Christian & Small LLP</i>	
Mulvaney Michael <i>Maynard Nexsen</i>	Williams James Sarven <i>Dentons Sirote</i>	
Peck Adam K <i>Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC</i>	Band 4	
Pennington Michael <i>Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP</i>	Babington Joseph <i>Helmsing, Leach, Herlong, Newman</i>	
Perry Ken <i>Ken Perry Law Firm LLC</i>	Berdy Christopher S <i>Butler Snow LLP*</i>	
Rogers Alan T <i>Balch & Bingham LLP</i>	Butler Thomas <i>Maynard Nexsen*</i>	
Sansbury Michael <i>Spotswood Sansom & Sansbury LLC</i>	Dukes Carter H <i>Scott Dukes & Geisler, PC</i>	
Sansom Kenneth D <i>Spotswood Sansom & Sansbury LLC</i>	Ford Sara <i>Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC*</i>	
Thagard Thomas <i>Maynard Nexsen</i>	Geisler Kimberly W <i>Scott Dukes & Geisler, PC</i>	
Tozzi Rik S <i>Burr & Forman LLP</i>	Gilchrist Wesley <i>Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC*</i>	
Band 3		
Bailey Chandler <i>Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC*</i>	Lary Rachel <i>Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC*</i>	
Bains Jr Lee E <i>Maynard Nexsen</i>	Lowther Todd <i>Barze Taylor Noles Lowther LLC</i>	
Balogh Bryan O <i>Holland & Knight LLP</i>	Mathis Alan <i>Butler Snow LLP*</i>	
Baugh Robert R <i>Dentons Sirote*</i>	Niemeyer Michael C. <i>Hand Arendall Harrison Sale LLC</i>	
Campbell Russ <i>Balch & Bingham LLP</i>	Olson Lana <i>Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC*</i>	
Eagan Melody <i>Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC</i>	Sledge IV Edward <i>Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP*</i>	
Earnhardt John <i>Maynard Nexsen</i>	Smith Richard E <i>Christian & Small LLP</i>	
Estes Allen <i>Balch & Bingham LLP</i>	Strubel Patrick <i>Watkins & Eager PLLC (ORL) ◇*</i>	
Haston Tripp <i>Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP</i>	Thomas Alan D <i>Huie, Fernambucq & Stewart, LLP</i>	
Hayslip Victor L. <i>Burr & Forman LLP</i>	Turner Sara <i>Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell*</i>	
	Wells III Thomas <i>Starnes Davis Florie LLP</i>	
	Up-and-coming individuals	
	Anderson IV Conrad <i>Balch & Bingham LLP</i>	

* Indicates individual with profile.

◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

abilities in alternative dispute resolution proceedings. The law firm is well regarded for its deft handling of disputes in highly regulated industries, including healthcare, energy and financial services, and represents commercial clients in the manufacturing industry. It offers expertise in personal injury disputes, product liability claims, insurance-related disputes and class actions.

Strengths

"Their service is excellent. They're responsive and have a high degree of competency. They really understand our business, and the counsel and expertise provided truly sets them apart from others."

"They have a deep bench of valuable attorneys, all of whom are unparalleled. The value they provide us with is difficult to replicate."

"They do great work that is reasonably priced, they are responsive and they achieve good outcomes."

"They always find an experienced attorney to assist, no matter the issue or area of need."

"The firm's expertise, experience and culture separate it from others. It has a reputation for providing quality representation for its clients, and my experience supports its professional reputation."

Work highlights

Balch & Bingham advised Blue Corss and Blue

Shield of Alabama on an alleged breach of contract and fraud claim concerning its reporting of Medicare Part B deductibles.

Notable practitioners

David Boyd is noted for his wide-ranging experience across litigation matters relating to fraud, insurance and negligence. He regularly handles class actions. **Strengths:** *"He's one of the legends of the Alabama market."* **Ed Haden** is widely renowned as a top appellate practitioner in the Alabama Bar. He acts for clients in class actions as well as litigation arising from the energy and financial services sectors. **Strengths:** *"He is great and was appointed by the court to be part of the appellate committee, where he was very active and involved."* Alan Rogers regularly represents clients in insurance, environment and energy litigation. He has additional strength in alternative dispute resolution. **Jason Tompkins** is best known for his expertise in representing clients within the energy and environmental industries in litigation and appeals. He has notable experience handling regulatory matters and class actions. **Strengths:** *"Jason is an extremely talented lawyer and a great thinker who really understands our company. His talent is vast and his pricing is reasonable."* *"Jason is an expert in the area. He's knowledgeable, prac-*

Litigation: Mainly Plaintiffs	
Leading Firms	
Band 1	
Cunningham Bounds	
Hare, Wynn, Newell & Newton LLP	
Band 2	
Bailey & Glasser, LLP	
Beasley Allen Law Firm	
DiCello Levitt	
Marsh, Rickard & Bryan LLC	
Senior Statespeople	
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners	
Ashford Leon <i>Hare, Wynn, Newell & Newton LLP</i>	
Beasley Jere L <i>Beasley Allen Law Firm</i>	
Breedlove Gregory B <i>Cunningham Bounds</i>	
Brown, Jr Joseph M <i>Cunningham Bounds</i>	
Cunningham Robert T <i>Cunningham Bounds</i>	
Leading Individuals	
Band 1	
Cain, Jr David S <i>Cunningham Bounds</i>	
Debrosse Diandra <i>DiCello Levitt</i>	
Marsh David H <i>Marsh, Rickard & Bryan LLC</i>	
Tufts Lucy <i>Cunningham Bounds</i>	
Band 2	
Andrews W.R. Rip <i>Marsh, Rickard & Bryan LLC</i>	
Powell Scott <i>Hare, Wynn, Newell & Newton LLP</i>	
Samples Shay <i>Hare, Wynn, Newell & Newton LLP</i>	
Band 3	
Allen Greg <i>Beasley Allen Law Firm</i>	
Finkbohner III George W <i>Cunningham Bounds</i>	
Selby David <i>Bailey & Glasser, LLP*</i>	

tical, attentive and has great values. He can understand what motivates us as a client and tailors his practice and advice to meet our goals." Chair of Balch & Bingham LLP's litigation practice **Russ Campbell** is recognized for his experience in a wide variety of commercial litigation cases. He is a strong choice for entertainment and sports contract disputes. **Allen Estes** attracts praise for his representation of utilities and energy companies in commercial litigation. His practice includes acting on personal injury and contract disputes, as well as property damage cases. **Strengths:** *"Allen is one of the most practical 'figure it out and get it done' lawyers that I have worked with. He is experienced and knows the areas so well that he can get you from A to B really quickly."* Cavendar Kimble is sought after for his expertise in litigations in relation to antitrust and wrongful death. Conrad Anderson is recognized for his handling of disputes work spanning construction, class action defense and employment related matters. **Strengths:** *"Mr. Anderson is a great attorney with a wide breadth of legal knowledge."*

Barze Taylor Noles Lowther LLC

What the team is known for

Barze Taylor Noles Lowther LLC has a well-regarded group of litigators sought out for its experience in commercial disputes. The law firm acts on behalf of clients of all sizes in a wide range of litigation. It attracts clients from a wide range of sectors, including financial services, insurance and construction.

Notable practitioners

Bruce Barze has a respected litigation practice. He regularly represents clients in insurance,

Litigation: Medical Malpractice Defense
Leading Firms
Band 1
Starnes Davis Florie LLP
Band 2
Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC
Rushton, Stakely, Johnston & Garrett
Band 3
Clark May Price Lawley Duncan Paul LLC
Frazer, Greene, Upchurch & Baker, L.L.C.
Lanier Ford Shaver & Payne P.C.
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Frazer A Danner Frazer, Greene, Upchurch & Baker, L.L.C.
Novak Tabor Ball, Ball, Matthews & Novak (ORL) ◇
Waldrop Jr Norman E Armbrrecht Jackson LLP (ORL) ◇
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Bates Walter W Starnes Davis Florie LLP
Keene Thomas H Rushton, Stakely, Johnston & Garrett
MacKenzie Robert Starnes Davis Florie LLP
Stakely Frank Rushton, Stakely, Johnston & Garrett
Wright Michael Starnes Davis Florie LLP
Band 2
Bell Michael Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC *
Miller Joe Starnes Davis Florie LLP
Peck Laura Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC *
Thompson John G Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC *
Upchurch Michael Frazer, Greene, Upchurch & Baker
White J. Bennett Starnes Davis Florie LLP
Band 3
Chapman Peyton Rushton, Stakely, Johnston & Garrett
Knox George Lanier Ford Shaver & Payne P.C.
Newton II George E. Starnes Davis Florie LLP
Shagon Patrick Rushton, Stakely, Johnston & Garrett
* Indicates individual with profile.
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

product liability and environmental disputes. **Todd Lowther** is recognized for his expertise spanning insurance coverage, product liability and commercial litigation. He chairs the insurance practice at Barze Taylor Noles Lowther LLC. **Strengths:** "He's an excellent lawyer."

Battle & Winn

What the team is known for

Battle & Winn is a Birmingham-based litigation boutique offering adept handling of a wide array of disputes, with experience in class actions, business suits and insurance coverage litigation.

Strengths

"Battle & Winn is an excellent firm."

Notable practitioners

Co-founders Robert Battle and Harlan Winn are key contacts at the firm.

Beasley Allen Law Firm

What the team is known for

Beasley Allen Law Firm is a well-regarded group specializing in plaintiff matters. It represents clients in cases relating to personal injury, medical malpractice, toxic torts and class actions. The law firm has experience handling cases at both state and federal levels, as well as of litigation against government agencies.

Strengths

"Beasley Allen Law Firm is a very successful plaintiffs firm and well known for product liability, personal injury and mass tort cases."

Notable practitioners

Jere Beasley has long-standing experience across commercial litigation. He often works on cases concerning personal injury, product liability and insurance. **Greg Allen** is an experienced litigator who regularly acts on product liability cases. His practice also includes defending clients against personal injury claims.

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP

What the team is known for

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP has a premier litigation group notable for its impressively deep roster of trial and appellate lawyers. It offers recognized strengths in construction, medical malpractice and appellate litigation, in addition to general commercial cases. The law firm represents a number of major national and international pharmaceutical companies, manufacturers and healthcare networks in high-value disputes nationwide. It is further noted for its expert handling of contentious product liability and negligence mandates.

Strengths

"The team is responsive, extremely competent in many facets of law and above all thorough, making sure I receive everything that I needed. It's a really high level of professionalism."

"The team's quickness, professionalism and responsiveness during a time-sensitive matter is what led me to them."

"What set them apart was their interest in improving my company's practice methods. It was clear throughout that Bradley's primary goal was to best service their client."

"The attorneys do well getting along with clients and have a strong interest, not just in the case, but for their client's business as well. They don't shy away from getting their hands dirty."

Work highlights

Bradley Arant assisted Great American Insurance Company in a petition to the US Supreme Court for review of an insurance disputes which raised a question of federal arbitration law.

Notable practitioners

Marc Ayers is an accomplished appellate attorney, representing clients across state and federal appellate courts. **Strengths:** "Marc did an excellent job. " "I think of him as one of the top litigators at the Alabama Supreme Court, he knows that court really well. Whenever I have an opportunity to bring him into a case, he's the first name that comes up. " **Scott Smith** is an experienced appellate practitioner and leads the firm's practice in this space. His clients include well-known names in the technology space, and he regularly advises on class action suits. **Strengths:** "I enjoyed working with Scott. He's very knowledgeable."

Matthew Lembke garners commendation in the market for his appellate practice. He also offers deep knowledge of personal injury and toxic torts mandates. **Michael Pennington** is a distinguished practitioner who is particularly noted for his focus on class actions. His practice also covers insurance-related litigation and commercial disputes. **Tripp Haston** acts for an impressive roster of

clients from the pharmaceutical industry. His practice covers breach of contract claims and mass tort litigation. **Strengths:** "Tripp works hard to get us what we need." **David Hymer** has extensive trial experience, including expertise in class actions involving IP and product liability. His client base includes manufacturers and healthcare providers. **Edward Sledge** is best known for his expertise in representing his clients in product liability, insurance coverage, wrongful death and consumer finance disputes. **Strengths:** "Edward's extremely intelligent, maintains clients' interests above everything else and always takes his clients' budget constraints into consideration when dividing workload across his strong team." "Ed Sledge is one of the best attorneys I have ever worked with. He is fantastic. " "Ed Sledge is my go-to legal counsel on all matters both personally and for my business. An outstanding counsel who knows how to put together a team to support my needs. " **Stanley Blackmon** assists clients with a range of high-value appeals. He frequently provides support in cases arising from breach of contract, wrongful death and personal injury. **Strengths:** "Every dealing I've had with Stanley has been great."

Burr & Forman LLP

What the team is known for

Burr & Forman LLP possesses a distinguished litigation practice which excels in regional and national mass torts, alongside considerable expertise in consumer finance, personal injury and insurance coverage disputes. It demonstrates excellent credentials in litigation arising from highly regulated sectors, regularly acting for a range of household names in the financial services, energy, manufacturing and healthcare fields. The law firm offers considerable experience defending against class actions, challenging certification and alternative dispute resolution.

Strengths

"They are very good appellate lawyers who all perform excellently at trial."

"Burr & Forman's attorneys are unmatched in terms of the expertise, experience and responsiveness."

"They operate with the highest ethical standards and integrity. My assessment was that the quality of legal work paired with the positive results in litigation, far exceeded the costs."

"From partners to associates, they have a wealth of experience among them, are quick to respond and always a step ahead."

Work highlights

Burr & Forman represented Auto-Owners Insurance Company in a matter involving a construction worker who died in a fall from a four-story building, resulting in a lawsuit against the General Contractor who was operating a piece of equipment onto which he was loading another piece of equipment.

Notable practitioners

Paul Cavender is well known for his work representing clients in the manufacturing sector in high-value mesothelioma and other asbestos-related claims. He also defends companies against toxic torts and class actions. **Forrest Latta** has considerable experience handling appeals relating to trade secrets disputes and insurance claims. He leads Burr & Forman LLP's appellate

team. **Strengths:** *"Forrest is a very good appellate lawyer who also performs very well at trial." Rik Tozzi is highly regarded for his skilled representation of healthcare and financial services clients. He handles both individual litigation and class actions, as well as government investigations. **Strengths:** "Rik is a very good litigator who has great vision of litigation strategy." Victor Hayslip regularly works with big-name corporations on a range of disputes. He often handles IP and trade secrets cases. **Strengths:** "Victor is a senior litigator with years of experience and knowledge, which is great value to our litigation team." "He's a highly intelligent and ethical attorney who consistently achieves exceptional results."*

Butler Snow LLP

What the team is known for

Butler Snow LLP houses a respected bench of litigators with broad disputes experience. The team offers expert advice on IP litigation and product liability matters, among others. It remains a popular counsel of choice among clients from various sectors, including healthcare and real estate.

Strengths

"Immediate responses can always be counted on."

Work highlights

Butler Snow served as lead counsel for Jemison Metals in a business dispute involving a supply agreement for the purchase of steel products.

Notable practitioners

Christopher Berdy is recognized for his expertise representing pharmaceutical, medical device and consumer product manufacturers in a wide array of claims. **Strengths:** *"Chris knew the recent judgments and generally stays in the loop. I found him to be extremely knowledgeable and a very good partner." Alan Mathis is increasingly recognized for his strength in product liability litigation. He also has expertise handling matters relating to misappropriation of trade secrets and confidential information.*

Christian & Small LLP

What the team is known for

Christian & Small LLP has a notable litigation group with extensive courtroom experience throughout the Southeast region, as well as specialist expertise in appellate matters. The firm is recognized for its broad spectrum of sector knowledge, with strengths in areas including biotechnology, manufacturing, insurance and retail. It is further noted for its expertise in personal injuries and product liability cases. The group acts for an impressive array of multinational corporates, midmarket entities and healthcare institutions.

Strengths

"They offer a personal touch and are proactive in defense."

"They have always delivered on or under budget."

"They provide exceptional communication and can handle all issues from the mundane to the extraordinary. They're legendary in Alabama and I wish they could replicate themselves in every jurisdiction."

"There is so much trust and success that they've achieved, I know it'll be handled correctly."

Work highlights

Christian & Small continued to represent Stantec

in three separate cases concerning a \$23 million defective bridge design/build brought by the State of Alabama Department of Transportation, the performance bonding company and the general contractor, respectively.

Notable practitioners

Sharon Stuart acts in a wide array of disputes. Her expertise covers class actions, product liability cases and insurance litigation. Richard Smith handles a range of matters including liability and securities cases. He is experienced in working with clients from the healthcare sector.

Clark May Price Lawley Duncan Paul LLC

What the team is known for

Clark May Price Lawley Duncan Paul LLC has a notable medical malpractice defense practice, which frequently sees it act for a wide range of healthcare providers. The team is experienced representing hospitals and physicians, among other clients.

Notable practitioners

Charles Fleming is a key contact at the firm.

Copeland, Franco, Screws & Gill

What the team is known for

Copeland, Franco, Screws & Gill is a Montgomery-based litigation practice with a seasoned team of disputes attorneys experienced in a wide range of subject areas. The firm has experience spanning commercial litigation, insurance coverage and personal injury suits.

Notable practitioners

Robert Segall has a practice that encompasses commercial and consumer disputes. He also works on healthcare and personal injury litigation.

Strengths: *"Bobby belongs on any list of the best appellate lawyers in the state." "He's one of the legends of the Alabama market." "He's very good in the courtroom."*

Cunningham Bounds

What the team is known for

Cunningham Bounds, LLC has an expert group of plaintiff attorneys with a long history of major trial victories in the areas of medical malpractice, wrongful death, personal injury and product liability. The law firm is known for its frequent handling of nationwide class actions and mass torts against significant national and international corporations. It is capable of handling disputes related to environmental contamination, pension plans and major fraudulent activity.

Strengths

"Their commitment to excellence, thorough preparation and superb trial advocacy skills are second to none."

"The team has the impressive ability to handle any type of commercial matter, spanning from medical malpractice to complex mass torts and commercial high-stakes litigation."

"The matters I worked on with the Cunningham team were very complex and high value, and the results they managed to produce were tremendous. They really are the best."

"What I appreciate about the team is their understanding of when a matter is worth pursuing and the effort they put into doing it right; no corners are

cut."

Work highlights

Cunningham Bounds continued to act for the plaintiffs in a nationwide class action alleging that Apple designed and manufactured the Apple Watch in such a way that fails to prevent the lithium cobalt oxide battery from contacting the watch screen, leading to operational failures and injuries from broken screens.

Notable practitioners

Gregory Breedlove enjoys a strong reputation in the litigation market. He is an experienced trial lawyer who demonstrates skill in personal injury, medical negligence and wrongful death disputes. Joseph Brown holds core expertise in representing plaintiffs in catastrophic personal injury litigation. He has further expertise in insurance fraud and medical negligence disputes.

Strengths: *"Joseph doesn't cut corners and puts all his efforts into what he does." Robert Cunningham has a distinguished background in commercial litigation, with decades of experience in representing plaintiffs in disputes. His practice includes both class actions and MDL proceedings. David Cain is an experienced practitioner who is highly regarded for his plaintiff-side litigation practice. He acts in personal injury, medical malpractice and product liability disputes, among others. **Strengths:** "David is a top rated attorney."*

Lucy Tufts' practice covers a range of dispute work. She handles wrongful death and product liability cases, among others. **Strengths:** *"Lucy is a top rated lawyer." "Lucy is confident and thorough at trial, as well as persuasive and completely prepared in every case." George Finkbohner is acclaimed for his representation of plaintiffs in commercial litigation. He is particularly noted for his experience in personal injury and environmental disputes. **Strengths:** "I highly recommend George Finkbohner."*

Dentons Sirote

What the team is known for

Dentons is an established team noted for its strength across a broad array of commercial litigation mandates, including breach of contract claims and antitrust disputes. The law firm also provides advice on personal injury and wrongful death matters.

Strengths

"This firm is adept at handling very complex matters of law. I've worked with several of their attorneys and all of them from the partners to the associates are very capable."

"Every time I've needed help with my business, they've been more than helpful."

"Their ability to have multiple team members that specialize in the area our organization needs support is a huge strength of theirs."

"They have an expansive team that has been able to respond to our needs."

Notable practitioners

Robert Baugh's commercial litigation practice includes insurance and product liability defense. He is particularly active in the insurance and construction sectors. **Strengths:** *"I cannot say enough good things about Robert. He's detail-oriented and extremely efficient."* Dentons insurance litigation chair **James Sarven Williams** has a wealth of

experience handling coverage, construction and financial services litigation, as part of a broad civil disputes practice. **Strengths:** “James ranks highly in every area I needed.” “James is knowledgeable and communicates effectively.”

DiCello Levitt

What the team is known for

DiCello Levitt fields a well-regarded team of lawyers with a focus on plaintiff matters. It is frequently sought after for its expertise in civil rights, sexual assault and discrimination litigation. The law firm also handles mass tort and product liability cases.

Strengths

“I’ve been incredibly impressed with their strategies, leadership and client centered strategy. They’ve earned the respect of many lawyers and they have a huge amount of respect in the Bar.”

“The team is skilled at leading projects and collaborating with others. They are great strategic thinkers, but also heavily committed and tenacious, providing great service across all levels.”

“Their work product and legal knowledge are second to none. They can parse through legal issues and operate at a high-level during crunch time.”

Work highlights

DiCello Levitt was retained by the City of Baltimore to address the catastrophic impact of the Francis Scott Key Bridge collapse.

Notable practitioners

Diandra Debrosse cochairs the mass torts practice at DiCello Levitt and manages the Birmingham office. She is recognized for her considerable expertise representing plaintiffs in complex litigation involving product liability claims, environmental contamination and wrongful death. **Strengths:** “She’s an amazing and gifted lawyer who has earned a huge amount of respect within the community.” “Diandra is by far one of the most talented lawyers in this country. Her ability to advocate on behalf of large numbers of clients in the mass tort space is impressive.”

Frazer, Greene, Upchurch & Baker, L.L.C.

What the team is known for

Frazer, Greene, Upchurch & Baker, L.L.C. is a well-regarded boutique litigation group based in Mobile with a solid medical malpractice defense practice. The law firm represents the full gamut of healthcare sector stakeholders in jury trials, as well as acting for physicians before administrative bodies.

Notable practitioners

Danner Frazer commands respect in the market for his representation of clients in medical malpractice and product liability disputes. **Strengths:** “Danner is a great lawyer.” **Michael Upchurch** enjoys an excellent reputation for his varied disputes practice. He is highlighted for his experienced handling of medical malpractice defense cases.

Hand Arendall Harrison Sale LLC

What the team is known for

Hand Arendall Harrison Sale LLC has an accomplished team of commercial litigators offering expertise in handling a wide array of contentious

matters. The law firm often works on complex real estate and employment disputes.

Michael Niemeyer has a wide-ranging commercial litigation practice. He often works on construction and professional liability disputes.

Hare, Wynn, Newell & Newton LLP

What the team is known for

Hare, Wynn, Newell & Newton LLP is a highly regarded plaintiff group with a dual focus on single-event cases and complex litigation, including mass torts, class actions and whistle-blowing cases. It draws praise for its effective handling of disputes concerning medical malpractice, personal injury, wrongful death and catastrophic injury. The firm acts for a broad spectrum of individual clients, corporates and governmental entities.

Notable practitioners

Leon Ashford is managing partner at Hare, Wynn, Newell & Newton and a key member of the litigation team. He is sought after for his wide-ranging expertise across commercial disputes, with additional strength in medical malpractice and catastrophic injury. **Scott Powell** provides clients with comprehensive support on contractual disputes. He also regularly acts in product liability and catastrophic injuries cases. **Strengths:** “Scott is a great trial lawyer.” **Shay Samples** is experienced in acting for clients on contract and product liability disputes. He also handles personal injury and medical malpractice cases.

Helmsing, Leach, Herlong, Newman & Rouse, PC

What the team is known for

Helmsing, Leach, Herlong, Newman & Rouse, PC is a full-service Mobile-based dispute resolution boutique, offering clients assistance with litigation, arbitration and mediation. The law firm possesses an impressive regional reputation. Its expertise covers medical malpractice, product liability and appellate work, as well as contentious issues in the financial services and real estate sectors.

Notable practitioners

Joseph Babington is well known for his experience handling product liability claims, including class actions. He frequently defends pharmaceutical companies in contentious proceedings.

Holland & Knight LLP

What the team is known for

Holland & Knight LLP is well regarded for its capable handling of complex commercial litigation, including contentious administrative law, personal injury and class action mandates. The law firm is noted for its representation of clients in the financial services and healthcare sectors.

Strengths

“They are very communicative and it’s nice to work with a team that answers your questions before you even ask them.”

“They’re very knowledgeable, organized and communicative. They make my job easier, which I highly appreciate.”

Work highlights

Holland & Knight represented Regions Bank in two arbitrations with customers who were

defrauded by third parties.

Larry Childs is a highly regarded litigator. He comes recommended for his expertise in class actions and embezzlement disputes. Bryan Balogh is a sought-after litigator who advises on high-value matters. His expertise spans class actions, securities and environment disputes. **Strengths:** “He’s an experienced and seasoned litigator, who is very knowledgeable with class action matters.”

Huie, Fernambucq & Stewart, LLP

What the team is known for

Huie, Fernambucq & Stewart, LLP houses an impressive roster of advocates with excellent courtroom skills. The law firm is best known for its distinguished reputation for the defense of national and international automotive manufacturers in product liability claims. It offers wider strengths in insurance litigation and malpractice disputes, with notable strengths defending hospital clients.

Alan Thomas is a highly regarded product liability specialist. He has deep expertise in the manufacturing sector. **Strengths:** “Alan has been involved in some really good cases. He is a great lawyer.”

Ken Perry Law Firm LLC

What the team is known for

Ken Perry Law Firm, LLC is an Alabama-based boutique firm with broad-based litigation expertise. The team represents corporates in commercial litigation, labor and employment and product liability, among other areas.

Notable practitioners

Ken Perry’s wide-ranging litigation practice offers expertise in product liability and commercial disputes.

Lanier Ford Shaver & Payne P.C.

What the team is known for

Lanier Ford Shaver & Payne houses a strong litigation team in Huntsville with expertise defending clients in medical malpractice cases. It actively advises on claims arising from wrongful death and injury. The team remains a counsel of choice among providers and practitioners in the healthcare sector.

Notable practitioners

George Knox is a highly respected trial lawyer who is noted by sources for the depth of his expertise in medical malpractice. He also offers experience in handling product liability and professional liability disputes.

Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC

What the team is known for

Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC is a leading Birmingham litigation boutique with a deep bench of highly experienced and successful trial lawyers. It is noted for its excellent strengths in commercial litigation matters, with particular expertise in product liability disputes and medical malpractice claims. The law firm offers wider experience in defending regulatory investigations, white-collar criminal litigation and arbitration proceedings. The team is further noted for representing clients in high-stakes personal injury and catastrophic injury cases. It typically acts for clients in the

manufacturing, insurance, energy and financial services sectors.

Strengths

“Every aspect of their service is outstanding, from knowledge of the law to courtroom performance, to bedside manner. They are also careful to explain what’s going on, the decisions and ramifications.”

“Most of the cases we deal with are complex and sophisticated, and they excel in each aspect of case handling from start to finish. The firm maintains high quality work.”

“Lightfoot’s excellence is displayed in the courtroom, in numerous trials. Their service and communication is also excellent.”

Work highlights

Lightfoot defended General Motors as lead defense counsel in connection with a plaintiff obtaining an order from the state court of Cobb County directing that GM’s CEO, Mary Barra, sit for deposition based on public comments she had made about general safety.

Notable practitioners

Harlan Prater is highly regarded in the market for his experience representing clients in product liability, personal injury and securities disputes. He ably handles both class actions and single-plaintiff cases. **Strengths:** *“He looks out for his clients and takes their best interest into consideration, willing to give hard advice and communicate harsh truths. That’s the difference between a good and an outstanding lawyer.”* **Michael Bell** is regularly called upon to defend medical malpractice claims. His clients include physicians. **Strengths:** *“Michael is an excellent attorney with great judgment and demeanor. He has keen insights into people of all levels.”* Christian King enjoys a strong reputation in the market for his deep expertise in appellate proceedings. He represents clients from the manufacturing and energy sectors on single-plaintiff cases, as well as mass torts and class actions. Adam Peck is an experienced litigator with a wealth of experience across a broad range of commercial disputes. He often works on product liability, personal injury and wrongful death cases.

Strengths: *“An absolute pleasure to work with. He clearly has our interests at heart, and I have the highest respect for his skills and demeanor. I would consider myself fortunate to have him at my side any time.”* **Laura Peck** brings a wealth of experience acting in medical malpractice disputes. She represents both physicians and medical institutions. **Strengths:** *“Laura is a very good lawyer.”* John Thompson specializes in the representation of healthcare providers in medical malpractice suits, alongside his experience in product liability and business litigation. **Strengths:** *“John is a very good lawyer.”* **Chandler Bailey** is recognized for his considerable strengths handling high exposure personal injury and wrongful death cases in the product liability sphere, frequently representing manufacturers and suppliers. **Strengths:** **Chandler Bailey** is a fantastic and trusted lawyer. *“Chandler is an excellent trial lawyer.”* **Melody Eagan** is managing partner of Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC. She regularly works with high-profile names on product liability suits. **Lee Hollis** demonstrates expertise handling product liability litigations. He is regularly sought after by clients in the healthcare sector. **Strengths:** *“Lee*

is an excellent attorney with great judgment and demeanor.” **Lee Hollis** is excellent. **Sara Ford** is recognized for her broad base of litigation experience, including healthcare, shareholder and insurance related suits. **Wesley Gilchrist** adeptly handles a range of complex commercial litigation.

Strengths: *“He’s a problem solver in wide range of different litigation areas. He’s also personable and someone I really enjoy working with.”* **Rachel Lary** has expertise spanning handling product liability, negligence and personal injury matters.

Strengths: *“Rachel is an excellent attorney with great judgment and demeanor. She has a great ability to figure it out and get the support of others.”*

“Rachel was amazing. She read the situation well and was able to present herself in court in a polished and sophisticated manner. She was just fabulous.” **Lana Olson** has experience handling a wide range of commercial disputes, including toxic torts and employment litigation.

Marsh, Rickard & Bryan LLC

What the team is known for

Marsh, Rickard & Bryan represents plaintiffs in a range of personal injury matters, including medical malpractice and wrongful death, as well as business disputes.

David Marsh regularly represents plaintiffs in complex litigation. He often appears in high profile trials. Rip Andrews centers his practice on representing both plaintiffs and defendants. He acts in a wide array of personal injury and product liability disputes.

Maynard Nexsen

What the team is known for

Maynard Nexsen offers a comprehensive practice with a formidable stable of highly regarded litigators, with strengths handling both state and federal court proceedings nationwide. It offers additional strengths in appellate matters, with a wealth of experience handling appeals before the Eleventh Circuit. The team also assists with breach of contract, fraud and negligence cases and represents some of the state’s largest clients in the financial services, healthcare, IT and insurance sectors.

Strengths

“The team has superior writing skills, as well as being organized, with great vision on matters and the ability to get to the point without being pompous. They’re modest but do fantastic work.”

“We view them as partners. They know our company and our culture, meaning they also know how to represent us in court, with an appropriate level of aggressiveness and litigation style.”

“The lawyers on the team are all excellent and diligent. They’re also great collaborators and strategically helpful.”

Work highlights

Maynard Nexsen served as lead appellate counsel for 21st Mortgage Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of Clayton Homes, in an appeal to the Alabama Supreme Court from a \$2.98 million jury verdict, in connection with an unsuccessful application for a manufactured-home loan.

Notable practitioners

Maibeth Porter frequently defends clients from the financial sector in disputes involving securi-

ties and corporate governance issues. She commands respect in the market for her regulatory experience and additional capabilities in government investigations at both state and federal levels. Lee Bains advises across a wide range of commercial disputes, including complex class actions and appeals. He regularly represents clients in breach of contract and insurance coverage cases. **Strengths:** *“He is an excellent, specialist lawyer.”* **John Neiman** is known for his representation of government bodies and corporations in significant litigation and appellate proceedings. **Strengths:** *“John is an amazing lawyer. He has tremendous knowledge, first-class writing and research abilities, and wonderful delivery. He’s a true joy to work with.”* *“He’s done an excellent job for us time and again. He is always greatly prepared, collaborative and fantastic with judges. He’s both formal and polite, while also the right amount of aggressive.”* **John Bolus’s** core expertise includes representing financial services clients in breach of contract and fraud disputes, as well as class actions. He has further capabilities in defending clients against securities claims. **Michael Mulvaney** regularly defends clients against class actions and multiparty litigation. He is well known for his skilled handling of contentious insurance claims. **Strengths:** *“Michael is an excellent trial lawyer.”* *“Michael’s exceptional at what he does, and has helped us so much. There is no one I trust more with high stakes litigation than Michael.”* **Thomas Thagard** is noted for his wide-ranging expertise in commercial litigation, including representing clients in disputes involving product liability, IP, breach of contract and fraud, among others. **John Earnhardt** frequently acts for clients from the manufacturing industry in serious personal injury and environmental contamination disputes. **Thomas Butler** has notable strengths defending clients facing insurance and product liability-related claims as well as wider business disputes.

McDowell Knight Roedder & Sledge LLC

What the team is known for

McDowell Knight Roedder & Sledge LLC is a Mobile-based litigation boutique offering impressive trial and appellate credentials. It acts for clients in disputes concerning product liability, financial fraud, labor and employment and personal injury, alongside broader expertise in white-collar criminal defense. The law firm represents major corporations in the healthcare and manufacturing industries, with noted sector-specific knowledge in areas such as maritime law.

Notable practitioners

Brian McCarthy is a trusted choice for commercial disputes due to the breadth of his experience. He handles matters including labor and employment cases, product liability and malpractice suits. **Strengths:** *“He is a great lawyer.”*

Rushton, Stakely, Johnston & Garrett

What the team is known for

Rushton, Stakely, Johnston & Garrett is a Montgomery-centered group with a particularly strong reputation for medical malpractice defense, complemented by a notable commercial litigation team. The law firm is acknowledged for its

strength in insurance and professional liability disputes.

Notable practitioners

Thomas Keene attracts praise for his capabilities as a medical malpractice litigator. His practice includes representing healthcare providers and practitioners in a wide range of medical disputes.

Frank Stakely is sought after for his expertise in the medical malpractice field in Alabama, with experience representing both individuals and organizations. **Strengths:** *“He’s a wonderful lawyer.”* **Peyton Chapman** is a distinguished attorney in the medical malpractice space, with expertise representing clients in a wide array of claims. **Patrick Shegon** is best known for his expertise in representing his clients in medical malpractice matters, with notable experience in wrongful death cases.

Scott Dukes & Geisler, PC

What the team is known for

Scott Dukes & Geisler, PC has an established team capable of defending corporate clients in a range of commercial litigation. The law firm is experienced in handling class actions and contract disputes. Noted capabilities in insurance defense work.

John Scott has a significant presence in the market for his work in complex class actions and disputes related to environmental and insurance law. Carter Dukes is a respected litigator who regularly handles liability claims and employment disputes. Kimberly Geisler represents companies in a range of litigation. She frequently handles contract and employment disputes.

Spotswood Sansom & Sansbury LLC

What the team is known for

Spotswood Sansom & Sansbury LLC is a Birmingham boutique with impressive credentials in plaintiff and defense-side litigation work. The team is experienced in a broad range of commercial matters, with expertise in cases ranging from antitrust and securities claims to professional negligence suits and defamation disputes. It is also noted for representing clients in appellate proceedings. The law firm’s diverse client base includes medical professionals, insurance companies, financial institutions and corporate entities.

Strengths

“They might be a small firm but they do a lot of significant heavy work and their lawyers are truly phenomenal.”

“They have a strong bench of litigators, all of which are great strategic thinkers who proactively address issues and are attuned to client sensitivities.”

Work highlights

Spotswood Sansom & Sansbury represented Cardinal Health in public nuisance claims by Alabama hospitals against manufacturers and distributors involving prescription opioids.

Notable practitioners

Robert Spotswood garners respect for his expert handling of class actions and RICO breach allegations. He has further experience with disputes involving defamation. **Michael Sansbury** is proficient at handling a wide array of commercial litigation mandates. He represents clients in IP, insurance and antitrust disputes, among others.

Kenneth Sansom offers clients a wide array of litigation expertise. He often handles class actions, wrongful death and RICO mandates. **Strengths:** *“Kenneth has been a huge asset for Alabama litigation.”* Emily Tidmore is recognized appellate lawyer, with experience spanning labor and employment, intellectual property and wider commercial disputes.

Starnes Davis Florie LLP

What the team is known for

Starnes Davis Florie LLP is an impressive firm widely regarded as the preeminent force in Alabama’s medical malpractice arena, with a strong track record in defending some of the region’s largest healthcare providers and long-term care organizations. It also fields an accomplished commercial litigation group, with expertise in construction disputes, environmental claims, IP issues and securities matters. The firm is further noted for its work on consumer class actions.

Strengths

“The appellate team was incredible, with the ability to summarize a complex matter in a way that the courts could quickly understand. They set the standard for other firms to measure up to.”

“They provide incredible legal service on a wide spectrum of issues and do a fantastic job of collaborating with us and forging a path that leads to a desirable resolution, without ever missing a beat.”

“The firm has high quality and skillful lawyers across all disciplines, all with a real dedication to medical malpractice defense.”

“I can call, text or email anyone at Starnes and they respond almost immediately, proactively helping our business mitigate our risk and providing a superior service at a very discounted rate.”

Work highlights

Starnes Davis Florie represented ProAssurance in litigation raising the issue of whether cryopreserved embryos meet the definition of ‘minor or child’ under Alabama’s wrongful death statute so as to support a claim for wrongful death related to destruction of those embryos in a cryopreservation lab.

Notable practitioners

Walter Bates heads the medical malpractice group at Starnes Davis Florie LLP and enjoys a stellar track record in the Alabama Bar for representing physicians and other medical practitioners in litigation. His practice includes acting on wrongful death, personal injury and medical negligence cases. **Strengths:** *“There’s no one like him. I always feel I can call him about anything, and he’s always helpful. His knowledge and preparation are unmatched. He’s warm, kind, relatable and enjoyable to be around.”* *“He’s an excellent attorney.”*

Managing partner of Starnes Davis Florie LLP, **Jay Ezelle’s** practice includes representing clients in securities and patent infringement litigation, as well as class actions and ADR. **Strengths:** *“Jay’s one of the smartest lawyers in the country. His brilliance blends well with his creativity when attacking and successfully navigating difficult issues. He’s a go-to and delivers time and again.”* *“Jay is an excellent attorney.”* *“His knowledge of the issues and the legal system was very impressive. He was relatable and quick to respond.”* *“Jay is an excellent lawyer and strategist.”* **Sybil Newton** heads the

appellate group at Starnes Davis Florie LLP and offers considerable expertise across a wide array of disputes before Alabama appellate courts, with a background in medical malpractice litigation.

Strengths: *“Sybil is one of the best writers and appellate lawyers in Alabama.”* *“Sybil is a highly skilled appellate lawyer. Her ability to spot issues and then succinctly communicate a client’s position on those issues stands out.”* *“Sybil is the best appellate lawyer that I have seen.”* **Michael Wright**

is a renowned litigator in the Alabama market with noted expertise in defending medical practitioners. His practice includes both wrongful death and personal injury cases, as well as medical device litigation. **Strengths:** *“Michael is an excellent attorney.”* *“Michael is an excellent lawyer and one of the people you need if you are being sued in Alabama for medical malpractice.”* **Robert MacKenzie** is widely recognized for his work on medical malpractice defense, with notable expertise in medical negligence and wrongful death cases.

Strengths: *“Robert is an excellent attorney.”* **Joe Miller** has experience of obtaining favorable verdicts on behalf of medical practitioners. He is recognized for his handling of malpractice lawsuits at trial and appeal. **Strengths:** *“Joe is an excellent attorney.”*

Bennett White represents an impressive array of medical practitioners and healthcare institutions. He handles disputes involving wrongful death and personal injury claims, among others.

Strengths: *“Bennett is an excellent attorney.”* George Newton is best known for his expertise in defending his clients across complex medical malpractice matters, with notable experience in wrongful death cases. **Strengths:** *“George is an excellent attorney.”*

“George is a seasoned litigator who knows his way around a courtroom. His ability to work a case up in an efficient and productive manner is noteworthy.” Thomas Wells regularly defends corporations in high-stakes litigation. His expertise covers contract disputes and RICO violations, among other matters. **Strengths:** *“Thomas is one of the brightest young lawyers I have met.”*

White Arnold & Dowd

What the team is known for

White Arnold & Dowd is an Alabama law firm offering expertise across a wide range of complex litigation areas. Their team offers capabilities spanning antitrust, intellectual property and products liability matters, among others.

Strengths

“They are exceptional lawyers.”

Notable practitioners

Augusta Dowd offers a wealth of trial experience and expertise in handling the full gamut of commercial litigation. She represents both plaintiffs and defendants.

Wilmer & Lee, Attorneys at Law

What the team is known for

Wilmer & Lee, Attorneys at Law is best known for its expertise in representing its clients across a broad range of commercial disputes. The team has experience spanning labor and employment, intellectual property and product liability-related litigation, among other areas.

Notable practitioners

Matthew Dukes is a key contact at the firm.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Crawford McGivaren of Phelps Dunbar LLP has experience covering a wide array of commercial litigation, spanning from antitrust and securities to professional malpractice. **Strengths:** “Crawford is a top lawyer in his field.” “Crawford is an excellent lawyer.”

Tabor Novak of Ball, Ball, Matthews & Novak offers expertise in a wide array of commercial lit-

igation mandates. He has noted strength in medical malpractice disputes. **Strengths:** “Tabor is one of the legends in the Alabama market.” “Tabor is a great lawyer.”

Barry Ragsdale of Dominick Feld Hyde, P.C. works in a diverse range of disputes. He often handles substantial class actions and represents clients before an array of courts.

Patrick Strubel of Watkins & Eager PLLC has notable expertise acting on matters concerning

product liability issues, as well as other commercial litigation and business disputes. **Strengths:** “Patrick is an excellent lawyer.” “He has a strong reputation as a strong product litigation lawyer.”

Norman Waldrop of Armbrecht Jackson LLP is well equipped to represent healthcare providers against medical malpractice claims. He also works in product liability and insurance disputes. **Strengths:** “He’s a great lawyer.”

Litigation White-Collar Crime & Government Investigations

Litigation White-Collar Crime & Government Investigations	
Leading Firms	
Band 1	
Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP	
Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC	
Maynard Nexsen	
Band 2	
Baxley, Dillard, McKnight & James	
The Bloomston Firm	
Dentons Sirote	
Fawal & Spina	
Jaffe, Hanle, Whisonant & Knight	
Jones Walker LLP	
Leading Individuals	
Band 1	
Athanas William	Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Barnes Erica	Maynard Nexsen
Bloomston Brett	The Bloomston Firm
Essig Brandon K.	Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC *
Jaffe Richard	Jaffe, Hanle, Whisonant & Knight
Robertson Brad	Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP *
Selden Jack W.	Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Sharman Jack	Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC *
Band 2	
Fortune Daniel	Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP *
Hart Miles “Matt”	Spotswood Sansom (ORL) ◇
Helmsing Fred	Jones Walker LLP
Joseph Anthony	Maynard Nexsen
Mark Robin	Burr & Forman LLP (ORL) ◇
Martin Daniel	Balch & Bingham LLP (ORL) ◇ *
McKnight David	Baxley, Dillard, McKnight & James
Spina Tommy	Fawal & Spina
Sturdivant Jim	Dentons Sirote *
Associates to watch	
McCracken Mary Parrish	Lightfoot, Franklin & White

* Indicates individual with profile.

◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1**Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP****What the team is known for**

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings houses a strong

bench of attorneys highlighted for their expertise across a range of white-collar matters. The group frequently handles internal and government investigations, as well as litigation concerning FCA violations and securities fraud. The firm is particularly active in the healthcare industry. The team also provides deft representation of individuals and corporations in the financial services, technology and pharmaceutical sectors.

Strengths

“The firm is fantastic. They are thorough, knowledgeable and practical. The team is focused on trying to get to the best end result for the client.”

“The team is very knowledgeable about the law.”

“The team is wonderful and responsive.”

“The firm is responsive and proactive.”

Work highlights

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP represented Merit Health Central in a whistle-blower litigation in federal court in Jackson, Mississippi.

Notable practitioners

William Athanas leverages his extensive experience as a former prosecutor to adeptly assist clients in complex investigations and litigation. He has notable strength in advising major corporations and individuals on FCPA violations.

Strengths: “Bill is great.” “I highly recommend Bill. He is a former Assistant United States Attorney with top-notch investigation and prosecution skills.”

“Bill is the best white-collar lawyer in the state. His ability to be intelligent, creative and persuasive is top-notch.”

Brad Robertson advises individuals and corporations on a diverse range of white-collar criminal matters, including FCA violations and healthcare fraud. He provides adept representation to clients facing investigations and litigation, with notable strength in handling whistle-blower allegations. **Strengths:** “Brad is personable, knowledgeable and effective.” “Brad gives practical advice.” “Brad is wonderful to work with. He is extremely knowledgeable in the subject area.”

Jack Selden is a go-to for complex investigations and litigation in the healthcare industry. He is recommended for his expertise across the spectrum of white-collar matters, with particular strength in FCA violations. **Strengths:** “Jack is a lawyer’s lawyer.” “Jack’s key strength is his knowledge of the

law.” **Daniel Fortune** leverages his deep cybersecurity experience to advise clients on complicated government enforcement action and regulatory compliance. **Strengths:** “Daniel is excellent.”

Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC**What the team is known for**

Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC offers clients a distinguished white-collar practice. The group leverages its top-tier skills to represent both high-profile individuals and major corporations in complex criminal investigations and litigation. The team excels in multijurisdictional work, with expert capabilities in defending clients against DOJ, SEC and CFTC actions.

Strengths

“Lightfoot is the leading law firm in Alabama and has an excellent reputation for litigating complex, precedential matters.”

“They are one of the best firms in Alabama to handle DOJ investigations of individuals and companies.”

“The team is top-shelf and works very hard on its clients’ behalf. The partners are responsive and have great associate and admin support.”

“Lightfoot is a firm with a great reputation for litigation. They certainly have top-notch litigators.”

“The team has deep knowledge of white-collar litigation.”

Work highlights

Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC served as lead counsel for Exactech in a False Claims Act suit.

Notable practitioners

Brandon Essig is regularly engaged by individuals and corporations on complex criminal investigations and litigation. He is also noted for his trial capability and strong appellate practice.

Strengths: “Brandon is a great strategic thinker.”

“Brandon stands out as a premier corporate criminal defense attorney whose sharp intellect and profound legal insight make him a force to be reckoned with.” “Brandon is great. He is a smart and strategic thinker.”

Jack Sharman chairs the white-collar crime practice group and is considered the first port of call for an array of high-profile clients facing criminal investigations and litigation. **Strengths:** “Jack is a go-to lawyer for high stakes, sophisticated matters.” “Jack is one of the

leading white-collar lawyers in Birmingham.” “Jack is someone who ought to be on every client’s short-list for high-profile company matters in Alabama.”

Mary Parrish McCracken is a valuable associate in the litigation team with particular expertise advising clients on complex white-collar crimes and government investigations.

Maynard Nexsen

What the team is known for

Maynard Nexsen is highlighted for its outstanding white-collar practice. The team provides deft representation to individuals and corporations facing investigations and litigation concerning healthcare fraud and money laundering, as well as environmental and crypto violations.

Strengths

“They have smart, thoughtful and hard-working lawyers with good judgment and a real enthusiasm for their work.”

“The team comprises extremely fierce advocates with a very Southern charm in their presentation and approach to regulators and clients.”

“The team has excellent local knowledge and connections with clients and judges in Alabama.”

“The firm has relationships with Alabama judges and prosecutors. The team delivers excellent results for clients.”

Notable practitioners

Erica Barnes chairs the firm’s government investigations and white-collar defense practice. She has deep experience across an array of white-collar matters, including securities, wire, mail and healthcare fraud. **Strengths:** “Erica is one of the hardest-working lawyers. She is a superstar.” “She has an excellent reputation with the prosecution, judges and defense lawyers.” “Erica is fantastic – a zealous advocate.” “Erica is one of the most trusted white-collar lawyers in our market.”

Anthony Joseph is a well-regarded white-collar practitioner highlighted for his expertise in handling high-stakes investigations and litigation on behalf of major corporations and individual clients. **Strengths:** “He is a really good counselor.” “Anthony is an excellent lawyer. He has great judgment and communication skills.” “Anthony provides excellent representation.”

Band 2

Baxley, Dillard, McKnight & James

What the team is known for

Baxley, Dillard, McKnight & James is a strong firm with a solid presence in Alabama. The team offers a wealth of experience handling litigation and enforcement actions before various agencies. The group is recognized for its representation of individuals and corporations in high-stakes criminal trials.

Notable practitioners

David McKnight is a trusted member of the Alabama white-collar crime Bar. He is adept at handling matters in both state and federal courts. **Strengths:** “David is very hard-working, with a ton of trial experience. He connects with prosecutors

and judges in a way that really benefits his clients.” “David is well-known in the white-collar Bar and an excellent lawyer. His strengths lie in really getting to know his clients and representing them to the best of his ability.”

The Bloomston Firm

What the team is known for

The Bloomston Firm acts for individuals in criminal proceedings. The team expertly advises clients facing a wide range of allegations, including fraud, embezzlement and money laundering.

Notable practitioners

Brett Bloomston is a highly respected criminal defense attorney with extensive expertise in advising clients on investigations and litigation. **Strengths:** “Brett is an excellent lawyer. He is practical and a really skilled trial lawyer.” “Brett is very sharp, especially in court.”

Dentons Sirote

What the team is known for

Dentons Sirote has a robust and varied white-collar crime and government investigations team. The firm is adept at advising clients on a myriad of issues, including healthcare fraud and matters relating to fintech.

Strengths

“The Dentons Sirote lawyers have strong litigation and courtroom backgrounds.”

“The team are seasoned professionals who work in a coordinated and integrated fashion.”

Notable practitioners

Jim Sturdivant leads Dentons’ Alabama white-collar and government investigations team and is renowned for his experience as a former federal prosecutor, and for his work in federal grand jury investigations. He shows prowess in representing clients in False Claims Act litigation, as well as financial and healthcare fraud. **Strengths:** “A white-collar lawyer with excellent experience and deep knowledge of white-collar issues.” “Jim has a lot of high-value experience, with a practical perspective on issues.” “He is extremely skillful.” “Jim is very experienced, with a lot of insight. He is an exceptional lawyer.”

Fawal & Spina

What the team is known for

Fawal & Spina is recognized for its strong white-collar offering in Alabama. The team is recommended for their expertise in handling a broad range of proceedings in state and federal trial courts.

Notable practitioners

Tommy Spina of Fawal & Spina is a well-regarded criminal practitioner in Alabama. He handles cases in federal, state and municipal court. **Strengths:** “Tommy is a giant of the criminal Bar. Everyone knows Tommy.”

Jaffe, Hanle, Whisonant & Knight

What the team is known for

Jaffe, Hanle, Whisonant & Knight fields a strong white-collar team respected for its representation of individuals in criminal proceedings. The

team advises clients facing a wide range of criminal allegations, including healthcare fraud and cybercrime.

Notable practitioners

Richard Jaffe is renowned in the community for his excellent trial skills. He has defended individuals from a range of industries in high-stakes white-collar crime litigation. **Strengths:** “He is talented and has an incredible amount of experience in white-collar crime matters.” “He is a giant of the white-collar Bar.” “Richard has an excellent reputation and is very knowledgeable.”

Jones Walker LLP

What the team is known for

Jones Walker LLP draws on a deep bench of former prosecutors to expertly advise individuals and corporations in white-collar litigation and enforcement actions. The group routinely appears before the DOJ and SEC in FCPA, healthcare fraud and FCA cases.

Work highlights

Jones Walker LLP successfully defended Karen Hill, a former sales director for Insys Therapeutics, in a criminal action in which the United States claimed a conspiracy to violate the Anti-Kickback Statute and to defraud the government healthcare system of millions of dollars.

Notable practitioners

Fred Helmsing is an integral member of the corporate compliance and white-collar defense team. He expertly advises clients on a range of white-collar matters. **Strengths:** “I would definitely call Fred for an issue in Southern Alabama.” “Fred is a very good and well-respected lawyer.”

Other Ranked Lawyers

Miles Hart is the head of Spotswood Sansom & Sansbury’s white-collar defense and investigations practice group. He expertly advises clients on a range of white-collar matters. **Strengths:** “He’s extraordinarily skilled and experienced.” “You will not find a more prepared attorney than Matt. He knows everything about a case and has a great trial presence.”

Robin Mark of Burr & Forman LLP leverages her extensive experience as a former federal prosecutor to expertly assist clients with an array of white-collar matters, including healthcare fraud, cybercrime, tax fraud and national security cases. **Strengths:** “Robin has seen and tried a lot of cases.” “She puts clients at ease.” “Robin has good instincts and judgment.”

Daniel Martin of Balch & Bingham LLP is recommended for his deep experience in defending clients in investigations and litigation concerning FCA violations and healthcare fraud. He earns particular acclaim for his trial capabilities. **Strengths:** “Dan is a very good advocate. He has his finger on the pulse regarding what arguments will resonate with judges.” “Dan is strategic and thoughtful in how he approaches his cases.” “He is an excellent all-around lawyer.”

Public Finance

Public Finance
Leading Firms
Band 1
Maynard Nexsen
Band 2
Balch & Bingham LLP
Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Clark J Foster <i>Balch & Bingham LLP</i>
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Bolt Preston <i>Hand Arendall Harrison Sale LLC (ORL) ◇</i>
Kanter Rod <i>Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP</i>
Presley Jr. J Hobson <i>Maynard Nexsen</i>
Smith Jodie <i>Maynard Nexsen</i>
Band 2
Gwathney Curt <i>Balch & Bingham LLP</i>
Long Jr Frank <i>Balch & Bingham LLP</i>
Staples Barry <i>Maynard Nexsen*</i>
Band 3
Beatty Kevin <i>Maynard Nexsen</i>
Birchall Lee <i>Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP</i>
Burnette Kane <i>Limbo (ORL) ◇</i>
Burton Jr John H <i>Maynard Nexsen</i>
Hosch Heyward C <i>Maynard Nexsen</i>
Ray Alston <i>Butler Snow LLP (ORL) ◇*</i>
Up-and-coming individuals
Burchfield Caitlyn <i>Butler Snow LLP (ORL) ◇*</i>
Todd Ann Watford <i>Maynard Nexsen*</i>
<i>* Indicates individual with profile.</i>
<i>◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.</i>
<i>Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.</i>

Band 1

Maynard Nexsen

What the team is known for

Maynard Nexsen draws upon a significant bench of attorneys to expertly represent municipal authorities in the financing of public developments, including those in the education sector. In addition to its issuers practice, the firm has equal strength acting for financial institutions and developers. The firm has experience with a range of public developments as well as transactions in the healthcare sector.

Strengths

"The team has a plethora of talent and skill across a broad swath of the industry. We have no doubt matters will be handled with excellence regardless of their complexity. They are the gold standard."

"Maynard has excellent attorneys and a deep bench. The team are extremely responsive and have great customer service."

"I cannot express how excellent Maynard is with responding to issues quickly and thoroughly."

Work highlights

Maynard Nexsen represented Bank of America as purchaser in connection with the purchase of Massachusetts Development Finance Agency revenue bonds (Children's Hospital Issue, Series V; 2024) and a total return swap with respect to the bonds.

Notable practitioners

Hobson Presley is a noted public finance practitioner. He offers comprehensive support in bond issuances and debt restructurings, with particular experience acting for clients in the healthcare sector. **Strengths:** *"Hobson Presley is outstanding."* **Jodie Smith's** practice extends to a range of public finance concerns including transportation sector financings and bond issuances. **Strengths:** **Jodie Smith** is a tremendous resource. **Jodie Smith** is absolutely pre-eminent. **Barry Staples** frequently acts for bond counsel for a variety of public authority clients, alongside his work for national financial institutions. **Strengths:** *"Barry is always a pleasure to work with."* *"Barry is an expert in his field; he is responsive and always willing to go the extra mile for us."* *"Barry is a joy to work with as he is responsive, takes time to explain all the issues and implications and has wonderful follow through."* **Kevin Beatty** has broad expertise encompassing the full range of public finance matters. He focuses his practice on healthcare finance and counts several healthcare providers among his clients. **Strengths:** **Kevin Beatty** is a very knowledgeable and collaborative individual. John Burton has experience acting as underwriters' counsel, bond counsel and purchasers' counsel on behalf of his clients. He has a strong focus on transactions in the healthcare space. **Strengths:** *"John Burton is an excellent lawyer."* Heyward Hosch regularly acts as bond and tax counsel to counties and boards of education within Alabama. His practice sees him advising on a range of matters including tax-exempt and taxable revenue bonds. **Strengths:** *"Heyward is very knowledgeable and professional."* **Ann Watford Todd** is experienced across a range of municipal issuances, including those in the education sector.

Band 2

Balch & Bingham LLP

What the team is known for

Balch & Bingham LLP is recognised for its strength in acting for public authorities in their issuance of municipal bonds to finance a range of developments. The firm regularly acts as bond counsel and has experience across financings in the transportation and healthcare sectors.

Strengths

"Balch & Bingham is knowledgeable in the areas they practice and aware of local issues that may impact results."

Work highlights

Balch & Bingham LLP acted as bond counsel to Alabama Housing Finance Authority in connection with the issuance of three series of single-family housing bonds to fund below-market-rate mortgage loans to first-time homebuyers in Alabama.

Notable practitioners

Foster Clark is well regarded in the market and renowned for his extensive public financing expertise. He serves as warrant and bond counsel to a range of clients, including public authorities and industrial facilities. **Curt Gwathney** draws acclaim for his public finance expertise. He

advises on development project financing and also has notable experience in the issuance of both taxable and tax-exempt bonds. **Strengths:** *"Curt works in a quick and timely fashion, delivering a quality work product for all participants in a transaction."* Frank Long takes on a variety of roles in significant public and municipal financings. He has strong expertise in the utilities, infrastructure and waste management industries. **Strengths:** *"Frank is an excellent lawyer who has the ability to coordinate all parties in a financing, bringing a transaction to a successful completion."*

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP

What the team is known for

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings is regularly engaged for its expertise in acting for cities and government authorities in the issuance of municipal bonds. The firm has experience of financings in a variety of sectors and is particularly proficient in the education space. The team has additional capabilities acting for underwriters in transactions.

Strengths

"Bradley Arant's work is exceptional."

"Bradley Arant has great attorneys with specialised knowledge and experience."

"Bradley Arant has extensive expertise in many areas."

Work highlights

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP acted as disclosure counsel to Jefferson County in connection with its \$2,242,675,000 sewer revenue warrants, series 2024.

Notable practitioners

Rod Kanter routinely acts as bond counsel to clients involved in major development projects. His enviable client list includes several healthcare systems, utility boards and universities, as well as cities and counties. **Strengths:** *"Rod is an outstanding attorney with a tremendous wealth of knowledge."* *"Rod's responsiveness, quality of work and accuracy of advice is unparalleled. I cannot praise him highly enough."* **Lee Birchall** predominantly serves as bond counsel to various public bodies, including boards of education and county and municipality clients. He has particular expertise in matters involving the development of public projects.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Preston Bolt of Hand Arendall Harrison Sale has notable experience acting as bond and disclosure counsel to public authority clients, particularly in the education sector.

Caitlyn Burchfield's public finance practice sees her provide counsel on a variety of bond issuances in states across the USA. She is based in Butler Snow's Birmingham office.

Kane Burnette regularly acts as bond and tax counsel on transactions. He has notable experience acting for education sector clients on matters involving both taxable and tax-exempt financing. **Strengths:** *"Kane is a very good,*

thoughtful and diligent lawyer.”

Alston Ray of Butler Snow LLP enjoys a strong reputation for his expertise in public finance matters and has experience acting as bond and underwriters’ counsel in complex transactions.

Real Estate

Real Estate
Leading Firms
Band 1
Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Maynard Nexsen
Band 2
Balch & Bingham LLP
Burr & Forman LLP
Dentons Sirote
Band 3
Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz
Butler Snow LLP
Compton Jones Drescher
Rushton, Stakely, Johnston & Garrett
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Killebrew Denise <i>Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell *</i>
Sexton Robert R. <i>Maynard Nexsen</i>
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Blitz Jeffrey <i>Rushton, Stakely, Johnston & Garrett</i>
Byrd William C. <i>Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP</i>
Clark III Thomas C. <i>Maynard Nexsen</i>
Mills Gail L. <i>Burr & Forman LLP</i>
Mixson Dwight <i>Burr & Forman LLP</i>
Sharff Dawn Helms <i>Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP</i>
Sigman Adam J. <i>Dentons Sirote *</i>
Band 2
Brickman Steven A. <i>Dentons Sirote *</i>
Edwards James M. <i>Balch & Bingham LLP</i>
Eskridge William <i>Rushton, Stakely, Johnston & Garrett</i>
Monk Stephen <i>Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP</i>
O’Neill Beth <i>Maynard Nexsen</i>
Pickering John <i>Balch & Bingham LLP</i>
Sheppard Lee <i>Maynard Nexsen</i>
Webb James <i>Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP</i>
Band 3
Avery Jason <i>Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP</i>
Drescher J David <i>Compton Jones Drescher</i>
Gill Christopher <i>Hand Arendall Harrison Sale LLC (ORL) ◇</i>
Grill Matthew W. <i>Maynard Nexsen</i>
Johnsey Jr. Lee <i>Balch & Bingham LLP</i>
McEwen Angie <i>Butler Snow LLP *</i>
Paul Compton J. <i>Compton Jones Drescher</i>
Stallcup Stephen <i>Maynard Nexsen</i>
Stutts Phillip <i>Leitman, Siegal, Payne & Campbell (ORL) ◇</i>
Up-and-coming individuals
Sellers Melinda <i>Burr & Forman LLP *</i>
* Indicates individual with profile.
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Real Estate: Zoning/Land Use
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Brown T. Michael <i>Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP</i>
Herlong Warren <i>Helmsing, Leach, Herlong (ORL) ◇</i>
Pipes Casey <i>Helmsing, Leach, Herlong, Newman (ORL) ◇</i>
Band 2
Beavers Jr Charles AJ <i>Beavers Law LLC (ORL) ◇</i>
Galloway III Frank <i>Galloway Scott Moss (ORL) ◇</i>
Band 1
Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
What the team is known for
Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings has a top-tier legal practice in Alabama that offers the complete range of real estate legal services. Possesses specialists in the fields of real estate finance, acquisitions and litigation, as well as zoning and land use mandates. Noted for its comprehensive understanding of land use issues at the municipal, state and federal levels. Demonstrates formidable strength across a range of sectors, including retail and healthcare. Counts a number of developers, investment entities and banks as its clients.
Strengths
“Bradley Arant’s real estate team is one of the best I’ve ever worked with, they do phenomenal work. We work with them almost exclusively for real estate.”
“Bradley Arant is very thorough. We never need to rework or start over with them.”
“Every member of the team at Bradley Arant is a subject matter expert and I always have complete confidence when I reach out that I’m dealing with a top professional in the industry.”
“Bradley Arant is my preferred firm. They are thorough and work quickly. They don’t get in the way of the deal but make sure we’re covered. I feel confident in their work.”
“Bradley Arant demonstrates attention to detail, has a very responsive team and is passionate about their work and relationships with clients.”
Work highlights
Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings advised The Creed Group on a \$15.9 million bond transaction for the development and construction of a 72-unit student accommodation for students at the Jacksonville State University.
Notable practitioners
Michael Brown is in high demand for his expert advice on zoning challenges, as well as for advice on various land use negotiations. Strengths: “Michael Brown is outstanding.” William Byrd offers experience of real estate development and financing, with notable expertise in construction

loans. **Strengths:** “William Byrd is very thorough and makes sure that the deals get done the right way.” Dawn Helms Sharff’s wide-ranging real estate expertise includes construction loans and acquisitions, among other issues. **Strengths:** “Dawn is a really top class client manager and an excellent lawyer. Everything she does is top notch, she is a phenomenal attorney.” “I’ve never worked with a better attorney.” “Dawn is detail-oriented but also can see the big picture.” “Dawn is my first call when I need help. She is so responsive, thoughtful, careful and a good listener. She has a knack for asking good questions and making a clear plan for how to approach issues.” Stephen Monk operates a transactional practice which sees him regularly advise on the sale and purchase of both residential and commercial property. His clients include developers and municipalities. **Strengths:** “Stephen is a dependable and knowledgeable real estate attorney.” James Webb represents developers, lenders and borrowers in real estate transactions, including financings and housing projects. Jason Avery is sought out for his real estate expertise in regards to both transactional and mortgage litigation matters. **Strengths:** “Jason is the primary person on legal matters for our real estate transactions and deals. Jason is an advocate for us in external-facing matters.”

Maynard Nexsen

What the team is known for

Maynard Nexsen has a sophisticated real estate group in Alabama with excellent reach across the Southeast and nationwide. Represents clients in a comprehensive range of real estate matters, including acquisitions, leases and development. Experienced in handling various types of real estate projects, including retail, healthcare, office and single and multifamily and build-to-rent developments.

Strengths

“Maynard Nexsen is one of the premier firms in Birmingham.”

“We get great service from Maynard Nexsen, they are very committed to our business.”

“Maynard Nexsen are a really, really strong firm.”

“We have a real strong relationship with Maynard Nexsen and we would go to them for most everything. They are our primary go-to firm for transactions.”

Work highlights

Maynard Nexsen assisted Diversified on the acquisition of the proportionate working interest in various oil and gas assets from Oaktree Capital Management.

Notable practitioners

Robert Sexton is often engaged by clients on development agreement negotiations, notably in the technology sector. His work includes refinancing matters in the real estate space. Thomas Clark is a widely respected attorney who has extensive experience with property acquisition, financing and redevelopment work for clients from the financial sector as well as investors and developers. He possesses key expertise to advise on real estate matters involving healthcare and multifamily developments. **Strengths:** "Tom is one of the foremost real estate attorneys in the Southeast US. He's a big picture guy, excellent in every way and he helps us find solutions." **Beth O'Neill** is highly regarded for her broad real estate practice which includes acquisitions and sales, notably within the energy industry. **Lee Sheppard** is primarily active on real estate transactions, as well as advising on land development. He often represents developers, particularly in relation to residential properties. **Strengths:** "Lee is a practical and responsive lawyer. He also understands the local market and players well, which enhances his legal advice. We get solid and practical advice from him." Matthew Grill regularly handles acquisitions, dispositions, financing and transactions. His experience spans a range of asset classes, including retail, commercial and residential developments. **Strengths:** "Matt is somebody who doesn't quickly jump to conclusions, he's very thoughtful in his approach and detail-oriented." **Stephen Stallcup** is noted for his work on real estate transactions including acquisitions and dispositions, financing and development matters.

Band 2**Balch & Bingham LLP****What the team is known for**

Balch & Bingham has a notable labor and employment law practice in Alabama which has attained particular recognition for its activity in the energy sector, advising on the acquisition, financing and leasing of power plants. The firm represents a number of banking clients in the financing and acquisition of commercial and apartment complexes and demonstrates expertise in tax credits. Offers further expertise in zoning and land use. The group is also capable of handling easements on behalf of utility companies.

Strengths

"Balch & Bingham provides practical solutions and problem solving to get deals negotiated fairly and closed quickly."

"The depth of the Balch & Bingham's attorneys and their team approach to solving problems ultimately allows us to craft agreements that are fair and balanced."

"Balch & Bingham is a trusted resource for us."

"Balch & Bingham provides good legal counsel and is very responsive. They provide very good support in a timely fashion."

Notable practitioners

James Edwards is widely regarded as an expert in negotiating leasing agreements. He also handles the financing, acquisition and development of mixed-use properties. **John Pickering** is well

versed and respected in real estate financing issues and redevelopments. His clients include lenders and developers. **Strengths:** "I wish John could replicate himself. He is very responsive, thoroughly researches issues to give me good advice and is very easy to deal with." "John is very practical and incredibly knowledgeable about structuring deals that protect his client." **John Pickering** is a very talented lawyer and extremely responsive. Lee Johnsey acts for developers and investors on matters ranging from redevelopment projects to various property and infrastructure investments, including in tax credit projects. **Strengths:** "Lee's multi-faceted experience and attention to our needs has proven invaluable on dozens of transactions. We could not have had success without Lee."

Burr & Forman LLP**What the team is known for**

Burr & Forman is well recognized in Alabama's real estate legal market, with particular experience handling development projects and large scale transactions. Has noteworthy expertise in transactions involving complex capital structures and private equity issues. Also possesses detailed understanding of bankruptcy and restructuring issues as they relate to major real estate projects. Highly active in the commercial, retail, residential and industrial spheres.

Notable practitioners

Gail Mills maintains an outstanding reputation for her representation of clients in development projects and land acquisition matters. **Dwight Mixson** has broad transactional abilities including in construction financing, purchases and loan negotiations. He works with a range of clients, including high profile property owners. **Melinda Sellers** offers substantial expertise across a number of commercial real estate matters. These include mixed-use development projects and zoning matters. **Strengths:** "Melinda is a really skilled lawyer."

Dentons Sirote**What the team is known for**

Dentons Sirote is an impressive law firm with a strong share of the real estate market in Alabama. Advising investors and developers as well as various retail and banking clients on major commercial land acquisitions, leases and project finance matters, the firm is also experienced handling transactions in the residential space, especially in regard to multifamily properties. It offers additional advice on zoning and litigation. The group is noted for its real estate counsel to investment companies, developers and retailers.

Strengths

"Dentons Sirote are extremely thorough in their evaluation of a transaction and help protect our company and provide thoughtful and creative solutions for advancing transactions."

"I'm impressed by Dentons Sirote's efficiency. They are always well staffed."

"I have encountered numerous partners at Dentons Sirote, each of whom has significant experience. They are always responsive and always available to speak."

Work highlights

Dentons Sirote assisted Equity Resources on the sale, acquisition and financing of senior and

multi-family apartment construction projects in South Carolina and Florida.

Adam Sigman is a highly respected real estate lawyer. He works on a broad range of commercial deals and frequently represents developers and equity firms. **Strengths:** "Adam is an excellent real estate attorney and provides tremendous value to our company." "Adam is always there when we need him. I am very confident in him for anything in real estate." "Adam is an excellent point of contact." Steven Brickman operates a broad practice which includes real estate development transactions such as leaseings, acquisitions and dispositions, as well as advising on planning matters. He is well equipped to advise on multistate deals.

Band 3**Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC****What the team is known for**

Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz has a recognizable legal team in the Alabama market possessing a deep bench in traditional real estate matters, representing developers and investors across the Southeast on retail, mixed-use, telecommunications and medical facilities. It possesses notable experience undertaking acquisitions, leasing and financing transactions. The firm is also adept at advising clients in the healthcare and medical sphere.

Strengths

"Baker Donelson are the best at delivering value and results with relevant subject matter expertise in commercial real estate transactions."

"Baker Donelson has business knowledge applying to diverse industries."

Notable practitioners

Denise Killebrew is renowned for her commercial real estate practice which includes considerable expertise in the acquisition, disposition, leasing and financing of a range of properties. She frequently represents investors, developers and retailers.

Butler Snow LLP**What the team is known for**

Butler Snow in Birmingham is a recognized legal real estate team noted for representing investors and financiers in an array of commercial transactions. It has considerable experience in advising retail and finance sector clients on acquisitions, dispositions and financings and also adept at assisting clients with title issues and commercial leasing matters. The firm possesses notable experience acting as underwriter's counsel in real estate-related financings.

Notable practitioners

Angie McEwen is noted for her commercial real estate practice which includes financings and acquisitions. She works with clients in various sectors, including energy.

Compton Jones Dresher**What the team is known for**

Compton Jones Dresher is a Birmingham-based firm with a particular focus on real estate matters. The team is noted for its strength in advising

lenders on a variety of real estate and tax credit transactions.

David Drescher is skilled at navigating the full range of transactions in the real estate space, including sales, financing and leasing matters. He has notable experience in mortgage lending. Paul Compton holds many years of Real Estate experience, both in Alabama and across other states. His practice particularly focuses on multi-family accommodation, community development and affordable housing. **Strengths:** "Paul is practical, smart and knows how to get deals done."

Rushton, Stakely, Johnston & Garrett

What the team is known for

Rushton, Stakely, Johnston & Garrett is a Montgomery-centered law firm with a strong reputation across the state. It represents borrowers and lenders in the financing, acquisition and development of residential, retail and office real estate property. The firm is well respected for its

deft handling of title examination and insurance issues.

Notable practitioners

Jeffrey Blitz offers strong expertise in a range of matters, including construction financing and property dispositions. He frequently acts for both lenders and developers. **William Eskridge** is noted for handling an array of commercial real estate transactions, including purchases and sales. He has notable tax credit expertise.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Charles Beavers of Beavers Law LLC has extensive expertise in zoning and land use matters. His experience includes clients before relevant boards and committees.

Frank Galloway of Galloway Scott Moss & Hancock is highly respected for his expertise in land use and zoning. He also advises on real estate

litigation.

Christopher Gill of Hand Arendall Harrison Sale LLC is active on all manner of transactional real estate work, including acquisitions and developments. **Strengths:** "Christopher is very creative. He is always able to get the deal done and is very easy to work with."

Warren Herlong of Helmsing, Leach, Herlong, Newman & Rouse, PC is respected for his first-class zoning and land use practice. He often advises on condemnation issues.

Casey Pipes of Helmsing, Leach, Herlong, Newman & Rouse, PC has a strong grounding in zoning and land use issues. He also advises on municipal law matters.

Phillip Stutts of Leitman, Siegal, Payne & Campbell, P.C. handles an array of real estate transactions. He frequently represents both borrowers and lenders in financing matters and also acts for landlords and tenants.

Tax

Tax
Leading Firms
Band 1
Dentons Sirote
Band 2
Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP
Maynard Nexsen
Band 3
Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz
Balch & Bingham LLP
Burr & Forman LLP
Butler Snow LLP
Johnston Hinesley Flowers Clenney & Turner, PC
Jones Walker LLP
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Ely Bruce <i>Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP</i>
Levitt Ronald <i>Dentons Sirote*</i>
Rhodes Gregory P. <i>Dentons Sirote*</i>
Walthall Hardwick <i>Maynard Nexsen</i>
Band 2
Humber David <i>Maynard Nexsen</i>
Levin Michelle <i>Dentons Sirote*</i>
Long James E. <i>Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP</i>
Mahoney Jr Thomas J <i>Baker, Donelson, Bearman*</i>
Band 3
Hughey Brandon <i>Jones Walker LLP*</i>
Johnston David <i>Johnston Hinesley Flowers Clenney</i>
M Chambers Joe <i>Johnston Hinesley Flowers Clenney</i>
McClanahan Randall <i>Butler Snow LLP*</i>
Sullivan Jr Allen <i>Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP*</i>
* Indicates individual with profile.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Dentons Sirote

What the team is known for

Dentons Sirote is particularly known for handling contentious matters relating to tax controversy and frequently acts for clients involved in disputes with the Internal Revenue Service. It offers additional expertise in tax matters arising from high-value corporate transactions. The firm's impressive clientele come from various sectors, including real estate developers as well as high net worth individuals.

Strengths

"Dentons Sirote are extremely professional and timely and we have total confidence in their work and abilities."

"Dentons Sirote always has a solution, recommendation or answer."

"My questions were always responded to in a timely manner by the team at Dentons Sirote and all members of the legal team were on the same page."

Work highlights

Dentons Sirote represented North Donald LA Property in a \$115 million charitable deduction case.

Notable practitioners

Ronald Levitt is a tax attorney in Alabama and is highly reputed for his expertise in tax controversy matters and acting for clients against the Internal Revenue Service and other tax entities. Gregory Rhodes is a leading tax attorney in Alabama. He is highly regarded for his contentious tax practice. **Strengths:** "Gregory is very knowledgeable and an absolute pleasure to work with." **Michelle Levin** has a strong tax litigation practice, representing

clients in Internal Revenue Service disputes. She offers expertise on conservation easement and charitable contributions. **Strengths:** "Michelle is the best tax attorney I have come across; I cannot say enough good things about her." "She is highly experienced and a pleasure to work with on all matters." "Michelle is detail-oriented and incredibly on top of all of the deadlines we have to manage."

Band 2

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP

What the team is known for

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP is a highly regarded firm, offering a broad range of expertise. The firm is well versed in handling tax matters that may arise in high-value corporate transactions, as well as dealing with income and interest tax appeals and tax audits. It is also adept in handling contentious matters relating to tax elections. Its clients come from a wide array of sectors, such as technology, healthcare and construction.

Strengths

"Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings is uniquely focused on client needs and has extensive experience and expertise."

"Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings' involvement in the tax community, through speaking at conferences, hosting events and publishing newsletters, is an outstanding resource for clients."

"Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings has top-notch technical expertise, provides timely services and is readily available."

Notable practitioners

Bruce Ely is a highly esteemed tax attorney who

offers expertise in a broad range of matters. He is well versed in handling tax appeals as well as dealing with tax controversies and tax audits. James Long is a well-regarded tax attorney who offers expertise in tax matters that may arise in corporate dealings. He also offers expertise in income tax appeals as well as transfer pricing adjustments and tax controversy. **Strengths:** *“James has really great technical expertise, availability and follow-up.” “He’s very knowledgeable and well connected throughout Southeastern states. He is a very effective advocate who is very client-focused.”* Allen Sullivan has a strong commercial tax practice that sees him advising clients on the tax aspects of corporate transactions. **Strengths:** *“Allen has an ability to be in the weeds when necessary and to lead a team at a highly strategic level.”*

Maynard Nexsen

What the team is known for

Maynard Nexsen has a tax practice that is recognized for advising clients in relation to corporate transactions. The firm additionally offers tax services for large corporates in tax restructurings, tax-free spin-offs and tax credit financing. It regularly advises clients from various sectors but has particular expertise in the finance space.

Strengths

“Maynard Nexsen’s client service is outstanding.”

“From the junior associate to the engagement partner, Maynard Nexsen’s service was exemplary.”

“The team at Maynard Nexsen has vast experience and the expertise to handle any matter we come across.”

Work highlights

Maynard Nexsen advised the owners of Arlington companies on a tax-free reorganization as part of a corporate restructuring.

Notable practitioners

Hardwick Walthall heads Maynard Nexsen’s national tax practice. He regularly advises clients on transactional tax matters. **Strengths:** *“Hardwick’s knowledge and experience, coupled with his practical approach, are unmatched.” “He’s very responsive, carries through on what I’ve asked him to do and does a really good job.”* **David Humber** is a highly experienced tax practitioner who works

with corporate clients on transactions and tax planning. **Strengths:** *“David is very approachable and easy to understand.”*

Band 3

Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC

What the team is known for

Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC is equipped to advise on a wide range of tax mandates, including SALT matters and transactional tax issues.

Thomas Mahoney offers expertise in a wide range of tax mandates. He regularly advises clients on state and federal tax matters.

Balch & Bingham LLP

What the team is known for

Balch & Bingham LLP has a strong SALT practice, advising a range of corporate and commercial clients on contentious and non-contentious matters. The firm has experience advising on tax planning as well as audits and appeals. It offers additional expertise in federal tax matters, including those arising from mergers and acquisitions.

Notable practitioners

Timothy Segers is a key contact.

Burr & Forman LLP

What the team is known for

Burr & Forman LLP is well positioned to advise on tax matters arising from corporate transactions as well as tax audits and SALT issues.

Strengths

“Burr & Forman is a one-stop shop and is able to respond to client needs very quickly.”

“Their commercial awareness is one of Burr & Forman’s greatest strengths.”

Notable practitioners

Callie Whatley is a key contact

Butler Snow LLP

What the team is known for

Butler Snow LLP offers clients tax expertise in complex corporate transactions. The firm has

experience advising clients in the media and healthcare sectors as well as representing both public and private companies.

Work highlights

Butler Snow LLP advised Defining Wellness Centers on tax issues related to its sale to Fulcrum Equity Partners.

Notable practitioners

Randall McClanahan has a strong transactional tax practice, with expertise advising on M&A and business reorganizations.

Johnston Hinesley Flowers Clenney & Turner, PC

What the team is known for

Johnston Hinesley Flowers Clenney & Turner, PC is a tax boutique based in Dothan, Alabama. The firm offers advice in tax-exempt financing as well as general taxation matters.

Notable practitioners

David Johnston is an experienced tax lawyer based in South Alabama. He is equipped to handle tax planning for corporations and individuals. Alongside his civil tax practice, he also defends in criminal tax cases. Joe Chambers has a strong commercial tax practice, advising on tax issues arising in the course of transactions. He additionally boasts expertise in handling estate planning and tax litigation matters.

Jones Walker LLP

What the team is known for

Jones Walker LLP has a notable tax practice that is best known for its expertise on tax credits and transactional tax. The firm’s client base includes banks and other financial institutions.

Strengths

“Jones Walker exhibit a high degree of professionalism and pragmatism.”

“Jones and Walker keep abreast of industry issues and take the time to share insights with clients.”

Notable practitioners

Brandon Hughey has a robust commercial tax practice and particular expertise in advising on tax credit financing.

Leaders' Profiles in Alabama

AHNERT, Janell M.

Little Mendelson, PC, Birmingham
(205) 421-4784
jahnert@littler.com

*Featured in Labor & Employment
(Alabama)*

Practice Areas: Arbitration; Financial Services; Litigation and Trials

Career: Janell Ahnert practice encompasses all facets of employment law, specifically in the representation of management in both employment counseling and employment litigation. She has experience with issues involving wage and hour claims; discrimination and harassment; and retaliation. With licenses held in four states, Ahnert is able to serve her clients' needs in various legal forums. She handles a variety of employment law matters in state and federal courts and has broad experience defending employers accused of discrimination and harassment in federal court, including a first-chair jury trial experience. She has also successfully defended management in many wage and hour cases under the Fair Labor Standard Act and obtained summary judgments on behalf of her clients. In addition to federal court practice, Ahnert has experience defending financial services clients in employment matters pending before FINRA. In this area, she represents broker-dealers and banks in FINRA arbitrations filed by employees across the country. As well as being a top-notch advocate, Ahnert is a respected mediator. She is known for being able to combine empathetic listening with realistic cases and evaluate damages based on her extensive federal court litigation experience. Ahnert is committed to pro bono efforts and dedicates her time to assisting economically disadvantaged individuals by serving in several nonprofits in the Birmingham area.

Professional Memberships:

Alabama Center for Dispute Resolution Mediator Roster; Alabama State Bar Association-Labor and Employment Section; American Bar Association-Labor and Employment Section; Birmingham Bar Association-ADR Section; Women Lawyers Section; Northern District of Alabama Panel of Neutrals

BAILEY, Chandler

Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC,
Birmingham
cbailey@lightfootlaw.com

Featured in Litigation (Alabama)

Practice Areas: For over 20 years, Chandler has represented product manufacturers and suppliers around the country in high-stakes cases involving catastrophic injuries and wrongful death. Chandler knows the importance of taking the time to understand how products work and why. Using that knowledge, along with an exhaustive investigation of the incident, Chandler develops powerful trial themes that often lead to a successful solution for his clients short of the courthouse. In all of it, he works to ensure that his client's

side of the story is told. Chandler makes it a priority to understand his clients' businesses, their products and get to know their employees. This allows him to not only represent them in any one particular case, but also to provide more comprehensive counsel that goes beyond the current engagement. This strategy has earned him the trust of several of the country's largest companies. Serving as their national and regional counsel, he has represented them in serious, high-exposure lawsuits in more than 20 states across the country. When it matters most, Chandler is a seasoned courtroom lawyer, having tried cases to verdict in many different venues — from Georgia to Arizona. Chandler currently serves on Lightfoot's Hiring Committee, is a past participant in the Alabama State Bar's Leadership Forum and co-chaired the Alabama Defense Lawyers Association (ADLA) Annual Trial Academy. He is also a member of the Product Liability Advisory Council (PLAC). Chandler has been honored by several leading legal publications. He was selected by Benchmark Litigation as a "Local Litigation Star" from 2017 to 2021, listed in the 2018-2021 editions of The Best Lawyers in America® by BL Rankings, and recognized by Thomson Reuters' Super Lawyers every year since 2010.

BARLOTTA, Rachel

Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC, Birmingham
rbarlotta@bakerdonelson.com

*Featured in Labor & Employment
(Alabama)*

Practice Areas: For this attorney's full bio, please go to bakerdonelson.com/Rachel-V-Barlotta. Rachel Barlotta is an employment and fair housing litigation attorney with almost two decades of experience successfully guiding clients through high-stakes litigation. Having tried multiple cases to verdict, Ms. Barlotta brings that experience to advising companies on how to avoid and defend against all types of claims in the employment and housing context, including claims of discrimination, retaliation, harassment, wage and hour, Title I and Title II of the ADA, Fair Housing Act, and the FMLA. She has obtained favorable outcomes for companies who are defending claims filed with the EEOC, DOL, HUD, OSHA and other federal and state agencies. Ms. Barlotta has also argued before the Eleventh and Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. She assists employers, property owners, and property management companies in drafting compliant policies and agreements. She also helps employers with non-compete issues and has litigated many non-compete cases in state and federal court.

BAUGH, Robert R

Dentons Sirote, Birmingham
205-930-5307
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Featured in Litigation (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Robert Baugh is a shareholder in Dentons Sirote's Birmingham, Alabama office, where he serves as chair of the Dentons Sirote Litigation practice group. Robert has been engaged in the practice of law continuously since 1982. Robert represents clients in insurance, business, and product liability cases in both state and federal courts throughout the Southeast. He has obtained favorable results for Fortune 500 companies as well as privately held companies. In addition to his litigation practice, Robert regularly serves as a mediator.

BEIER, Delaney

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP,
Birmingham

Featured in Environment (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Environmental Law Environmental Regulatory, Transactional & Litigation Governmental Affairs

Career: Delaney Beier helps clients mitigate and manage their environmental liabilities, responsibilities, and risks. In doing so, Delaney counsels clients in a wide variety of matters arising out of agency proceedings, enforcement actions, citizen suits, permitting, compliance and due diligence matters, transactions, brownfield redevelopment and site remediation, and litigation. She regularly handles matters in all environmental media, including air, land, waste, and water, and represents clients in many different industries ranging from large companies to small, local businesses. Delaney works to find practical solutions to the complex issues her clients face under various environmental laws and regulations. This includes, for example, the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act/Superfund, the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, the Endangered Species Act, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, the Toxic Substances Control Act, and various state counterparts. She has worked with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management, as well as other federal, state, and local environmental agencies, to help clients achieve desirable results in enforcement actions brought under these environmental laws and regulations. In addition, Delaney conducts compliance counseling and audits for clients related to the life-cycle of their operations and products, including compliance and permitting requirements. She also enjoys working with clients to assess and manage risks under certain Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) topics, including environmental justice

BELL, Michael

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Featured in Litigation (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Mike handles wrongful death cases of all types,

class actions, commercial disputes, general products liability, consumer fraud cases, automotive litigation, and professional negligence cases.

Professional Memberships: American College of Trial Lawyers, Fellow American Bar Foundation, Fellow

BERDY, Christopher S

Butler Snow LLP, Birmingham

Practice Areas: Pharmaceutical, Medical Device & Healthcare Litigation; Products Liability Litigation; Business Litigation.

Career: Chris Berdy is a member of the firm's Pharmaceutical, Medical Device & Healthcare Litigation Group and Products, Catastrophic & Industrial Litigation Group. In addition, he has extensive experience defending manufacturers of pharmaceutical products and medical devices, including developing, coordinating and implementing defense strategy in concurrent federal and state court consolidated proceedings, deposing healthcare providers and expert witnesses, and retention, development of and challenges to expert witnesses. He also has broad experience in defending a wide variety of consumer, commercial and industrial products and manufacturing systems. In addition, he has wide-ranging experience representing publicly-held and privately-owned corporations in enforcing and defending wide-ranging claims involving contractual rights, trade secrets, false advertising and trademark infringement. Chris is recognized for his expertise by Best Lawyers in America® and Mid-South Super Lawyers, and he is AV®-Preeminent™ Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell®. Birmingham Business Journal selected him as one of its 2021 Best of the Bar and B-Metro Birmingham Business Magazine selected him as one of "Birmingham's Top Attorneys." He is admitted to practice in Alabama. Chris is a frequent author and speaker, and he regularly authors articles for Butler Snow's pharmaceutical and medical device industry publication, Pro Te: Solutio, as well as other industry publications.

Professional Memberships: Chris has served in numerous leadership roles within the International Association of Defense Counsel (IADC), including having served on the Board of Directors (2020-2023), on the faculty of IADC's 2018 Trial Academy, Chair of the CLE Committee (2016-2017 and 2019-2020), and Chair of the Alabama State Membership Committee (2011-2023), among other roles. He is involved in a number of other organizations, including the Alabama Defense Lawyers Association, Defense Research Institute (DRI), Food and Drug Law Institute, and the American Bar Association. Chris is active in many civic organizations, including the Rotary Club of Birmingham, St. Mary's-on-the-Highlands Episcopal Church, and the Alabama Holocaust Education Center (Board of Directors

and President). He is a member of Leadership Birmingham's Class of 2015 and a former member of the Washington & Lee National Alumni Board.

Publications: Author, "The Nuremberg Trials: A Story for Trial Lawyers," Pro Te: Solutio, Vol. 16, No. 1, March 2023. Author, "Solving the Problem of Daubert's 'Shaky but Admissible Evidence': An Amendment to Federal Rule of Evidence 702 May Be Forthcoming," Pro Te: Solutio, Vol. 14, No. 1, February 2021. Speaker, "IADC Talks: Humanity United," International Association of Defense Counsel's 2019 Annual Meeting, Asheville, N.C., July 8, 2019. Speaker, "Back to Basics: Direct and Cross-Examination of Expert Witnesses at Trial," International Association of Defense Counsel's 2019 Midyear Meeting, Santa Barbara, Calif., February 26, 2019. Co-Author, "For Design Defect Cases, Alabama's Alternative Design Requirement Just Got Tougher," IADC Drug Device and Biotechnology Committee Newsletter, December 2016. Chapter Co-Author, "Liens and Medicare Secondary Payer Act," IADC Defense Counsel Training Manual (3d Ed. 2016). Co-Author, "Alabama No Longer an Outlier State: Legislature Says 'No' To Innovator Liability," Pro Te: Solutio, Vol. 8 No. 3, December 2015. Author, "Thinking Bigger: Broadening Regulatory Strategy For New Medical Devices By Planning For Both Regulatory and Reimbursement Approval," Pro Te: Solutio, Vol. 8 No. 2, October 2015. Speaker, "Strategic Planning for Law Firms: Key Considerations," IADC 2015 Annual Meeting, July 8, 2015. Author, "Collaboration: Part of the Pharmaceutical Industry's New Normal," Pro Te: Solutio, Vol. 7 No. 2, 25-31, June 2014. Co-Author, "What Do California, Vermont and Alabama Have in Common?" Pro Te: Solutio, Vol. 6 No. 3, September 2013. Speaker, "Alternative Fee Arrangements & Value Billing," IADC 2013 Annual Meeting, July 8, 2013. Speaker, "The Future of the Legal Services Industry," IADC & FDCC Joint Law Firm Management Conference, May 10, 2013. Co-Author, "What Do California, Vermont ... and Alabama Have in Common?: Innovator-Liability for Brand-Name Prescription Drug Manufacturers," IADC Committee Newsletter, February 2013. Co-Author, "The Mississippi Supreme Court Issues A Get-Out-of-Jail Card to Unlicensed Engineers Offering Expert Testimony," IADC Committee Newsletter, December 2012. Moderator, "The Decision to Seek Arbitration - Be Careful What You Wish For ...," IADC Annual Meeting, July 2012. Moderator, "Why Clients Are Demanding Value and What Law Firms Are Doing (or Not) to Meet The Challenge," IADC Midyear Meeting, February 2012. Author, "Alabama Now Recognizes A Civil Cause of Action for the Wrongful Death of A Non-viable Fetus," IADC Medical Defense & Health Law Committee Newsletter, October 2011. Author, "Finally...Alabama Makes the Change from Frye to Daubert," IADC Trial Techniques & Tactics Newsletter, July 2011. Panelist, "Meeting Your Client's Expectations in Mediation,"

IADC Midyear Meeting, February 2011. Co-Author, "Overcoming the Vanishing Trail: A Lawyer's Skills Are More Vital Than Ever to Success at Mediation," IADC ADR Committee Newsletter, January 2011. Co-Author, "Kawasaki v. Regal-Beloit: The Supreme Court Resolves the Long-Standing Circuit Split Regarding the Law Applicable to Multimodal Shipping Contracts," IADC Environmental, Energy and Maritime Law Committee Newsletter, December 2010. Moderator, "Uses of Social Media in Discovery and Trial," IADC Webinar, June 2010. Co-Author, "The Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP Extension Act of 2007: A Practitioner's Guide to Resolving Personal Injury Liability Claims by Medicare Beneficiaries," 76 Def. Couns. J. 393, October 2009. Author, "Alabama Has a Difference of Opinion: When Does Testimony by an Out-of-State Engineer Constitute the Practice of Engineering?" IADC Product Liability Committee Newsletter, January 2007. Author, "What Every Product Manufacturer Needs to Know When Defending a Lawsuit in Alabama," IADC Product Liability Committee Newsletter, January 2006. Co-Author, "The Basics of Applying Daubert and Frye in State Court," Alabama Defense Lawyers Association Journal, 21, April 2003. **Personal:** Washington and Lee University, B.A., Geology and Environmental Studies; Cumberland School of Law, J.D., 1996. Chris is a dual citizen of both the United States and Austria.

BRICKMAN, Steven A
Dentons Sirote, Birmingham
205 930 5171
steven.brickman@dentons.com
Featured in Real Estate (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Steven Brickman is a shareholder in Dentons Sirote's Birmingham, Alabama office. He is a member of the Real Estate practice group. Steven is a trusted advisor, helping clients navigate all aspects of the commercial real estate development process, from land acquisition and financing to leasing and planning. His additional areas of experience include the acquisition and sale of businesses and representing clients in general business matters, as well as health law corporate compliance.

BROWNING, Brandon
Maynard Nexsen, Birmingham
bbrowning@maynardnexsen.com
Featured in Intellectual Property (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Intellectual Property Intellectual Property Litigation
Career: Brandon is a registered patent attorney with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. His practice focuses on the acquisition, protection, licensing, and enforcement of intellectual property and defending clients against the intellectual property claims of others. In particular, he concentrates on chemical, pharmaceutical, medical device, and energy-related technologies. He regularly counsels clients in the following areas: -Domestic and foreign patent prosecution and patent infringement litigation in the federal courts -Domestic

and foreign trademark prosecution and trademark infringement litigation in the federal courts -Trademark opposition and cancellation proceedings before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office -Copyright registration, copyright infringement litigation -Identifying, protecting, transferring, and licensing technology in corporate mergers and acquisitions -Providing patent non-infringement and validity opinions -Designing around patents -Domain name disputes before the Federal Courts and World Intellectual Property Organization

Professional Memberships:
American Intellectual Property Law Association
Manufacture Alabama

BURCHFIELD, Caitlyn
Butler Snow LLP, Birmingham
Practice Areas: Public Finance, Incentives, and Economic Development
Career: Caitlyn Burchfield is a partner in Butler Snow LLP's public finance group. Caitlyn has over ten years of experience in public and private offerings across the U.S., and she regularly serves as bond counsel, underwriter's counsel, disclosure counsel, and lender's counsel. In the past few years, she has successfully closed bond issuances totaling billions of dollars. Caitlyn also advises clients on revenue-sharing arrangements, tax in-lieu programs, and other economic development incentives. Caitlyn's work has been recognized by The Best Lawyers in America®, the Birmingham Business Journal, and The Legal 500 US.

Professional Memberships: Caitlyn is admitted to both the Mississippi Bar and Alabama Bar, and she is a member of the American Bar Association, Birmingham Bar Association, and National Association of Bond Lawyers. She has served on the Board of Directors of The Rotaract Club of Birmingham (Executive Vice President) and the Alabama Symphony Orchestra Junior Patrons (Past President).

Publications: -Panelist, "Intro to Bonds Finance Course," Council of Development Finance Agencies -2023, 2024, 2025. -Panelist, "Bedrock Tools Learning Experience" for the 2023 Caren S. Franzini Fellowship -May 2023. -Co-Author, "Disaster Recovery Bond Financing," National Association of Bond Lawyers - September 5, 2018

Personal: Caitlyn obtained her J.D. from the University of Alabama School of Law and her undergraduate degree from the University of Alabama.

BUTLER, Thomas
Maynard Nexsen, Birmingham
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Featured in Litigation (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Business & Commercial Disputes Class Action Insurance Coverage & Bad Faith Insurance Law Pharmaceutical & Medical Device Litigation Product Liability
Career: Tom leads Maynard Nexsen's Litigation Section. He has a wide range of trial and class action experience in

state and federal courts across the United States, as well as in the Second, Fifth, Tenth, and Eleventh Circuit Courts of Appeal. Tom's diverse practice includes class actions, life insurance, and annuity sales practice litigation, mass tort, bad faith, ERISA, securities, product liability, general business litigation, and landlord/tenant disputes. With significant experience representing some of the largest property and casualty life insurance and retirement companies in the United States in claims, interpleaders, sales practices, rescission, bad faith, and punitive damages matters, Tom has earned recognition by Best Lawyers® in the area of Insurance Law. He also devotes a substantial amount of his practice to defending all aspects of consumer class actions, serving as a co-lead counsel in various nationwide settlements. Tom has served as trial counsel in numerous venues, including California, Illinois, Mississippi, and Alabama. Tom's reputation and skills as a lawyer are widely recognized. In addition to his consistent inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America® for Insurance Law and Litigation: Insurance Law, he was one of the youngest lawyers named to Alabama Super Lawyers for his success in defending class action/mass tort litigation. He is a current member of Maynard Nexsen's Board of Directors and also serves as an Adjunct Professor of Trial Advocacy at the University of Alabama School of Law.

CAHILL, Matthew M
Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC, Birmingham
mcahill@bakerdonelson.com
Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Alabama)

Practice Areas: For this attorney's full bio, please go to bakerdonelson.com/Matthew-M-Cahill. Matthew Cahill primarily represents national and local banks, servicers, financial institutions, and asset-based lenders in loan workouts and insolvency matters, with a particular emphasis on advising special servicers of CMBS assets on all aspects of commercial real estate loan workouts. Based in the Firm's Birmingham office, Mr. Cahill also has significant experience advising landlords on bankruptcy-related issues and representing financial institutions in general litigation matters.

CAMPBELL, Joe
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Featured in Healthcare (Alabama)

Practice Areas: For this attorney's full bio, please go to bakerdonelson.com/joe-w-campbell Joe W. Campbell focuses his practice in health-related matters, including medical staff issues, medical staff and hospital bylaws, medical staff contracts, certificate of need issues, hospital bond financing, managed-care matters, health plan issues, hospital networking and physician practice management, including Stark physician self-referral rules. Mr. Campbell serves

as general counsel for Huntsville Hospital System, which is comprised of Athens-Limestone Hospital, Decatur Morgan Hospital, Lawrence Medical Center, Helen Keller Hospital, Huntsville Hospital, Lincoln Medical Center, Highlands Medical Center, Marshall Medical Centers, and Red Bay Hospital.

CAPRIO, Frank

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP, Huntsville

Featured in Intellectual Property (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Copyrights Government Contracts Intellectual Property IP & Competitive Practices Litigation Technology Transactions Media & Entertainment Law Patent Procurement, Management & Counseling Trade Secrets Trademarks Construction Life Sciences Class Action Litigation Emerging Growth Companies International & Cross Border Fintech

Career: Frank Caprio is a former managing partner of the Huntsville office. He focuses his practice on intellectual property law and assists clients in the protection and use of their intellectual property rights, and in the litigation of various technology-related disputes involving patent, trademark, copyright, trade secret, and computer issues. Frank has been recognized consistently in The Best Lawyers in America® for Copyright Law, Intellectual Property and Patent Law, Trade Secrets Law and Trademark Law. He is a retired Naval Flight Officer and Mission Commander having served in active duty and reserve squadrons flying the Lockheed P-3 Orion Aircraft, conducting Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) Missions. He also worked as an engineer providing technical analysis and program management to projects that included missile programs, warhead testing, and six-degree of freedom simulations. Frank regularly speaks on IP issues to business and legal associations and has held leadership positions in local and state bar associations. He is active in community service and has served as a board member for Huntsville Hospital Foundation, Huntsville YMCA, Biztech (a business incubator), Huntsville-Madison County Chamber of Commerce, Huntsville Emergency Management Agency, and Vanderbilt University Navy ROTC Alumni Board.

Professional Memberships: University of Alabama School of Law, Adjunct Professor, Patents Course, Copyrights Course Jessup Moot Court Team Faculty Advisor Panel of Neutrals, U.S. District Court, Northern District of Alabama Madison County American Inns of Court, Past President Leadership Alabama, Graduate Leadership Huntsville Madison County, Graduate American Bar Association Alabama Bar Association Huntsville Madison County Bar Association Huntsville Hospital Health System, Governing Authority Board Member, 2010-present Farrah Law Society, Board of Trustees Vanderbilt University, Navy ROTC Alumni Board

CARLISLE, Todd

Dentons Sirote, Birmingham
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Todd Carlisle is a shareholder and former president (2015–2022) of Dentons Sirote in Alabama. He is a member of the Corporate practice group and leads the Dentons Sirote Mergers and Acquisitions team. His practice focuses on mergers and acquisitions and general corporate representation with an emphasis in the financial services and forest products industries. Todd represents national property/casualty and life insurance distribution platforms, broker-dealers, regional and national banks, and wealth management firms. Todd is also actively engaged in the representation of clients in the forest products, consumer products, and manufacturing industries.

Publications: Contributor, “Corporate M&A Trends and Developments: USA,” Chambers and Partners, 2018–Present

CAROTHERS, Robert

Jones Walker LLP, Mobile
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Alabama), Banking & Finance (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Rob Carothers is a partner in the Corporate Practice Group. He focuses his practice on financial institution regulation and mergers and acquisitions. He serves as the office head for the firm’s Mobile office. Rob advises banks and other financial institutions on a wide range of regulatory matters. This includes assisting clients with compliance with federal and state banking laws and regulations (e.g., Truth in Lending Act (TILA)/Reg Z, Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act (RESPA), TRID, Bank Secrecy Act (BSA), Fair Debt Collections Practices Act, Community Reinvestment Act (CRA), mortgage origination/servicing rules, privacy rules, as well as many others). He also has experience assisting bank clients with data breach issues. He works with clients to prepare for regulatory examinations and counsels them on issues that arise during the examinations process, including negotiating proposed enforcement actions. He has significant experience working with banks in the mergers and acquisition process, including buy-side and sell-side representation (he has worked on more than 20 transactions during his career). As part of the M&A process, he works closely with clients to assist with due diligence, negotiation of key agreements, guiding clients through the regulatory applications process, drafting proxy statements, and other matters that arise during the process. He has worked with clients to deal with unique issues that arise with respect to in-market mergers, including working with the Department of Justice. Rob has significant experience working with banks in the mergers and acquisition process, including buy-side and sell-side representation (he has worked on

more than 20 transactions during his career). As part of the M&A process, he works closely with clients to assist with due diligence, negotiation of key agreements, guiding clients through the regulatory applications process, drafting proxy statements, and other matters that arise during the process. He has worked with clients to deal with unique issues that arise with respect to in-market mergers, including working with the Department of Justice.

CHATTERTON, Marcus

Balch & Bingham LLP, Birmingham

Featured in Intellectual Property (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Litigation Intellectual Property/Trademark Commercial & Class Action

Career: Marcus Chatterton is a tech-minded litigator experienced in intellectual property, social media, smart grid, electronic data, and general technology issues. Marcus represents large and small businesses, inventors, and creative clients in patent, trademark, copyright, and trade secret disputes. Working hard to keep his clients out of court, Marcus often advises on strategies to protect intellectual property, handle large volumes of data from systems like the “smart grid” or automated metering technologies, or to navigate Internet commerce issues and information governance. In court, Marcus is experienced as lead counsel for patent, trademark, and copyright infringement actions in federal court, administrative trials before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board and Trademark Trial and Appeal Board, and in state courts involving unfair competition, trade secrets, state trademark laws, and internet-based torts.

Professional Memberships: American Bar Association Alabama State Bar

COOPER, John H

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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Alabama)

Practice Areas: John H. Cooper is a shareholder in Dentons Sirote’s Birmingham, Alabama office, where he is a member of the Corporate practice group. As the previous managing partner of Dentons Sirote (formerly Sirote & Permutt, PC) (1999–2005; 2006–2015), John’s practice spans corporate, securities and tax law, with an emphasis on mergers and acquisitions, private equity and venture capital, securities, business and succession planning, corporate finance, corporate tax, directors and officers, executive compensation and general counsel services. John’s recent work also includes numerous mergers and acquisition transactions, the formation of a real estate investment fund and two opportunity zone program funds. In addition, he has served as an adjunct professor of Advanced Corporate Tax at the University of Alabama School of Law and of Partnership Taxation at Samford’s Cumberland School of Law.

Publications: Contributor, “Corporate M&A Trends and Developments: USA,” Chambers and Partners, 2018–Present

CORNELIUS, Maggie Johnson

Maynard Nexsen, Birmingham

Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Public Company advisory Corporate Governance Securities Regulation Corporate & Business Transactions ESG Advisory

Career: Maggie is a Shareholder in the Firm’s Public Company Advisory and Securities Regulation and Corporate Finance practice groups. She represents both private and publicly held companies in securities offerings and mergers and acquisitions and counsels public companies on a broad range of governance and compliance matters. Designated as a Certified Corporate Governance Professional® (CCGP) by the Society for Corporate Governance and the CCGP Commission, Maggie is distinguished as a leader in the area of corporate governance, an essential part of a company’s success, reputation, and stability. Maggie chairs Maynard Nexsen’s ESG Advisory Group, which counsels public and private companies on environmental, social and governance (ESG) compliance and disclosure issues, and assists companies of all sizes and in all industries with ESG program development and implementation. Our ESG Advisory Group recognizes that companies confront different ESG issues and are in varying stages with respect to developing their ESG programs, and we provide tailored, balanced, and practical advice. Additionally, Maggie regularly assists publicly held companies with insider ownership reporting and annual, quarterly, and current reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. She also counsels both new and established public companies regarding their public reporting obligations and other issues related to their public company status, including compliance with the Dodd-Frank Act, the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, and NYSE and NASDAQ listing standards.

DENNISTON, Michael

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP, Birmingham

mdenniston@bradley.com

Featured in Intellectual Property (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Antitrust & Competition Intellectual Property Trademarks Copyrights Trade Secrets Litigation Class Action Litigation Healthcare Food, Beverage & Hospitality Franchise & Distribution

Career: Mike Denniston’s practice focuses on advising and litigating for clients concerning antitrust and competition law and intellectual property issues. His practice spans the breadth of the antitrust and intellectual property arena. Mike’s antitrust practice encompasses not only litigation and advising clients, but also working closely with the firm’s Corporate and Securities Practice Group on merger analysis and preparing transactions

for premerger review pursuant to the Hart-Scott-Rodino Act. In addition to screening and negotiating agreements respecting trademarks and copyrights, Mike has an active trial practice in those areas. His litigation experience ranges from prosecuting and defending requests for temporary restraining orders to handling complex multiparty and multidistrict copyright litigation. His transaction work includes providing counsel on early termination and potential antitrust matters that require detailed engagement and negotiations with the FTC and the Department of Justice.

Professional Memberships: University of Alabama School of Law, Adjunct Professor American Bar Association, Alabama Chapter Editor, State Antitrust Law Practice and Statutes, 5th ed., 6th ed. (forthcoming) International Trademark Association The Trademark Reporter, Editorial Board, 2000-2003, 2006-2012, 2019-2021 State Trademark and Unfair Competition Law, Alabama Chapter Editor Alabama State Bar, Intellectual Property, Entertainment & Sports Section, Chair, 2015-2016 American Health Law Association Defense Research Institute The Altamont School, Board of Trustees, 2012-2020; President 2017-2019 Virginia Samford Theatre, Board of Directors, 2008-present Vulcan Park & Museum Foundation, Board of Directors, 2013-2019

ESSIG, Brandon K
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Featured in Litigation (Alabama)

Practice Areas: A seasoned courtroom lawyer, Brandon has tried dozens of high-profile jury cases in his career. His courtroom experience includes both civil and criminal trials in state and federal courts, and multiple appellate arguments. Brandon also has a wide-ranging internal investigations and compliance practice, advising both corporate clients as well as college and university athletics programs, coaches, and athletes. In addition, he handles a diverse docket of civil cases for the firm's clients in state and federal courts and in arbitration forums. As a former federal prosecutor, Brandon uses his experience in his white-collar practice to defend clients facing criminal charges through trial, and to guide his clients through federal and state grand jury investigations, state ethics matters, regulatory enforcement actions, and Title IX and NCAA infractions matters. Prior to joining Lightfoot, Brandon worked for nearly eight years at the Department of Justice. As an assistant U.S. attorney, he investigated and prosecuted a variety of crimes including public corruption, fraud, money laundering, violent crime, organized drug trafficking, environmental crimes and child exploitation. As a civil litigator, Brandon now defends high-profile Fortune 100 clients in bet-the-company matters, including leading manufacturers, medical device

companies, large-scale retailers and pest control services. Brandon has handled a variety of complex civil matters on the plaintiffs' side as well. Prior to his time at the DOJ, Brandon was a captain in the U.S. Marine Corps. His service included time as a prosecutor and 10 months assigned to a Marine Corps infantry unit, including a seven-month deployment to Fallujah, Iraq. A former college athlete, Brandon played football at the University of West Alabama where he was twice selected as an Academic All-Conference tight end.

FELTHAM, Daniel
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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Corporate & Securities Public Companies Private Companies Mergers & Acquisitions Private Equity Venture Capital Emerging Growth Companies Food, Beverage & Hospitality
Career: Danny Feltham is a partner in Bradley's Corporate and Securities Practice Group and has significant experience in advising privately held and publicly traded companies on a broad range of transactional matters, particularly in mergers and acquisitions, private equity and venture capital transactions, joint ventures, corporate reorganizations, and general corporate matters. Danny supports clients through all stages of growth. He routinely represents investors and founders in material capital raising, portfolio company acquisitions and exits. He is well versed in NVCA-style, early-stage and pre-IPO private investments. Danny also serves as outside general counsel to venture capital funds, private equity portfolio companies, and family-owned businesses. He has participated in numerous transactions both domestically and internationally, and his broad industry experience spans the healthcare and healthcare technology, manufacturing and distribution, transportation, software, and food and beverage sectors. A graduate of Vanderbilt University Law School, he received a certificate in Law and Business and served as senior managing editor of the Vanderbilt Law Review. Danny also earned a Bachelor of Science in Finance (summa cum laude) from Auburn University's Raymond J. Harbert College of Business. Prior to joining Bradley, Danny clerked for the Hon. R. David Proctor on the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama. In 2022, Danny was the recipient of the M&A Advisor "Emerging Leader" award, recognizing top M&A practitioners under the age of 40 in the United States.

FORD, Sara
Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC,
Birmingham

Featured in Litigation (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Automotive Banking & Financial Services Class Actions Commercial Litigation Consumer Fraud

& Bad Faith Environmental & Toxic Torts FINRA Securities Arbitration Product Liability Professional Liability Securities & Shareholder Disputes

FORTUNE, Daniel
Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP,
Birmingham

Featured in Litigation (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Government Enforcement & Investigations Cybersecurity & Privacy Litigation

Career: Daniel Fortune represents clients in matters involving cybersecurity, white collar defense, government enforcement actions and regulatory compliance. In addition, Daniel has litigated more than 75 jury trials in federal and state courts involving complex matters and computer forensics. His clients value his proactive approach, as well as his commitment to protecting and defending their best interests and reputations. Prior to joining Bradley, Daniel served as the lead cybersecurity attorney at a litigation boutique, and as a state prosecutor and federal prosecutor litigating matters involving computer forensics, white collar crime and government investigations. As the Deputy Chief Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Criminal Division, he supervised major cybercrime, white collar fraud, public corruption, asset forfeiture and national security matters. He also served as the Computer Hacking and Intellectual Property Coordinator with top-secret security clearance, working on matters involving cleared defense contractors. In addition, Daniel supervised national and international investigations related to internet crime, money laundering, and cryptocurrencies. During his time at the Department of Justice, Daniel was recognized by the FBI Director for his work with the National Cyber Investigative Joint Task Force for achieving notable success in major crime control efforts and for contributions to complex and sensitive operations. Daniel serves as an adjunct professor at the Birmingham School of Law and Miles School of Law, where he teaches Torts and Trial Advocacy. He is also a respected mentor and advisor for the Birmingham School of Law Mock Trial Team.

Professional Memberships: American Bar Association Birmingham Bar Association; Federal Practice Section Chair, 2019 Birmingham Inn of Court Alabama State Bar; Cyber Security Task Force, 2018

FRIEDMAN, Samuel
Dentons Sirote, Birmingham

Featured in Banking & Finance (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Samuel D. Friedman is a shareholder in Dentons Sirote's Birmingham, Alabama office, where he is a member of the Real Estate and Banking and Finance practice groups. Sam's practice primarily focuses on commercial real estate and commercial lending. Sam helps clients buy, sell, develop, lease, and finance commercial property in his commercial real estate practice, including large apartment complexes, senior living communities, hotels, office

buildings, and shopping centers. In Sam's commercial lending practice, he represents borrowers and lenders in complex financing transactions. In addition to Sam's real estate and lending practice, he also advises companies regarding compliance with federal and state consumer finance laws and regulations, particularly federal privacy and identity theft laws.

GARRISON, Kevin R
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Featured in Construction (Alabama)

Practice Areas: For this attorney's full bio, please go to bakerdonelson.com/Kevin-R-Garrison. Mr. Garrison concentrates his practice in construction litigation and represents owners, contractors, subcontractors, design professionals, design firms, and suppliers in all aspects of construction disputes. Mr. Garrison concentrates his practice in construction litigation, and is one of the few attorneys in Alabama accredited by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) as a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Accredited Professional (LEED AP®). This credential allows Mr. Garrison to help clients proactively examine and prepare for the unique qualifications and risks that are involved in green construction projects. As a construction attorney, Mr. Garrison represents owners, contractors, subcontractors, design professionals, design firms, and suppliers in all aspects of construction disputes, from construction contract drafting and negotiation to mechanics' liens, contractor licensing issues, insurance claims, payment and performance bond claims, retainage issues, litigation, and arbitration. In addition to his construction practice, Mr. Garrison represents clients in connection with premises liability, nuisance cases, business torts, wrongful death, and commercial motor vehicle litigation. He is also experienced in appellate work and general business litigation involving non-compete agreements, obtaining temporary restraining orders and other injunctive relief, receivership cases, employment discrimination cases, contract disputes, and personal injury defense.

Career: Accredited by U.S. Green Building Council as LEED AP; Rising Star in Construction Litigation by Mid-South Super Lawyers (2013-2017); AGC Alabama's inaugural "Top 40 Under 40" Class of 2018; ABC Alabama "Future Leader in Construction" (2014)

Professional Memberships: Alabama AGC - Associate Board Member and YCF Executive Committee Member; ACE Mentor Program of Alabama - Board Member; ABA Forum on Construction - Division 3 (Design) Steering Committee

Personal: University of Alabama, J.D., 2007, cum laude; University of Alabama, B.S. in Civil Engineering, 2002, cum laude

GILCHRIST, Wesley

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Featured in Litigation (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Antitrust Banking & Financial Services Class Actions Commercial Litigation Construction Corporate Plaintiff's Litigation Directors' & Officers' Liability FINRA Securities Arbitration Professional Liability Securities & Shareholder Disputes Software & Technology White-Collar Criminal Defense & Corporate Investigations

GIPSON, Jake M.

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP,
Birmingham

Featured in Intellectual Property (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Intellectual Property Litigation Appellate Patent Procurement, Management & Counseling Patent Litigation

Career: Jake Gipson handles matters involving patents, trademarks, trade secrets, copyrights, and unfair competition. His practice includes assisting clients in obtaining, managing, protecting, and defending various intellectual property rights, with an emphasis on patent and trademark litigation. He represents clients in various federal and state courts across the country. As a registered patent attorney, Jake also routinely assists clients with procuring patent rights, as well as trademark rights. Jake has a degree in industrial and systems engineering and has worked as a website application and database developer, both of which help him understand his clients' technologies and the importance of obtaining meaningful protection. Before joining the firm, Jake clerked for the Hon. William H. Pryor Jr. on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. He graduated from the University of Alabama School of Law (summa cum laude), where he was web editor for the Alabama Law Review and a member of the Campbell Moot Court Board. He was inducted into the Order of the Coif, and received the Dean M. Leigh Harrison Award and the Hugo L. Black Scholar Award.

HALL, Stephen H.

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP,
Huntsville

Featured in Intellectual Property (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Antitrust & Competition Class Action Litigation Copyrights Intellectual Property IP & Competitive Practices Litigation Technology Transactions Life Sciences Media & Entertainment Law Patent Procurement, Management & Counseling Trademarks Trade Secrets Food & Agriculture Litigation & Regulatory Emerging Growth Companies International & Cross Border Patent Litigation

Career: Stephen Hall advises clients in the areas of intellectual property and technology matters. Stephen has an active trial practice litigating patent infringement, trademark infringement, copyright infringement, trade secret

misappropriation, and technology issues in state and federal courts. He also works closely with established and emerging technology companies in preparing and negotiating software and technology contracts, license agreements, and managing open source software issues. In addition, he has an active patent and trademark prosecution practice, assisting clients in developing, protecting, managing, and exploiting their intellectual property. Stephen is also actively involved with a variety of entrepreneur organizations, acting as an advisor and mentor to early stage startups. This involvement keeps Stephen informed of the unique issues and challenges that startups face and helps him guide those businesses as they grow and mature. Stephen draws from his experience as both a litigator and prosecutor in developing comprehensive and cost-effective IP strategies. His prosecution experience helps him develop litigation strategies in defending intellectual property assets, such as patents, trademarks, and trade secrets, and attacking third party intellectual property. Similarly, his experience in litigation helps him prosecute intellectual property applications in a way that minimizes potential risks when they are later enforced. Stephen has handled a wide variety of patent infringement matters, including cases involving weather systems, medical devices, synthetic vectors, consumer goods, computer systems, communication systems, and pharmaceuticals. He has also represented clients in various copyright and trademark infringement cases, as well as trade secret misappropriation cases. Additionally, his litigation practice includes representing clients in patent proceedings before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB) trademark oppositions and cancellations before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board (TTAB) and other alternative tribunals such as ICANN. He has also advised and represented government contractors in bid protests.

Professional Memberships: Auburn Research and Economic Development Advisory Board BizTech (Startup/Entrepreneurial Incubator), Board Member Alabama Model Trademark Act Committee, Damages Subcommittee Chair, 2009 Alabama State Bar Association Huntsville/Madison County Bar Association Alabama State Bar Association, Intellectual Property Section

HINKLE, Logan

Burr & Forman LLP, Birmingham
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Featured in Employee Benefits & Executive Compensation (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Corporate Law Employee Benefits & Executive Compensation Tax Law

Career: Logan Hinkle's practice is primarily focused on helping clients navigate the regulatory complexities of executive compensation and employee benefits. He is experienced with laws governing qualified plans, health plans, deferred compensation, parachute

agreements, and deduction limitations rules. He works with the firm's securities lawyers, labor and employment attorneys, and litigators on benefits and plan-related matters. Logan regularly advises companies, boards, private equity clients, and members of management on executive compensation, including grants of equity, and benefits issues that arise in the context of mergers, acquisitions, spinoffs, initial public offerings, restructurings, and other corporate events. He also advises on the adoption, revision, and negotiation of executive employment and severance agreements, as well as disputes and controversies involving executive compensation. In addition, Logan has assisted numerous clients with compliance and planning issues related to the Affordable Care Act and its various mandates. He also speaks and writes frequently about the Affordable Care Act, qualified plans, and executive compensation issues. Logan is an adjunct faculty member at Cumberland School of Law at Samford University, where he teaches a course on ERISA and Employee Benefits.

Professional Memberships: American Bar Association Alabama State Bar Birmingham Bar Association

Personal: Birmingham Bar Foundation, Attorney Birmingham Botanical Gardens, Board Attorney

HUGHEY, Brandon

Jones Walker LLP, Birmingham

Featured in Tax (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Brandon Hughey is a partner in the Tax Practice Group. While he has advised clients in many aspects of federal and state taxation, Brandon's practice currently focuses on partnership taxation and the representation of lenders and investors in connection with affordable housing transactions using tax credits under Section 42 and 47 of the Internal Revenue Code and housing and historic state tax credits, tax-exempt bonds, tax-exempt loans, MTEBs, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac debt, HOME loans, HUD, RAD, AHP grants or loans, USDA/RD loans, and other financing sources. Brandon has also represented clients in matters before the Internal Revenue Service and the Alabama Department of Revenue. He has represented clients in tax and real estate cases in the US District Court, Alabama state courts and the Alabama Supreme Court. He has also advised businesses on tax and corporate business formation, acquisitions, mergers and dispositions.

IRBY III, Russell L

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Practice Areas: Mergers and Acquisitions; Corporate Finance and Securities

Career: Rusty has extensive experience in the areas of mergers and acquisitions, corporate and tax law. Rusty works with closely held and family businesses on business planning and taxation, including their formation, operation and sale. He is recognized

as being highly knowledgeable in tax issues related to estate and succession planning, trusts and probate. He has been recognized by The Best Lawyers in America® (Corporate Law, Mergers and Acquisition Law, and Tax Law) and Birmingham Business Journal (Best of the Bar and Who's Who in Law).

Professional Memberships: American Bar Association (Taxation Section); Alabama State Bar (Taxation Section); Birmingham Bar Association; Alabama France Economic Alliance; and Birmingham Tax Forum

Personal: University of Alabama: B.S., 1987; M.B.A., 1991; J.D. 1991; New York University, LL.M. Taxation, 1992

J LANDAU, Nicholas

Maynard Nexsen, Birmingham
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Featured in Intellectual Property (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Intellectual Property Law Life Sciences Emerging Businesses

Career: Nick is a seasoned Patent attorney with 18+ years of legal experience and doctoral-level training in environmental/industrial microbiology. As a Shareholder in the Firm's Intellectual Property Group, Nick focuses his practice on patent drafting, patent prosecution, managing international patent portfolios, and providing legal analysis and opinions, as well as brand protection and enforcement. Prior to joining Maynard, Nick practiced in Alabama and Florida with national firms. His background also includes serving as Litigation Counsel with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Office of the Chief of Counsel in Washington, D.C., and serving as an Associate Plant Examiner at the U.S. Plant Variety Protection Office. Dedicated to intellectual property law and the advancement of biological science, Nick is active in the biotechnology industry serving as a board member of BIO Alabama, former Chair of the AIPLA Biotechnology Committee, and as an Adjunct Professor of Law at Cumberland School of Law.

Professional Memberships: BIO Alabama, Board of Directors American Intellectual Property Law Association Association of University Technology Managers (AUTM), Member

KILLEBREW, Denise

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Featured in Real Estate (Alabama)

Practice Areas: For this attorney's full bio, please go to bakerdonelson.com/ Denise-W-Killebrew Denise Killebrew concentrates her practice in the areas of real estate and capital finance as well as commercial lending and finance. Ms. Killebrew represents real estate developers in connection with the acquisition, development and financing of real estate, including land use planning and the structuring of alternative financing, capital stacks and joint venture vehicles. Ms. Killebrew also has years of experience in the development, finance and management of senior housing

and in retail development and leasing both for shopping center developers and national retailers. She is the former chair of the Firm's Real Estate/Finance Group and has served as managing shareholder of the Firm's Birmingham office as well as a member of the Firm's board of directors.

KIMBLE, Cavender
Balch & Bingham LLP, Birmingham
Featured in Litigation (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Chris Kimble devotes his practice primarily to the litigation of healthcare-related issues. He regularly works with clients on matters including class actions, multi-district litigation, arbitrations, and administrative actions involving managed care liability, RICO, insurance disputes, arbitration, medical malpractice, ERISA disputes, provider reimbursement, insurance fraud and abuse, False Claims Act, willing provider laws, medical, drug and device liability, antitrust, peer review, staff privileges, contract disputes, professional licensure, and federal and state regulated insurance programs. In addition, Chris maintains an active counseling practice in these areas.

Career: The University of Alabama School of Law, J.D. University of North Alabama, B.S.N.

Professional Memberships: American Health Lawyers Association DRI Certified Dispute Resolver, American Health Lawyers Association International Association of Defense Counsel American Arbitration Association, Arbitrator

LARKIN RADNEY IV, W.
Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC,
Birmingham

Featured in Environment (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Automotive Class Actions Environmental & Toxic Torts Pharma & Medical Device Complex Government Litigation & Investigations Product Liability

LARY, Rachel
Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC,
Birmingham

Featured in Litigation (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Automotive Commercial Litigation Pharma & Medical Device Medical Malpractice Product Liability Trust & Estate Disputes White-Collar Criminal Defense & Corporate Investigations

Career: A talented litigator, Rachel takes a tailored approach to each matter she handles and is always up for a challenge. These traits have served her well in litigating a broad spectrum of cases, including business disputes, product liability claims, medical malpractice, and trust and estate disputes. Aware of what is required to take a case through to trial, Rachel works toward developing a persuasive story for each stage of litigation. She enjoys uncovering key details, crafting a narrative that embraces the truth, dealing with the hard facts and persuading a court or jury to find in her client's favor. Rachel serves as national counsel for several major clients handling product

liability cases through the Southeast and beyond. She has litigated cases in Georgia to Oklahoma to Washington, D.C. and the states in between. She is honored these Fortune 500 clients trust her to represent them beyond her home state of Alabama. She served as chair of the firm's Associate Committee for several years and currently chairs the Marketing and Business Development Committee. She was awarded Top Birmingham Women in 2024 and was recognized as a Future Star of Benchmark Litigation. She has been named to the Best Lawyers in America since 2018 for her work in product liability, personal injury, commercial litigation and trust and estates.

LEVIN, Michelle
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Featured in Tax (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Michelle Abrams Levin is a shareholder in Dentons Sirote's Huntsville, Alabama office, where she is a member of the Tax practice group and manages the Huntsville office. She represents clients during all phases of federal income tax controversies, including IRS audit, administrative appeals, and court proceedings in the U.S. Tax Court, U.S. Court of Federal Claims, federal district court and the Courts of Appeals. Michelle has secured major victories for her clients in the Eleventh Circuit, Fifth Circuit, and Tax Court, elevating important Administrative Procedure Act issues in the tax controversy context. Her experience includes a wide range of complex tax issues. Michelle also counsels clients in tax and business planning. She works with clients to structure transactions in a manner that maximizes tax benefits, reduces risk, and complies with tax law at local, state, and federal levels. Prior to joining Dentons Sirote (formerly Sirote & Permutt, PC), Michelle worked as a trial attorney at the Tax Division of the Department of Justice, where she represented the United States in federal district court.

LEVITT, Ronald
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Featured in Tax (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Ronald Levitt is a shareholder in Dentons Sirote's Birmingham, Alabama office, where he is a member of the Tax practice group and leads the Dentons Sirote Conservation Easement team. His practice focuses on federal and state controversy matters, including planning and defending conservation easements. Additionally, his practice focuses on business and tax planning, particularly for closely-held and family-owned businesses. Specifically, he counsels clients in business, succession, estate, and charitable deduction planning; entity formation; representation of S corporations, limited liability companies, and other flow-through entities; mergers and acquisitions; purchases

and sales of businesses; and healthcare law by representing physician practices. Ronald frequently speaks at numerous tax clinics, conferences, forums, institutes, programs, seminars, and societies across the nation.

Publications: Co-author, "The Application of Section 199A to Owners of Pass Through Entities," Practising Law Institute's Tax Planning Course Handbook, 2021-2024

LUPINACCI, Timothy M
Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC, Birmingham
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Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Alabama)

Practice Areas: For this attorney's full bio, please go to bakerdonelson.com/Timothy-Lupinacci. Timothy M. Lupinacci is chairman and chief executive officer of Baker Donelson. Mr. Lupinacci previously served as chair of the Financial Services Department, a member of the Firm's Board of Directors and office managing shareholder for Birmingham. He serves on the Firm's Diversity Committee and previously served as co-chair of Baker Donelson's Women's Initiative Pathways to Leadership Committee. Mr. Lupinacci's practice of more than 32 years has focused on helping financial institutions solve complex issues arising in restructuring throughout the country with extensive experience with workouts and bankruptcies involving defaulted health care loans. He has primarily represented financial institutions, REITs, special servicers, indenture trustees, banks, and asset-based lenders in loan workouts and insolvency, with an emphasis on health care defaults, bankruptcy and restructuring.

Career: Chairman and CEO of Baker Donelson; former chair of the Firm's Financial Services Department. Licensed in Alabama. Contributing editor, Norton Bankruptcy Law & Practice 3d.

Professional Memberships: Fellow - American College of Bankruptcy, American Bankruptcy Institute, American, Alabama and Birmingham Bar Associations. CRE Finance Council.

Personal: Vanderbilt University School of Law, J.D., 1991; The University of Montevallo, B.A., 1988, cum laude. Board of Trustees - University of Montevallo.

MAHONEY JR, Thomas J
Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC, Jackson

Featured in Tax (Alabama)

Practice Areas: For this attorney's full bio, please go to bakerdonelson.com/Thomas-J-Mahoney-Jr. Tom Mahoney serves clients in tax and business planning, transaction planning, tax controversies and general business issues. Mr. Mahoney serves a range of clients from publicly held corporations and real estate investment trusts (REITs) to start-up companies and closely-held businesses. He counsels clients on the complexities of many areas of federal, state and local taxation, including acquisitions and

divestitures, partnership allocations and distributions, S corporation qualification and operations, incentive compensation arrangements, like-kind exchanges, REIT qualification and operations, tax exempt organization qualification and reporting issues, tax abatements and incentives, international transactions, and state and local income, franchise and sales taxes. Mr. Mahoney also provides day-to-day business planning advice to clients in areas such as licensing of intellectual property, contract drafting and review, corporate governance, buy-sell arrangements, joint ventures, partnership and limited liability company agreements and employee issues. His clients are in many industries including high-tech and software engineering, REITs, real estate development, service industries, equipment leasing, manufacturing, retail and professional practices.

MAPLES, Jay
Dentons Sirote, Birmingham

Featured in Employee Benefits & Executive Compensation (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Jay G. Maples is a shareholder in Dentons' Birmingham office, where he is a member of the Corporate practice and co-leads the Dentons US Region Aviation and Aerospace team. With his extensive corporate and tax experience, he regularly handles a wide range of complex transactions and issues spanning various industries, including aviation, manufacturing, insurance, banking and financial services, and real estate. Jay's exceptional knowledge and experience in the aviation industry enables him to provide clients with comprehensive advice on all aspects of aircraft ownership and operation, such as acquisition and disposition of all types and sizes of aircraft, tax planning, insurance analysis and claims, lending and securitization of aircraft, and the preparation and negotiation of ancillary agreements, such as pilot service agreements, hangar lease agreements, charter agreements, and maintenance agreements. Jay's prior background as a CPA and 20-plus years of experience as a regulatory tax lawyer, a corporate deal lawyer, and general corporate counsel gives him a unique skill set that not only allows him to understand and navigate the complex FAA regulatory world governing aircraft transactions but also to be able to understand and advise clients on the related and ancillary issues and the broader corporate picture that drives aircraft transactions. Jay frequently speaks and writes on these areas as well as other corporate and tax topics. Furthermore, Jay is a member of the Firm's Pensions, Benefits and Executive Compensation practice group. He has extensive experience in the employee benefits and executive compensation space, including proceedings before governmental agencies (IRS and DOL) concerning benefits and compensation matters.

MARTIN, Daniel

Limbo, Bedford
dmartin@balch.com

Featured in Litigation (Alabama)

Practice Areas: White-Collar Defense & Investigations Litigation Health Law
Career: Dan Martin is an accomplished litigator and trial attorney with a proven track record of success in white-collar criminal defense, including cases involving the False Claims Act, Anti-Kickback Statute, and other complex regulatory issues. He handles bet-the-company/bet-your-liberty cases on behalf of individuals and businesses under investigation or active prosecution by the Department of Justice (DOJ), including matters in which the DOJ seeks hundreds of millions of dollars in damages and penalties, as well as DOJ pursuits of felony convictions and prison time. Dan has secured favorable trial outcomes, favorable plea deals with no prison time, and favorable settlements at a small fraction of the government's original demands. He has also had significant success in persuading prosecutors to reconsider their position and decline to pursue criminal indictments or civil remedies against clients. Dan is skilled in navigating whistleblower matters and guiding clients through government investigations and enforcement actions, including responding to subpoenas, search warrants, and civil investigative demands (CIDs). Dan regularly conducts internal investigations involving highly sensitive matters and helps clients solve the very difficult and consequential questions posed by such matters, including whether and how to self-report.

Professional Memberships:

Alabama State Bar American Bar Association Birmingham Bar Association National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers State Bar of Michigan

MARTIN, Daniel

Balch & Bingham LLP, Birmingham
dmartin@balch.com

Featured in Healthcare (Alabama)

Practice Areas: White-Collar Defense & Investigations Litigation Health Law
Career: Dan Martin is an accomplished litigator and trial attorney with a proven track record of success in white-collar criminal defense, including cases involving the False Claims Act, Anti-Kickback Statute, and other complex regulatory issues. He handles bet-the-company/bet-your-liberty cases on behalf of individuals and businesses under investigation or active prosecution by the Department of Justice (DOJ), including matters in which the DOJ seeks hundreds of millions of dollars in damages and penalties, as well as DOJ pursuits of felony convictions and prison time. Dan has secured favorable trial outcomes, favorable plea deals with no prison time, and favorable settlements at a small fraction of the government's original demands. He has also had significant success in persuading prosecutors to reconsider their position and decline to pursue criminal indictments or civil remedies against clients. Dan

is skilled in navigating whistleblower matters and guiding clients through government investigations and enforcement actions, including responding to subpoenas, search warrants, and civil investigative demands (CIDs). Dan regularly conducts internal investigations involving highly sensitive matters and helps clients solve the very difficult and consequential questions posed by such matters, including whether and how to self-report. Dan also focuses his practice on complex commercial and employment litigation, representing clients ranging from individuals to Fortune 500 companies, across industries such as healthcare, energy, banking, construction, and manufacturing, and in a wide variety of matters such as claims involving breach of contract, construction defects, fraud, tortious interference, wrongful death, non-competes, trade secrets, and product liability.

Professional Memberships:

Alabama State Bar American Bar Association Birmingham Bar Association National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers State Bar of Michigan

MATHIS, Alan

Butler Snow LLP, Birmingham
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Practice Areas: Products, Catastrophic & Industrial Litigation; Drug and Device Litigation; Commercial Litigation; Intellectual Property Litigation

Career: AV[®]-Preeminent™ Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell[®]; Best Lawyers in America[®] (Product Liability Litigation-Defendants and Commercial Litigation); Mid-South Super Lawyers (Civil Litigation: Defense); Birmingham Magazine[®] Top Attorneys (Civil Litigation)

Professional Memberships:

American Bar Association (Section of Litigation Products Liability Committee); Birmingham Bar Association; Alabama Defense Lawyers Association; Defense Research Institute (DRI)

Personal: University of Alabama, J.D., magna cum laude, 2003; University of North Florida, B.B.A., Banking and Finance, magna cum laude, 1999

MCCLANAHAN, Randall

Butler Snow LLP, Birmingham
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Practice Areas: Tax, Mergers & Acquisitions, Corporate Governance, Organization & Capital Formation, Taxation of Businesses, Tax Controversy, and Economic Development

Career: Randy McClanahan is a business attorney whose practice focuses on corporate law, taxation law, mergers and acquisitions, venture capital and private equity transactions, executive compensation and the legal aspects of accounting and auditing. Randy is a Certified Public Accountant and is AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell. He is recognized in Best Lawyers in America for his work in Tax Law and Mergers and Acquisitions Law.

Professional Memberships: Randy is past chairman of both the Law and

Accounting and the Audit Responses Committees of the American Bar Association's Business Law Section.

Personal: He obtained his J.D. from the University of North Carolina, his M.B.A. from Duke University, his M.T.A. from the University of Alabama, and his B.S. from Auburn University. Randy is admitted to the Alabama State Bar.

MCEWEN, Angie

Butler Snow LLP, Birmingham
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Practice Areas: Angie's practice focuses primarily on commercial real estate and finance. Her commercial real estate practice includes the representation of clients for whom real estate is a primary asset, companies whose operations include real estate as only a part of their business, and parties involved in financing transactions secured by real property. She represents not only developers, but also landlords, tenants, lenders, and borrowers, and regularly handles acquisitions, dispositions, leases, and financing transactions.

Her representation includes clients with real estate interests in a variety of industries, including multi-family, solar energy, hospitality, healthcare, office, retail, timber, mining, and industrial. She regularly represents multi-family and other lenders in connection with construction, interim, and permanent financing, and serves as real estate counsel to underwriters on bond transactions. She also has experience in conservation easements and park development. Angie is a member of Butler Snow's Executive Committee and has served on a variety of other committees within the firm.

Career: Chambers USA[®] (Real Estate); Fellow, American College of Mortgage Attorneys; LEED[®] Green Associate accredited professional; Birmingham Business Journal (Best of Bar, Top 40 Under 40); Best Lawyers in America[®] (Real Estate Law); Graduate, Leadership Vestavia Hills

Professional Memberships: American Bar Association; Alabama State Bar Association; Birmingham Bar Association; Birmingham CREW (Commercial Real Estate Women); Vestavia Hills Chamber of Commerce (Past Chair)

Personal: Vanderbilt University Law School, J.D., 1999; Birmingham-Southern College, B.A., Political Science-Sociology, magna cum laude, 1995

MURPHREE, Leland

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Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Insolvency & Financial Law Group

Career: J. Leland Murphree is Special Counsel in the Firm's Nashville office and a member of the Insolvency and Financial Law practice group. Mr. Murphree represents debtors, secured and unsecured creditors, committees, fiduciaries, investors, indenture trustees,

and bondholders, in a wide range of complex disputes and distressed matters. He represents the interests of U.S. and foreign clients in Chapter 11 and Chapter 9 bankruptcies, receiverships, and other insolvency proceedings, as well as out-of-court restructurings, workouts and liquidations across the United States and internationally. He has experience in all areas of bankruptcy and insolvency and has significant experience with state and federal receiverships, the purchase and sale of distressed assets in bankruptcy and receiverships, distressed investing and transactions, post-petition financing, extra-judicial remedies, and complex bankruptcy and commercial litigation, including lender liability, preferential transfer, fraudulent transfer and other avoidance actions. Mr. Murphree has a wide range of experience involving complex financing and investment structures and handles matters with unique restructuring issues, including higher education, healthcare and senior living, agribusiness, government contracts, energy, construction, public finance, tax credit investments, and factoring and asset-based lending.

NEIGHBORS, Brad

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP,
Birmingham

Featured in Banking & Finance (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Banking & Financial Services Regulatory Compliance - Banking & Financial Services Vendor Management

Career: Brad Neighbors is a partner in Bradley's Banking and Financial Services Practice Group. He uses his experience in finance and law to counsel financial institutions in all aspects of the financial services industry, including regulatory compliance, vendor risk management, corporate governance, and M&A. His work also extends to representing insurance companies on regulatory and compliance matters. Brad serves a wide range of financial institution clients, from community banks to large regional banks, as well as non-bank financial institutions such as credit unions, finance companies or other businesses that offer in-house financing for their own goods and services. He also represents insurance company clients on regulatory and compliance matters. Brad assists his clients in staying on top of ever-changing privacy and data security issues. His relationship skills and legal acumen have aided in the formation of new banks, successful bank mergers, and the implementation of practical compliance solutions.

Professional Memberships: Alabama State Bar; American Bar Association; Birmingham Bar Association

NETTLES, Donald

Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC, Birmingham

Featured in Construction (Alabama)

Practice Areas: For this attorney's full bio, please go to bakerdonelson.com/Donald-J-Nettles Donald Nettles concentrates his practice in construc-

tion law and litigation. Mr. Nettles has experience representing general contractors, design professionals, subcontractors, owners and developers in all aspects of construction disputes before courts and arbitration panels, including construction contract negotiation and drafting and pre-claim counseling during the construction process.

OLIVER, Thomas
Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP,
Birmingham

Featured in Environment (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Litigation Life Sciences Litigation Class Action Litigation Product Liability Construction Real Estate Energy Oil & Gas Litigation Catastrophic Personal Injury & Product Liability EPC Contracts & Disputes for Energy Infrastructure Supply Chain Litigation Crisis & Incident Response & Investigations

Career: Trey Oliver is a litigator who handles complex commercial, product liability, construction, real estate, toxic tort, and environmental litigation. Trey strives to find pragmatic, practical and creative solutions to assist Fortune 500 companies and local businesses with achieving their desired outcomes, whether in pre-litigation, state and federal court, or arbitration. Trey's experience in construction, real estate, commercial, product, and environmental law often intersects and allows for multi-faceted solutions to complex issues. He represents (1) businesses in complex (internal and external) commercial disputes; (2) general contractors on commercial, retail, roadway and renewable energy and solar design-build projects; (3) owners, landlords, developers and management companies on contract issues, property disputes, and land use and zoning; (4) entities defending product and catastrophic personal injury lawsuits; and (5) businesses involved in governmental investigations and CERCLA/Superfund. He was recently recognized as one of Auburn University's "Top 20 under 40" and has consistently been recognized in Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in America. He is a board member of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Birmingham and the Auburn Young Alumni Council. Trey also served as a co-author of State-by-State Guide to Design and Construction Contracts and Claims, 3rd edition.

Professional Memberships: Alabama Bar Association ABC Big Brother Big Sisters Birmingham Bar Association DRI NAIOP DRI Young Lawyers; Executive Board Member Monday Morning Quarterback Club of Birmingham The Red Barn, Former Junior Board Member

OLSON, Lana
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Birmingham
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Featured in Litigation (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Catastrophic Injury Commercial Litigation Commercial Transportation Class Actions Employment Law Environmental & Toxic Torts Product Liability

PECK, Laura
Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC,
Birmingham

Featured in Litigation (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Laura's practice is devoted to civil litigation, including health care litigation, professional medical liability, pharmaceutical liability, labor and employment litigation, insurance litigation and appellate advocacy.

Career: In her three decades of practice, Laura has tried more than 25 jury cases and successfully argued before the Alabama Supreme Court. Laura's recent successes include obtaining a dismissal, without trial, of 25 medical malpractice cases within two years. She has also obtained several favorable judgments before the Alabama Supreme Court on behalf of doctors in negligence and defamation cases. In addition to physicians, Laura has successfully represented hospitals, including in a jury trial for a medical negligence case. Along with her work for clients, Laura frequently speaks to professional groups about litigation and employment issues. Laura understands the stress that comes with being named as a defendant in a medical malpractice case, because doctors and nurses want nothing more than to help their patients. Unfortunately, even the most diligent doctors and nurses can become involved in a malpractice suit at some point in their career. Laura's mission is to alleviate some of that stress and guide them through the litigation process, providing both emotional and legal support.

PORTERFIELD, Stephen B
Dentons Sirote, Birmingham

Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Stephen B. Porterfield is a shareholder in Dentons Sirote's Birmingham, Alabama office, where he leads the Dentons Sirote Restructuring, Insolvency and Bankruptcy team and also serves as Dentons Sirote's General Counsel. Stephen handles a wide variety of commercial litigation matters that routinely arise in bankruptcy proceedings or involve other creditors' rights or creditor liability issues. He tries cases in both state and federal courts, representing creditors and trustees in insolvency and bankruptcy proceedings.

POWELL IV, Charles A
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Featured in Labor & Employment (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Construction; Discrimination and Harassment; Litigation and Trials; Unfair Competition and Trade Secrets; Wage and Hour

Career: Charles Powell has represented employers throughout the Southeast against employment discrimination and harassment; non-competition; and wage and hour litigation lawsuits for more than 23 years. He has a strong record of successfully defending employers against various employment and labor

law claims in the healthcare, hospitality, retail, and manufacturing industries. Powell also successfully defeated class certification efforts in a racial harassment case filed by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and has experience litigating wage and hour collective claims involving misclassification and off-the-clock issues. Additionally, he offers counseling on compliance with federal and state labor and employment laws to numerous types of employers, ranging from small businesses to publicly held companies.

Professional Memberships:

American Bar Association - Labor and Employment Law Section; American Bar Association - Equal Employment Opportunity Committee; American Bar Association - Railway and Airline Labor Law Committee; American Bar Association - Employer Council 2009-2015; American Bar Association - Practice and Procedure Under the NLRA Committee; American Bar Association - Employment Rights and Responsibilities Committee; American Bar Association - CLE/Institutes and Meetings Committee 2006-2009; Alabama State Bar - Labor and Employment Law Section; Florida Bar - Labor and Employment Law Section; Birmingham Bar Association; American Bar Foundation

Publications: Employment Discrimination Law, chapter chair, 3rd and 4th editions

POWERS, Andrea Bailey
Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC, Birmingham
205.244.3809

Featured in Employee Benefits & Executive Compensation (Alabama)

Practice Areas: For this attorney's full bio, please go to bakerdonelson.com/Andrea-B-Powers Working from the Birmingham office, Ms. Powers represents employers in all aspects of employee benefits and executive compensation matters, including the design and administration of tax-qualified retirement plans, health and welfare benefit plans, and non-qualified executive compensation and equity plans. She previously served as an Adjunct Professor of Employee Benefits Law at the University of Alabama's Hugh F. Culverhouse Jr. School of Law. Ms. Powers' practice focuses heavily on issues related to controlled and affiliated service groups of employers. She helps create solutions for benefits issues that arise in complicated organizational structures, such as nondiscrimination testing, Qualified Separate Line of Business (QSLOB) filings, and Multiple Employer Welfare Arrangement (MEWA) analysis. Ms. Powers has significant experience representing third-party administrators (TPAs) and employers with respect to administrative service agreements and ERISA compliance. Her practice includes employers in a variety of industries, with a focus on health care, manufacturing, and REITs.

PRUITT, Eric
Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC, Birmingham
205.244.3836
epruitt@bakerdonelson.com

Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Alabama)

Practice Areas: For this attorney's full bio, please go to bakerdonelson.com/Eric-L-Pruitt Eric Pruitt is chair of Baker Donelson's Corporate Restructuring & Bankruptcy Group. Eric primarily represents banks, lenders, investment funds and CMBS Special Servicers in loan closings, commercial loan default matters and bankruptcy cases. He has a wide background with vast experience in commercial loan closings, restructurings and workouts, including health care, hospitality and other project-based financing matters. He also handles commercial bankruptcy cases for creditors. Eric manages the Firm's relationship with several institutional clients. He works with a team of legal professionals across Baker Donelson's 20+ offices to collaboratively provide effective solutions for businesses and creditors. He partners with CEOs, bankers and asset managers on projects ranging from business planning, health care lending and loan sale transactions to receivership, commercial foreclosure and REO dispositions.

Professional Memberships:

Fellow - American College of Mortgage Attorneys. Member - American Bar Association (Business Law and Taxation Sections), American Bankruptcy Institute, Alabama Chapter of the Turn-around Management Association and the Business Council of Alabama.

RAY, Alston
Butler Snow LLP, Birmingham
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Practice Areas: Public Finance and Governmental Finance

Career: The Best Lawyers in America® (Public Finance Law) and Martindale-Hubbell®, AV®-Preeminent™ Peer Review Rated

Professional Memberships:

American Bar Association (Taxation Section Tax Exempt Financing Committee); Alabama State Bar Association; Birmingham Bar Association; National Association of Bond Lawyers; Kiwanis Club of Downtown Birmingham; Alabama Rivers Alliance (Past Member of Board of Directors); Literacy Council of Central Alabama (Past member of Board of Directors and Past Trustee of Endowment Fund)

Publications: Presenter, "Legal Fundamentals of Industrial and Economic Development Financing in Alabama," Presented to the Economic Development Partnership of Alabama and Various County and Municipal Industrial Development Boards and Authorities Author, Brochure: "Introduction to Alabama Public Finance Law"

Personal: University of North Carolina, A.B., 1970; United States Naval Reserve, Active Duty 1970 - 1973; University of Alabama, J.D., 1976; Editor-in-Chief, Alabama Law Review, 1975-1976;

Clerkship, The Honorable Seybourn H. Lynne, United States District Court for the Northern District of Alabama

RHODES, Gregory P.

Dentons Sirote, Birmingham
205-930-5445
gregory.rhodes@dentons.com

Featured in Tax (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Gregory Rhodes is a shareholder in Dentons Sirote's Birmingham, Alabama office, where he is a member of the Tax practice group and leads the Dentons Sirote Tax Controversy team. In his practice, Greg focuses on complex tax controversy and tax litigation work. He has successfully represented professional athletes, partnerships, corporations, and individuals as a first-chair trial attorney in high-stakes federal and local tax litigation throughout the country. Greg has also successfully handled complex tax cases in various United States Circuit Courts of Appeals. Greg is a former law school professor and remains a frequent lecturer and author on tax topics and is often interviewed and quoted by national publications.

RHYNE III, Sims

Burr & Forman LLP, Birmingham

Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Corporate Law
Mergers & Acquisitions Private Equity
Securities Health Care

Career: Sims Rhyme is a partner in the firm's Corporate and Tax practice group. His practice focuses on all aspects of corporate law, including mergers, acquisitions and dispositions, joint ventures, corporate formations and reorganizations, corporate governance, contract law, and financing transactions (including angel investments, private placements, and venture capital investments). Sims has represented clients in various industries including construction, construction materials, healthcare, information technology, investment management, manufacturing, retail, professional service, and real estate development.

Professional Memberships:

American Bar Association Alabama
State Bar Association Birmingham Bar
Association

RITCHEY, Joseph T

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205.930.5292

joseph.ritchey@dentons.com

Featured in Healthcare (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Joseph T. Ritchey is a shareholder in Dentons Sirote's Birmingham, Alabama office. He serves as the chair of the Dentons Sirote Health Care practice group. In his practice, Joey represents various individuals and businesses, including physicians, physician networks, multi-specialty physician practices, healthcare organizations, healthcare ventures, food businesses, retail and wholesale businesses, and other concerns. He advises clients on issues regarding health law, tax planning, qualified retirement plans, business and personal planning, securities law, estate

planning, agreements, and business relationships.

ROBERTS, JR., Atkins

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP,
Birmingham
205.521.8501
aroberts@bradley.com

Featured in Banking & Finance (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Banking and Financial Services, Real Estate, Affordable Housing and Community Development, Tax Credits, Disaster Planning, Recovery and Relief

Career: Atkins practices primarily in the areas of commercial finance and real estate, with a strong emphasis on affordable housing and community development, representing developers (including non-profit corporations) and lenders throughout the Southeast in numerous transactions involving low-income housing tax credits (federal and state). Atkins also works frequently with other conventional and subsidized financing sources such as HOME funds, AHP funds, CDBG, and tax-exempt bond financing, as well as other financing programs from HUD, Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac and USDA Rural Development. Additionally, he is outside general counsel to the Alabama Affordable Housing Association (AAHA), which is the affordable housing trade association for the State of Alabama. Atkins is fluent in Spanish and has also worked closely with members of the firm's Corporate and Securities, Construction and Government Contracts practice groups to assist a number of clients with projects in Latin American markets.

Professional Memberships: American Bar Association; Alabama State Bar Association; Alabama Affordable Housing Association, General Counsel; Birmingham Bar Association; Birmingham International Center, Board Member

ROBERTSON, Brad

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP,
Birmingham
773-710-0700

brobertson@bradley.com

Featured in Litigation (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Litigation, Government Enforcement & Investigations, Life Sciences, Banking & Financial Services, Healthcare, Long Term Care & Senior Housing, Regulatory Compliance, Securities Broker-Dealer & Investment Advisory

Career: Brad Robertson works with clients facing government investigations and litigations, dealing with whistleblower allegations and qui tam actions, and planning compliance programs to prevent these occurrences in the first place. He helps his clients navigate compliance and potential liability under the False Claims Act and Anti-Kickback Statute, in addition to other areas of healthcare fraud and abuse, financial/mortgage fraud, and white collar criminal law. Whether necessitated by an employee raising compliance concerns, a visit from a government agent, or the receipt of an investigatory subpoena, Brad conducts confidential internal investigations for his clients to

determine whether and where liability exists. Meanwhile, he works with clients to efficiently and cost effectively assess their documentation in order to respond to government inquiries. Brad represents clients ranging from individuals to Fortune 100 companies — including institutional healthcare providers, physician practices, financial institutions, pharmaceutical manufacturers, medical device manufacturers and government contractors. He has represented clients under investigation by the Department of Justice, the Office of Inspector General of the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Internal Revenue Service, the Food and Drug Administration, and various state attorneys general. He has also conducted confidential internal investigations concerning, among other things, healthcare provider compliance with federal and state governmental program requirements, mortgage servicing compliance with FHA and GSE requirements, pharmaceutical and medical device promotional and manufacturing practices, off-label promotion, anti-kickback issues, and pricing/reimbursement issues. Brad joined the firm after working as an associate from 2007 to 2013 at a large, international law firm based in Chicago, Illinois.

Professional Memberships:

American Bar Association American
Health Law Association Legal Services
Corporation

ROGERS, Jannea

Adams & Reese, Mobile

Featured in Construction (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Construction,
Litigation, Insurance, Professional
Malpractice

Career: Adams & Reese Partner Jannea Rogers, an experienced litigator and trial lawyer, has advised clients in civil and complex commercial litigation in Alabama, Florida, Texas and Georgia since 1989. She defends clients in cases involving construction defects, product and premises liability, professional malpractice, health care facilities (nursing, assisted living, and hospice), D&O liability and insurance coverage, and commercial liability, including bad faith claims and transportation and marine litigation. Jannea handles all phases of representation from initial investigation through trial and appeal. Jannea earned her Advanced Claims Professional (A.C.P.) designation from The Institutes CLM. She served as a board member for the School of Construction Claims College for CLM for the past five years and an instructor for the past three, where she also earned a CCP designation (Certified Claims Professional, Construction). She was recently appointed as Co-Dean of the Construction School. Jannea is a frequent speaker for legal and industry groups on a variety of practice area topics, including electronic data management, mechanic liens, coverage issues, construction defect claims, trial tactics and legal surveys. She also

frequently presents in-house seminars for clients on specialized topics.

Professional Memberships: Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce; Mobile Bar Association; Defense Research Institute (DRI); American Bar Association; South Alabama Volunteer Lawyers Association; Wills for Heroes; ABA Military Pro Bono Project Coordinator; Alabama State Bar Task Force; Co-Dean, CLM Claims College Construction School

SCROGGINS, Thomas

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Featured in Labor & Employment (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Employer Advising,
Policies & Training Employment
Litigation Labor & Employment Labor
Relations Wage & Hour

Career: Tom works to defend against employee lawsuits, advise employers during union avoidance campaigns, negotiate collective bargaining agreements, and design policies for local, regional, national, and international employers of all sizes. Tom understands how to effectively and persuasively communicate an employer's message in the midst of a union organizational campaign. He also manages litigation in a way that achieves results, balanced with the business goals and economic interests of the company. With a long family history in labor relations—his father a steward in the National Postal Mail Handler's Union and his grandfather a member of the United Mine Workers of America—Tom has a keen understanding of union activity. His ancestors were also involved in the Battle of Matewan—a violent coal miners' strike that occurred in 1920 in Mingo County, West Virginia, which eventually required the Governor to order the state police to retake control of the town of Matewan. With two decades of experience focused in the health care, industrial manufacturing, and food processing industries, he is well-positioned to help businesses interpret and comply with workplace laws and regulations.

Professional Memberships: Alabama State Bar, Section on Labor and Employment Law Tuscaloosa County Bar Association

Personal: The EDGE Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, Advisory Board

SELBY, David

Bailey & Glasser, LLP, Birmingham
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Featured in Products Liability (USA - Nationwide), Litigation (Alabama)

See under Nationwide for profile.

SELLERS, Melinda

Burr & Forman LLP, Birmingham

Featured in Food & Beverages (USA - Nationwide), Real Estate (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Beverage Services
Real Estate Environmental Economic
Development Food & Beverage

Career: Melinda's practice is focused on commercial real estate, developments, and alcohol regulatory law. She advises real estate developers

in the creation of mixed-use projects, subdivisions, and zoning matters. She has noted experience in condominiums, including residential, commercial, and industrial projects. Additionally, she regularly works with hotels and restaurants in obtaining or transferring liquor licenses following expansions, mergers, and other management changes. She is a Certified Cicerone who represents both wholesalers and suppliers in wine, beer, and liquor contracts and transactions. Melinda regularly presents seminars for developers, management companies, and associations on the topic of condominium and subdivision law in Alabama, Tennessee, and Mississippi. She has spoken on multiple occasions at the Craft Brewer's Conference about various legal topics relevant to brewery owners and managers.

Professional Memberships: American Bar Association Alabama State Bar Fellow, American College of Real Estate Lawyers Mississippi State Bar Tennessee Bar Association Pink Boots Society Craft Beverage Lawyers Guild Alabama Law Institute, Real Estate Committee
Personal: Junior League of Birmingham, Sustainer

SHARMAN, Jack

Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC,
Birmingham
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jsharman@lightfootlaw.com

Featured in Litigation (Alabama)

Practice Areas: When crisis comes, Jack Sharman's your experienced ally. Jack guides corporations and individuals through business crises, civil and criminal white-collar prosecutions, and corporate internal investigations. In an environment of increased uncertainty, regulatory scrutiny and a skeptical public, clients rely on him to respond to and navigate the most difficult circumstances they will ever face. Jack leads the firm's White-Collar Criminal Defense & Corporate Investigations practice group. He handles and takes to trial matters involving kickback allegations, environmental offenses, public corruption, antitrust and price-fixing charges, gambling, congressional investigations, healthcare fraud and the False Claims Act (FCA). He also has an active civil litigation practice and is on the firm's Marketing & Business Development Committee. Companies and their decision-makers benefit from the decades of high-profile experience that Jack brings to the table. He served as Special Counsel to the U.S. House Financial Services Committee for the Whitewater investigation involving President Bill Clinton. From 2016-17, Jack was Special Counsel to the Judiciary Committee of the Alabama House of Representatives for the impeachment investigation of Gov. Robert Bentley.

SHAW, Michael Anthony

Jones Walker LLP, Miami
Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Tony Shaw is a partner in the Litigation Practice Group and co-leader of the CMBS and

creditors' rights team. He primarily represents banks and private lenders. Tony represents financial institutions, including banks and private equity funds, in a broad range of workouts, litigation, trials, and arbitrations across the country. With extensive experience in bankruptcy and creditors' rights, Tony has litigated numerous cases to verdict, successfully handling bench and jury trials in courts nationwide. His recent work includes representing commercial mortgage-backed securities (CMBS) special servicers and financial institutions in complex bankruptcy matters in states such as Arkansas, Florida, New York, and Texas.

SHEVIN, Maurice L

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Featured in Banking & Finance (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Maurice L. Shevin is a shareholder in Dentons Sirote's Birmingham, Alabama office. He is a member of the Federal Regulatory and Compliance practice group and leads the Dentons Sirote Federal Regulatory and Compliance team. In his practice, Maury serves as counsel for trade associations, financial institutions, and business clients, advising them on business and industry concerns. He advises numerous local, regional, and national real estate, finance, and consumer credit clients with respect to federal and state consumer credit protection laws, rules, and regulations. His practice also includes assisting clients in legislative analysis and drafting, financing, and the purchase and sale of businesses and business assets. Maury writes frequent articles for various trade association newsletters and magazines and speaks on consumer finance issues.

SIGMAN, Adam J

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Featured in Real Estate (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Adam J. Sigman is a shareholder in Dentons Sirote's Birmingham, Alabama office, where he serves as the chair of the Dentons Sirote Real Estate practice group. Adam focuses his practice on real estate as a practice area and industry, representing developers and investors in connection with acquisitions, sales, equity and securities, credit facilities, leases and all other commercial real estate needs. His clients span a broad spectrum of asset categories, including their retail, office, industrial/warehouse, multifamily, healthcare and life sciences, restaurant and hospitality, entertainment and sports, education, and agricultural, ranch, and hunting properties. He also counsels real estate clients in their general corporate, intellectual property, management and operations, and tax planning matters.

Professional Memberships:

Member of the Real Property, Trust and Estate Law section of the American Bar Association; Firm's Representative

Member with the National Multifamily Housing Council (NMHC)

Publications: Contributor, Law and Practice USA – Alabama, Real Estate Global Practice Guide, Chambers and Partners, 2018–Present; Contributor, Trends and Developments USA – Alabama, Real Estate Global Practice Guide, Chambers and Partners, 2021–Present; Author, Practical Law Company Alabama Real Estate Q&A Guide (2014–Present)

SIMONETTI, D J

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Featured in Employee Benefits & Executive Compensation (Alabama)

Practice Areas: For this attorney's full bio, please go to bakerdonelson.com/d-j-simonetti D.J. Simonetti is senior counsel in the Firm's Birmingham office. Mr. Simonetti concentrates his practice in the areas of employee benefits and executive compensation, employer resources, corporate and business, and health care law.

SKLAR, Bradley J

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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Bradley J. Sklar is a shareholder in Dentons Sirote's Birmingham, Alabama office, where he serves as Co-Leader of the Dentons Tax National Practice Group. Brad focuses on complex tax, entity, and business planning transactions, including mergers and acquisitions; sales of businesses; sale and purchase structuring and funding of large real estate transactions; raising capital; and navigation of state and local tax incentives. He counsels clients in tax and business planning and entity structuring for development and business structuring. He also coordinates the planning of transactions to maximize tax benefits, reduce risk, and comply with tax law at local, state, and federal levels, including incentive and economic development opportunities.

SLEDGE IV, Edward

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP,
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Featured in Litigation (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Litigation Class Action Litigation Mass Tort Litigation Product Liability Construction Banking & Financial Services Financial Services Litigation Insurance Policyholder Insurance Coverage Intellectual Property IP & Competitive Practices Litigation Manufactured Housing Commercial Lending Energy Catastrophic Personal Injury & Product Liability Crisis & Incident Response & Investigations Environmental Law Environmental Regulatory, Transactional & Litigation Food, Beverage & Hospitality Healthcare Healthcare Litigation Life Sciences Food & Agriculture Litigation & Regulatory

Career: Ed Sledge is a business trial lawyer who has developed a diverse litigation practice immediately responsive to clients' most demanding litigations. Ed has a wide range of trial experience in high-stakes, bet-the-company disputes for a variety of corporate clients and private equity groups nationwide. He uses collaborative problem-solving to help clients achieve their objectives and is equally adept at representing plaintiffs or defendants in complex commercial disputes. Ed is regularly called in just before trial to assess case posture and the client's readiness for trial, advising on or handling a myriad of issues, including the client-insurer relationship, the client's relationship with its insurer-appointed counsel, the pre-trial resolution prospects and pathways, and assuming first-chair trial responsibilities. He routinely represents business owners in connection in business divorce disputes and represents financial services firms in the defense of class actions, lender liability, securities, and RICO claims. In addition to commercial disputes, Ed regularly litigates product liability matters, consumer finance disputes, intellectual property disputes, and insurance coverage matters for business policyholders, as well as personal injury and wrongful death matters. He and other Bradley attorneys serve as national trial counsel for a unit of a Fortune 50 corporation. Ed is a frequent lecturer and author on civil litigation and trial issues. He recently served as the director of the IADC Trial Academy at Stanford University in 2023, as the Trial Academy's director-elect in 2022 and as a member of the Trial Academy faculty in 2018. Ed is consistently recognized for his skills in Mid-South Super Lawyers, The Best Lawyers in America®, Benchmark Litigation and other publications. He is a past chair of the IADC's Business Litigation Committee and the Alabama State Bar's (ASB) Leadership Forum Section. In addition to his professional achievements, Ed is civic-minded. 2025 marks the conclusion of his two years of service as president of the Foundation Board of the IADC and as the chairman of the Board of Glenwood, a local non-profit. As a veteran with a deep family history of military service, Ed has been active in giving his time to initiatives that support veterans. For three years in a row, Ed received the ASB's President's Award, which is presented to members of the bar who best exemplify the ASB motto, "Lawyers Render Service."

SMITH, Frederic

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Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Corporate & Securities Public Companies Mergers & Acquisitions Private Companies Energy Government Contracts Long Term Care & Senior Housing

Career: Frederic Smith has more than 25 years of experience advising businesses on M&A transactions, contract negotiations, business succession issues, joint venture transactions and financing transactions. In addition to his transactional practice, Frederic serves as outside general counsel to several privately held and family-owned businesses. He has a broad range of experience in different industries, but has a particular focus representing companies in the construction, manufacturing, construction aggregates, oil and gas services, and real estate industries. Frederic is an active member of the American Bar Association's M&A Committee, where he chairs a working group that tracks judicial developments in M&A transactions and is a regular contributor to the Annual Survey of M&A Cases published in *The Business Lawyer*.

Professional Memberships:

American Bar Association Judicial Interpretations Working Group, Chair Ronald McDonald House Charities of Alabama Capital Campaign Steering Committee Birmingham Downtown Kiwanis Club

SMITH, Pam

Balch & Bingham LLP, Birmingham

Featured in Intellectual Property (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Corporate Finance & Securities Intellectual Property/Trademark Corporate & Commercial

Career: Pam Smith practices intellectual property law, focusing on trademark, copyright, and licensing issues. Pam counsels businesses of all sizes in a variety of industries on protecting, enforcing, and maximizing the value of their brands and intellectual property assets from conception through commercialization. With more than 15 years of experience in the IP area, Pam employs various contractual and formal protection strategies to give her clients practical and efficient solutions.

Professional Memberships: Alabama State Bar

SPARKS, Butler

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP, Birmingham

Featured in Corporate/Commercial (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Corporate & Securities Private Equity Private Companies Mergers & Acquisitions Venture Capital

Career: Butler Sparks is a partner in Bradley's Corporate and Securities Practice Group, where he routinely advises privately held companies, publicly traded companies and institutional investors in mergers and acquisitions, private equity and venture capital transactions, joint ventures, corporate reorganizations and general corporate matters. Butler additionally advises private fund sponsors in fund formation, capital raising and compliance matters. His experience involves numerous cross-border and domestic transactions spanning a broad range of industries, including software, field services, manufacturing and distribution, construction, telecommunications and

fintech. Butler counsels clients through all stages of their businesses' life cycle, from initial capital raising to acquisitions and exits. He additionally serves as outside general counsel to a number of family-owned businesses, in addition to the portfolio companies of private equity funds, family offices and venture capital funds.

ST. CLAIR, Jay D

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Featured in Labor & Employment (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Appellate; Labor Management Relations; Litigation and Trials; Occupational Safety and Health; Wage and Hour

Career: For more than 30 years, Jay St. Clair has represented clients in employment and labor law matters, including discrimination, harassment and retaliation claims; labor management relations; wage and hour regulations and occupational safety and health. He has a vast knowledge of claims under numerous statutes, including Title VII; The Americans with Disabilities Act; The Family and Medical Leave Act; among others. St. Clair frequently gives presentations to both industry groups in the Southeast region and Littler clients nationwide on a range of topics to help employers implement strategies to avoid lawsuits. He is also an adjunct professor at Cumberland School of Law, where he teaches Labor Law, and received the first Outstanding Adjunct Professor Award given by Cumberland Law School.

Professional Memberships: Alabama State Bar –Former Chair of Labor and Employment Law Section

STAPLES, Barry

Maynard Nexsen, Birmingham

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Featured in Public Finance (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Public Finance Economic Development

Career: Barry has extensive experience in the areas of municipal and public finance and economic development. Additionally, Barry dedicates a significant portion of his practice to the representation of financial institutions in public and private transactions involving governmental entities and nonprofit organizations. In his Public Finance practice, Barry advises governmental and non-profit organizations on taxable and tax-exempt financings, serving as bond counsel and disclosure counsel to cities, counties, boards of education, utility systems, public and private universities and 501(c)(3) corporations. In his Financial Institutions practice, serving as bank counsel and underwriter's counsel, Barry regularly represents regional and national financial institutions on the purchase and sale of taxable and tax-exempt debt throughout their respective footprints. Additionally, he advises banks and underwriters on compliance with state and federal laws regulating the municipal bond market. In the Economic Development arena,

Barry advises cities, counties and related public entities and private for-profit business organizations on economic development projects including the negotiation, structuring, and documentation of project development agreements, incentive packages and revenue sharing arrangements. Barry has been recognized as a leading Public Finance attorney by Chambers and Partners since 2019. He has been listed in the Best Lawyers in America in the areas of Municipal Law and Public Finance Law since 2016, and he was tapped "Lawyer of the Year" for Municipal Law in 2018.

Professional Memberships: American Bar Association ·Alabama State Bar ·State Bar of Georgia ·National Association of Bond Lawyers ·The Mountain Brook City Schools Foundation ·Leadership Birmingham, Class of 2016 ·Leadership Alabama –Alabama Leadership Initiative (2011) ·Dartmouth Club of Alabama, President (2013-2015; 2023)

STRUBEL, Patrick

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Featured in Litigation (Alabama)

Practice Areas: After practicing with a Birmingham, Alabama firm for 16 years, Patrick joined Watkins & Eager to open the Birmingham office in 2017. His defense litigation practice focuses on product liability involving automobile manufacturers, recreational vehicle manufacturers and pharmaceutical companies. Patrick also defends medical malpractice claims filed against physicians, nursing facilities, hospitals, and pharmacies. He also assists health care providers on HIPAA compliance, cybersecurity issues, and regulatory compliance. Patrick also represents corporate clients in commercial litigation, premises liability, and catastrophic injury cases. He has tried numerous cases to jury verdict, including wrongful death, catastrophic injury, and business warranty disputes in state and federal courts in Alabama, Mississippi, and throughout the southeastern United States.

STURDIVANT, Jim

Dentons Sirote, Birmingham

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Featured in Litigation (Alabama)

Practice Areas: James R. "Jim" Sturdivant is a shareholder in Dentons Sirote's Birmingham, Alabama, office, where he is a member of the Litigation and Dispute Resolution practice group and leads the Dentons Sirote White Collar and Government Investigations team. Jim represents and defends clients in criminal and white collar investigations and proceedings, whether brought by the United States Justice Department, the Alabama Attorney General, the United States Attorney, or local district attorneys. He routinely serves as a shield between our clients and federal law enforcement agencies and Federal Special Agents, including the FBI, HHS, IRS and Department of Defense and

affiliated agencies such as NCIS and Army CID. A former federal prosecutor with an LL.M. in Tax Law, he represents individuals and corporate clients facing federal grand jury and law enforcement investigations, including securities fraud, wire fraud, bank fraud, health care fraud/antikickback, False Claims Act, and tax allegations. Additionally, Jim has extensive experience in successfully handling "Title IX" university disciplinary investigations/hearings involving allegations of student sexual misconduct. He also regularly interacts with the Alabama State Board of Medical Examiners and similar boards in assisting physicians and other medical professionals in both criminal and regulatory/licensing investigations.

SULLIVAN JR, Allen

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP, Birmingham

Featured in Tax (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Corporate & Securities Tax Defense & National Security

Career: Allen Sullivan is a partner in Bradley's Corporate & Securities and Tax practice groups who works with U.S. and foreign clients involved in various industries providing corporate, M&A, private equity, tax, and international trade (including export controls and CFIUS) and related compliance strategies. Allen's corporate, M&A, and private equity practice involves many aspects of corporate law, including mergers, acquisitions and dispositions, foreign direct investment, joint ventures, corporate and fund formations, private placements, and tax-free reorganizations. Recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Tax Law since 2022, Allen's tax background includes both tax planning and tax controversy matters. His tax planning experience includes individual, "C" corporation, "S" corporation, partnerships/LLCs, executive compensation, and international tax matters, to name a few. His tax controversy work includes complex audits, IRS Appeals negotiations, large collections matters, penalty abatements (domestic and international), Tax Court litigation, and various types of voluntary disclosures. In his international trade and compliance practice, Allen advises clients on export control matters involving the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) and the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR), transactions involving the Committee on Foreign Investment in the U.S. (CFIUS), Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) matters, and sanctions matters involving the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC). To help his clients comply with these various regimes, Allen tailors their in-house policies and programs to their particular products, technology, services, customers, workforce, and relevant international or domestic footprint. For businesses with export control concerns, this often includes helping classify their products and technology under the EAR and the ITAR. On the anti-corruption and sanctions front, this process often includes third-party due

diligence related to the ever-changing OFAC sanctions landscape. Allen also has represented foreign buyers and U.S. sellers in foreign direct investment transactions involving CFIUS considerations, some resulting in notices and declarations that the committee ultimately approved. His CFIUS experience also includes negotiating conditions for CFIUS approval, drafting national security agreements designed to protect U.S. national security following CFIUS approval, and working with the committee to restructure companies that are subject to ongoing CFIUS monitoring following committee approval. During his legal career, Allen has represented over 100 U.S. citizens and residents, dual citizens and their families, and related entities in properly reporting their offshore holdings for U.S. tax purposes, and in reconciling previous compliance missteps, failures, and deficiencies. Through this work, he has represented taxpayers in every iteration of the IRS's Offshore Voluntary Disclosure Initiatives, such as the OVDP (including "opt outs"), streamlined procedures, and others.

SWAIN, Jennifer

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Featured in Labor & Employment (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Arbitration; Discrimination and Harassment; Leaves of Absence and Disability Accommodation; Policies, Procedures and Handbooks; Wage and Hour

Career: Jennifer Swain has represented management in employment matters for more than 25 years. Her practice includes litigation in state and federal courts, as well as before arbitrators, the Department of Labor, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), and other state and federal agencies. Swain also has experience handling class and systemic cases brought by the EEOC. Additionally, she regularly advises employers on issues relating to compliance with various employment discrimination statutes, rules, and regulations and counsels employers on day-to-day personnel issues. Swain also assists employers with the development, drafting, implementation, and enforcement of workplace policies and procedures.

Professional Memberships:

Alabama Bar Association – Labor and Employment Section; American Bar Association – Labor and Employment Law Section; Birmingham Bar Association – Women's Section

SYKES, Paul

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Featured in Intellectual Property (Alabama)

Practice Areas: IP & Competitive Practices Litigation Patent Procurement, Management & Counseling Intellectual Property Patent Litigation

Copyrights Trademarks Trade Secrets Technology Transactions Class Action Litigation Emerging Growth Companies International & Cross Border

Career: Paul Sykes represents businesses and individuals in a wide variety of intellectual property and technology-related legal matters. As a member of both the Intellectual Property and Competitive Practices and the Litigation practice groups, Paul counsels clients in the acquisition, licensing and protection of intellectual property rights, and he litigates those rights in the state and federal courts. Paul has been peer-selected for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America® and Mid-South Super Lawyers in Intellectual Property Law. Birmingham Magazine has also listed him as a "Top Attorney" for Intellectual Property. Paul focuses his practice on patent, copyright, trademark, unfair competition, and trade secret litigation. As a former computer engineer, he understands technology and how to use it for the benefit of the client. As a registered patent attorney, Paul prepares and prosecutes patent applications before the United States Patent and Trademark Office. He also counsels clients generally in the areas of copyrights, trademarks, and trade secrets. He previously served as president of the Intellectual Property Section of the Alabama State Bar. Paul has handled patent infringement matters, for both plaintiffs and defendants, involving technology as diverse as telecommunications equipment, fishing lures, automated teller machines, football pads, wireless networking equipment, muzzle loading firearms, microprocessors, automated bark control collars, injection molding processes, lenticular images, mops and brooms, spun concrete utility poles, and telephony software.

Professional Memberships: American Bar Association Alabama State Bar Association Birmingham Bar Association Defense Research Institute

THOMPSON, John G

Lightfoot, Franklin & White, LLC, Birmingham

Featured in Litigation (Alabama)

Practice Areas: JT Thompson has a diverse practice: medical malpractice, product liability and media law. JT represents clients in several industries involving a broad array of cases. He regularly defends healthcare providers in medical malpractice matters, national and local media companies, newspapers and television stations, broadcasters and production companies in First Amendment, defamation, invasion of privacy, open records prosecutions, and other content-based actions, various manufacturers and service companies in personal injury and product liability cases, and also handles general business litigation. He has tried many cases to defense verdicts in multiple areas of his practice. Super Lawyers, a Thomson Reuters publication, tagged JT as an "Alabama Rising Star" for Personal Injury Defense: Medical Malpractice in 2010 and 2012. Since 2019, The Best

Lawyers in America® by BL Rankings has recognized JT as a leading attorney in First Amendment Law and in Personal Injury Defense. In working with his media clients, JT draws on his previous experience as an assistant editor in CNN's Denver bureau, particularly his time covering the Timothy McVeigh Oklahoma City bombing trial. His prior professional experience as a journalist gives JT a unique perspective and understanding of the media industry, which enables him to more effectively represent media outlets. Whether his client is a healthcare provider, manufacturer, media organization, or a corporation, JT's goal in every case is to help the client identify and achieve the desired outcome – whether an early resolution at mediation, a summary judgment or a defense verdict – as efficiently as possible. That requires dedication and focus at every step of the case. From the first assessment of the case, through the discovery process, motion practice and going to trial, JT strives to serve his client's best interest. To achieve the best possible results, JT dedicates himself to working his hardest on every case for every client. He takes inspiration from a quote from coaching legend, Paul "Bear" Bryant, that JT keeps taped inside his desk drawer: "It's not the will to win that matters – everyone has that. It's the will to prepare to win that matters." Having grown up an Alabama football fan in a family of successful, hard-working attorneys, JT is motivated by that quote every day. It reminds him what it takes to be a good attorney: hard work, dedication, taking pride in what you do and, above all, serving the client.

TODD, Ann Watford

Maynard Nexsen, Birmingham

Featured in Public Finance (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Public Finance Economic Development Affordable Housing Senior Living & Long-Term Care

Career: Ann Watford Todd is a Shareholder in Maynard Nexsen's Public Finance and Economic Development & Incentives practice groups. She regularly serves as bond counsel and disclosure counsel to municipalities, counties, boards of education, utilities, public corporations, and state authorities in taxable and tax-exempt transactions throughout Alabama. She also represents regional and national financial institutions, underwriters, and trustees in public and private transactions involving governments, nonprofits, and healthcare entities. Ann frequently represents city and county boards of education, educational building authorities, and public and private universities on tax, securities, and financing matters. Her experience in the education sector also involves securitization transactions, equipment financings and local tax elections. Ann also serves as special counsel to government, nonprofit, and private entities in the negotiation, structuring, documentation and validation of economic development projects. Her work involves revenue-sharing

arrangements, tax-increment financings, HUD program loans and formation of improvement and cooperative districts for commercial and residential development. Ann is a founding director and current Secretary of the Alabama Chapter of Women in Public Finance and a graduate of the Alabama Leadership Initiative. She received her J.D. from Vanderbilt Law School and holds a B.A. in classics from Davidson College.

Professional Memberships: National Association of Bond Lawyers Women in Public Finance

TOMPKINS, Jason

Balch & Bingham LLP, Birmingham

Featured in Litigation (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Issues & Appeals Litigation Consumer Finance Compliance & Defense

Career: Jason Tompkins serves as Chair of Balch's Issues & Appeals Practice and has extensive experience handling litigation and appeals in federal and state courts, including serving as counsel in the United States Supreme Court. His litigation and appellate experience spans nearly every category, including energy, environmental, administrative law, business torts, and consumer finance. Jason regularly handles challenges to administrative agency actions at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), and leads appeals to the federal courts from those actions. Jason also focuses a significant portion of his practice on class action defense, particularly in the area of consumer finance litigation. Jason has been lead counsel on more than 80 class actions and hundreds of individual cases involving claims under the Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA), Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA), and Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA). He acts as regional and national counsel for several financial services clients who trust him to coordinate defense strategy across numerous jurisdictions – both at the trial and appellate levels. Jason also guides clients faced with investigations by regulators or attorneys general regarding consumer issues, as well as providing compliance advice under the state and federal consumer finance laws.

Professional Memberships: ACA International, Inc. Alabama State Bar American Bar Association

TURNER, Sara

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Featured in Litigation (Alabama)

Practice Areas: For this attorney's full bio, please go to bakerdonelson.com/Sara-Turner. Sara M. Turner is a shareholder in the Birmingham, Alabama, office and serves as chair of Baker Donelson's Hospitality Industry Service Team. As a shareholder in Baker Donelson's Birmingham, Alabama office, Sara M. Turner is committed to advancing the interests of her clients through her experience and innovative legal solu-

tions. Serving as the chair of the Firm's Hospitality Industry Service Team and Second Vice-President of DRI, Sara proactively connects with in-house counsel and other professionals to exchange insights and promote growth. Sara's background includes successful tenures as the former Secretary-Treasurer of DRI, DRI Board Member, and Chair of DRI's Retail and Hospitality and Technology Committees. She has refined her skills in managing a wide array of litigation claims. These include hospitality, franchise, timeshare, human trafficking, product liability, drug and medical device, class action, and commercial litigation.

VOGTLE JR., Jesse S.

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Featured in Bankruptcy/Restructuring (Alabama)

Practice Areas: For more than 30 years, Jesse Vogtle has earned the trust of debtors and financial institutions who value his ability to deliver comprehensive and efficient solutions to complex Chapter 11 commercial bankruptcy problems. Vogtle has additional areas of focus, including advising banks on core bank operating contracts, vendor agreements and loan workouts. His practice also includes advising public entities on the creation and related economic development of industrial parks. In addition, he represents Chapter 11 debtors, including clients in the coal industry. He has litigated and protected the interests of clients in state, federal and bankruptcy courts across the country. His experience also includes advocating for clients in arbitration, mediation and multi-party financial disputes. Vogtle

represents a range of clients in multiple sectors, including national, regional and community banks, commercial debtors, universities, public entities, medical research facilities, real estate developers, commercial landlords, and private equity and venture funds. Prior to joining Waller, Jesse chaired the financial industries section of a Birmingham-based law firm. Jesse is recognized for his bankruptcy experience by Chambers USA, Best Lawyers and Super Lawyers.

Professional Memberships: Member, American Bar Association Member, American Bankruptcy Institute Member, Alabama Defense Lawyers Association Member, Birmingham Bar Association Past Executive Committee Member Chairman, bankruptcy and commercial law section, 2000 Member, Alabama State Bar Past Chairman, Task Force to Evaluate Alabama State Bar Section Financial Management Alabama Bar Association Chairman, bankruptcy and commercial law section, 2009

WALDROP, JR., Glenn

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Featured in Construction (Alabama)

Practice Areas: One of the firm's founding partners, Glenn focuses his practice on business and commercial litigation. He works with clients across a variety of industry sectors, including construction, securities, insurance and finance. Glenn handles matters brought by consumers and individuals alleging fraud, breach of contract or inadequate performance of insurance policies or financial products. He has broad experience defending both individual

lawsuits and class actions. Glenn also provides construction-related counsel to clients in that industry. In addition, Glenn handles securities litigation and shareholder disputes, including close corporation and partnership disputes. He frequently represents businesses in matters involving noncompetition agreements, trade secrets, or proprietary and confidential information. Glenn also handles commercial cases on behalf of plaintiff business or corporate interests. Understanding that in many instances his clients might be best served by a settlement rather than going to court, Glenn has developed unique experience with alternative dispute resolution. He represents clients in mediations and arbitrations, and also frequently serves as an arbitrator and mediator. Glenn's arbitration experience includes FINRA, AAA, ICC and privately administered arbitration proceedings. His work as a mediator has included the successful resolution of disputes involving the construction of a new high school, renovations and additions to a VA nursing home, construction of additions to an automotive manufacturing plant, the breakup of a law practice, and an oil and gas project where adjoining landowners claimed waste and depletion of their mineral rights.

WILLIAMS, Chris

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Featured in Environment (Alabama)

Practice Areas: Chris Williams has dedicated over 22 years to solving environmental problems for heavily regulated industries. His client base includes pipeline and natural resource

companies, real estate developers, manufacturers, landfill owners, and local governments. Chris brings a unique perspective drawn from his experience as both an environmental lawyer and former environmental consultant. He focuses on litigation, regulatory compliance, risk management, and transactional advice, helping clients achieve their business goals while ensuring compliance with environmental regulations. With extensive trial experience, Chris has successfully defended clients in matters involving PFAS contamination, air pollution from manufacturing facilities, Clean Water Act citizen suits, federal and state enforcement actions, and civil rights claims related to forestry taxation. Beyond litigation, he advises clients on environmental risks in business deals, obtains and ensures compliance with required permits, and develops protocols to maintain regulatory compliance. Notable matters include representing a fireworks distribution company in securing air permits, advising engine importers and utility truck upfitters on vehicle emissions compliance, and navigating HUD environmental regulations for low-income housing development. Recognized as a leading attorney in environmental law by Chambers and Partners and a Fellow of the American College of Environmental Lawyers, Chris has served as Chair of the Environmental Law Section of the Alabama State Bar. He has also served on the boards of the Green Resource Center for Alabama, Birmingham Volunteer Lawyer Program, and Cahaba River Society.