

ROBBINS

Litigation and Regulatory Law

Stacey Morris

Executive Assistant

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Richard has been involved in a broad spectrum of business litigation and arbitrations throughout the country, from Georgia and Florida to Hawaii to Maine. Richard has particular experience in real estate litigation, technology litigation, and restrictive covenant and trade secret litigation, but handles business litigation of any type. Many of his cases have commanded substantial media interest, and Richard is well versed in handling the public relations aspects of significant disputes.

Richard has substantial trial experience, typically handling several trials and arbitrations a year. Most recently, Richard's trials have included:

- Technology Contract Arbitrations
- Trade Secrets Arbitration
- Executive Contract Arbitration
- Partnership Dispute Jury Trial
- Executive Contract Jury Trial
- Office Landlord Jury Trial
- Rezoning Trial
- Numerous TRO and Injunction Hearings

Other major matters which Richard has recently handled included professional liability claims, both plaintiff and defense; numerous zoning and permitting disputes on large scale commercial projects; fraud and RICO claims against borrowers, lenders and partners; securities fraud claims, both plaintiff and defense; and guaranty litigation involving in excess of \$150 million in loans.

Richard serves on the Board of Directors of Nicholas House, an organization which assists homeless families in achieving self-sufficiency, and also serves as a business partner for inner-city schools in Atlanta.

Richard is an honors graduate of Harvard Law School, where he served as Articles Editor of the Harvard Law Review. He received his undergraduate degree magna cum laude from Furman University. After graduation from law school, Richard served as law clerk to the Honorable Paul H. Roney of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth and Eleventh Circuits.

Education



**Richard
Robbins**

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- J.D., with honors, Harvard Law School, 1980
 - Articles Editor, Harvard Law Review
- B.A., magna cum laude, Furman University, 1977
 - Phi Beta Kappa

Selected Publications and Presentations

Richard has written articles and spoken at seminars on a wide variety of topics, including eminent domain, real estate contract disputes, zoning, business loss and valuation, employment law, intellectual property, health care litigation and technology. He is an instructor in an intensive trial practice course offered annually at Emory University School of Law. Publications include:

- *Model Employee Policies for Georgia Employers, With Legal Commentary*, published by Georgia Chamber of Commerce, 1997 (co-authored with Lisa C. Jern)
- "Challenging A Rezoning Decision," published by CLE International
- "The Georgia Omnibus AIDS Act: Restrictions on Disclosure of AIDS Confidential Information," 35 *The Atlanta Lawyer* 18 (co-authored with Katherine Meyers Cohen)
- "An Update on ERISA Law," published by Institute of Continuing Education in Georgia
- "Developments in ERISA Preemption and Managed Care," published by CLE International
- "Valuation of Business Damages," published by CLE International
- "Business Valuation," published by CLE International
- "ADR v. Litigation – Professionalism Considerations," published by Cobb County Bar Association
- "Preparing Your Damages Case," published by CLE International

Honors

- "Georgia Super Lawyer" in Business Litigation by Atlanta Magazine
- "Legal Elite" in Business Law by Georgia Trend Magazine
- The Best Lawyers in America

Selected Cases and Representations

- *Kaufman Development Partners, L.P. v. Eichenblatt*, No. A13A1123 (Ga. Ct. App. 2013) (affirming jury verdict in favor of our client on a breach of contract claim that he had against his former business partner)
- *Uwork.com, Inc. v. Paragon Technologies, Inc.*, 740 S.E.2d 887 (Ga. Ct. App. 2013)(obtained 5-2 decision in favor of client and reversing the decision of the trial court on claim for breach of fiduciary duty)
- *BLD Productions, LLC v. Remote Productions, Inc and Viacom Incorporated dba MTV Networks*, Appeal 12-1763 (2d Cir. Jan. 30, 2013)(representation of an entertainment production company in a lawsuit over distribution rights to an Aretha Franklin concert)
- *AT&T Mobility, LLC v. NASCAR*, 494 F.3rd 1356 (11th Cir. 2007) (successful defense of NASCAR in intellectual property dispute involving race car logos)

- *Sampath v. Immucor, Inc.*, 271 Fed.Appx. 955 (11th Cir. 2008) (affirmance of summary judgment against pregnancy discrimination claim)
- *Spurling v. The Forestland Group, LLC*, 2006 U.S. App. Lexis 17079 (6th Cir. 2006) (commercial brokerage litigation; trial victory affirmed)
- *Hill v. Atlanta Life Ins. Co.*, 988 F.2d 1218 (11th Cir. 1993) (dismissal of securities tender offer against our insurer client affirmed)
- *Owens v. Storehouse, Inc.*, 984 F.2d 394 (11th Cir. 1993) (precedent-setting ERISA issue; dismissal of claims against our employer client affirmed)
- *Cordova v. Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc.*, 2007 U.S. Dist. Lexis 90309 (S.D. Fla. 2007) (securities class action dismissed)
- *IPM v. Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc.*, 2007 U.S. Dist. Lexis 31066 (S.D. Fla. 2007) (securities claims dismissed)
- *Otto v. Box U.S.A. Group, Inc.*, 177 F.R.D. 698 (N.D. Ga. 1997) (successfully obtained holding as a matter of first impression that, by secretly recording conversation, plaintiff brought recordings outside protection of work-product doctrine claims dismissed)
- *Whitaker v. Texaco Inc.*, 566 F. Supp. 745 (N.D. Ga. 1983) (representation of class in ERISA class action)
- *Baptist Convention of the State of Georgia v. Shorter College*, 279 Ga. 466 (2004) (successful representation of dissenting trustees of non-profit institution)
- *Amdahl Corp. v. Ga. Dept. of Administrative Services*, 260 Ga. 690 (1990) (case of first impression; established right of aggrieved bidders to challenge government procurement actions)
- *Fine v. Communications Trends, Inc.*, 305 Ga. App. 298 (2012) (successful challenge to nonsolicitation covenant and trade secret claims)
- *Jones v. White*, 311 Ga. App. 822 (2011) (fraud, unjust enrichment and contract claims in commission claims upheld on behalf of joint venture partner)
- *Arko v. Cirou*, 305 Ga. App. 790 (2010) (successful defense of borrower client against efforts by lender to establish personal liability)
- *All Fleet Refinishing, Inc. v. West Georgia National Bank*, 280 Ga. App. 676 (2006) (successfully represented bank in defeating RICO and fraud claims)
- *Broadcast Concepts, Inc. v. Optimus Financial Services*, 274 Ga. App. 632 (2005) (upholding of \$1 million trial verdict)
- *Equifax v. 1600 Peachtree, LLC*, 268 Ga. App. 186 (2004) (representation of landlord in complex guaranty litigation)
- *O'Neal v. Home Town Bank of Villa Rica*, 237 Ga. App. 325 (1999) (established libel cause of action for out-of-court publication of legal pleadings)