

ROBBINS

Litigation and Regulatory Law

For ten years, Matt has represented businesses large and small – from Fortune 500 companies to startups and individual entrepreneurs – in high-stakes commercial litigation in courts from Georgia to California to Nova Scotia, and points in between. Matt has represented clients in real estate disputes, debtor-creditor disputes, and business divorces, plus suits over government contracts, professional liability, employment issues, and product liability. A particular focus of Matt's practice involves the representation of clients in all aspects of real estate development, including lenders, builders, developers, landlords, and tenants. Matt recently successfully represented a commercial real estate developer against a lender involving a disputed debt of \$3 million. Matt also recently represented a major Atlanta student housing developer in a contract dispute regarding a set of parcels near Kennesaw State University. Matt has successfully litigated commercial landlord-tenant disputes, zoning disputes, and HOA issues, and he has fought and won cases involving business breakups with large real estate portfolios at stake.

In addition to real estate, Matt's practice cuts across the largest industries in Atlanta, including the financial services, telecom, automotive, entertainment, and high tech manufacturing industries. Matt began his legal career at Jones Day, a global full-service law firm with over 2500 lawyers worldwide, litigating large-scale product liability cases in Georgia and Florida, in which Matt briefed and argued legal issues affecting manufacturers across the country. From there, Matt moved to Dow Lohnes, where he represented Cox Enterprises, an Atlanta-based media conglomerate with businesses and media properties nationwide.

Matt's approach to business litigation is that while the rules are a constant in every case, the pathway to a successful result is not, and it can only be found by taking the time to understand a client's business and goals and becoming a "value-added" partner to get the client where it needs to be as effectively and efficiently as possible.

Sometimes that requires acting quickly and effectively, as when he and Robbins Firm Managing Partner Richard Robbins filed an action to quiet title on behalf of a real estate client to resolve a cloud on title blocking a major development, then within six weeks conducted discovery and tried the case on a Saturday and Sunday, ultimately paving the way for the development to go forward.

Sometimes that requires tenacity, as when Matt and Robbins Firm partner Alexa Ross pursued and collected a large default judgment against NBA Hall of Famer Allen Iverson despite his concerted efforts to avoid collection.



Matthew
Parrish

mparrish@robbinsfirm.com

Phone: 404-856-3272

Sometimes that requires thinking outside the box, as when Matt and Robbins firm partner Jason Alloy litigated and successfully settled a business divorce, and then an actual divorce, involving elderly clients on different continents with a large real estate holdings, including a multi-unit apartment complex in Philadelphia.

And sometimes it requires simply winning the argument, as Matt and a team from the Robbins Firm did when they represented a losing bidder on a multimillion state contract, obtaining a reversal of an award to a competing bidder and forcing the contract to be re-bid.

In every case, Matt employs some or all of these approaches – whatever is needed – to consistently reach favorable results for his clients as quickly, effectively, and efficiently as possible.

Matt has been recognized as a “Georgia Super Lawyers Rising Star” by Super Lawyers magazine. While at Columbia Law School, Matt was selected as a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar and was chosen to be an articles editor for the Columbia Journal of Environmental Law, one of the top five most influential environmental and land use law journals in the United States. Prior to law school, Matt worked for Operation New Birmingham, a public-private partnership promoting residential and commercial development in Birmingham’s city center. Matt then studied Urban Policy at the University of Glasgow, Scotland on a Rotary Scholarship. Matt now channels his energy and interest in urban development by helping developers and builders navigate tough legal disputes and regulatory hurdles in order to achieve their development goals.

Matt makes his home in the newly-incorporated town of Tucker, Georgia where he lives with his wife Lindsey and their young daughter McCabe. Matt cheers for the Braves, Falcons, and Hawks and is a booster for all things Atlanta.

Education

- J.D., Columbia Law School, 2007
- Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar
- Articles Editor, Columbia Journal of Environmental Law
- Postgraduate Diploma in Urban Policy, University of Glasgow (UK), 2004
- B.A., magna cum laude, Birmingham-Southern College, 2002
- Phi Beta Kappa

Bar Memberships

- Georgia

Selected Cases and Representations

- Successfully represented national online auto auction company in million-dollar lease dispute with former landlord.
- Defended national cable service provider in a state law RICO action in Georgia state court.
- Led defense of federal government contractor in investigation and administrative action by the United States Department of Labor’s Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs.

- Defended major U.S. drug information publisher on First Amendment grounds in product liability lawsuit relating to pharmaceutical labeling.
- Represented employees of local school system in action brought under 42 U.S.C. §1983 for infringement of their rights to free speech and freedom of assembly.
- Represented large U.S. tobacco manufacturer in multiple individual-plaintiff product liability cases stemming from decertified class action against tobacco industry in Florida state court.
- Defended major Atlanta-based credit reporting agency in lawsuits brought under Fair Credit Reporting Act and state defamation laws.
- Prevailed in trial on behalf of Montana rancher resisting efforts to force public hunting and fishing access on his land.
- Obtained successful settlements for pro bono clients in landlord-tenant and consumer credit disputes.

Activities and Memberships

- Columbia Club of Atlanta
- Urban Land Institute
- Lawyers Club of Atlanta
- Atlanta Bar Association