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Biographical Information

Roger Bates serves as the Managing Lawyer for the Firm. Mr. Bates has extensive experience in complex business and commercial litigation, including business and contract disputes, insurance and financial service products, labor and employment and healthcare-related litigation. Mr. Bates also has extensive experience in representing our clients before state and federal regulatory agencies and assisting them with governmental relations issues. Mr. Bates regularly represents secondary and postsecondary educational institutions in litigation, compliance and regulatory matters. Mr. Bates is a member of the Board of Trustees of the The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges which is the regional body for the accreditation of degree-granting higher education institutions for eleven Southern states.

Mr. Bates has tried numerous cases in both federal and state courts (both jury and non-jury), and has handled many arbitrations and meditations. Mr. Bates has served as a specially appointed Deputy Attorney General in Alabama since 1995 and often represents the State of Alabama and sub-agencies in complex and institutional reform litigation. Mr. Bates was also appointed to serve a term as the City Attorney for the City of Hoover, Alabama and he currently serves as the County Attorney for Chilton County, Alabama.

Mr. Bates has served on numerous committees of the Birmingham Bar Association and has lectured on a variety of topics for continuing legal

education seminars. As General Counsel for the Alabama Pharmacy Association, Mr. Bates publishes a quarterly journal article on law and ethics. Mr. Bates is active in the Birmingham area community. Mr. Bates is a member of the American Bar Association, and of its State and Local Government Law and Litigation Sections. He is also a member of the American Health Lawyers Association and the Alabama Association of Municipal Attorneys. In 2015, he was named a Fellow of the Alabama Law Foundation in recognition of his service to the community.

Mr. Bates was born in Clanton, Alabama. After being admitted to the Alabama State Bar in 1982, he was a law clerk to Senior U.S. District Judge C. W. Allgood until 1983. In 1979, Mr. Bates received a B.S. degree from Auburn University, and in 1982, he obtained his J.D. from Cumberland School of Law. While attending law school he was awarded the Donald E. Corley Best Advocate Award, served on the National Mock Trial Team, and was an associate member of the American Journal of Trial Advocacy.

Admissions

- Alabama State Bar, 1982
- United States Supreme Court
- Alabama Supreme Court
- Eleventh U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals
- United States Tax Court
- United States District Courts for the Northern, Middle and Southern Districts of Alabama

Education

- J.D., Cumberland School of Law, 1982
- B.S., Auburn University, 1979

Additional Information

Civic and Professional Affiliations

- Vestavia Hills Baptist Church, Member, Trustee and Deacon, Former Chairman of Deacons
- Lifetime Member Alabama Sheriffs Boys and Girls Ranches Builders Club
- Former Member, Allocation Committee, Birmingham Area United Way

Awards

- Martindale-Hubbell® AV Rated
- *Best Lawyers In America*®, Commercial Litigation, 2011–2022



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