

*Law firm partner with 30+ years of experience representing local governments and municipalities*

Advise cities, school districts, and insurers, most recently serving as outside General Counsel to Brookhaven, the eleventh largest city in Georgia. Trusted advisor to professional managers, elected officials, department heads (HR, public works, and police), and boards and committees, providing guidance on risk management; strategic planning and development; budget, tax and fundraising; and policy options. Extensive experience serving on local boards and committees. Key offerings:

- **Coalition Building:** Identify challenges faced by local government, develop practical solutions and strategies, provide recommendations to stakeholders, and drive consensus. Experienced mediator skilled in facilitating resolution of departmental and employee disputes. Work with community leaders to resolve local issues. Communicate with elected officials on proposed legislation and obtain their support.
- **Litigation:** Advise senior leaders and elected officials as Litigation Counsel. Identify situations appropriate for early intervention and resolution to mitigate risks. Devise strategic litigation plans to effectuate client goals while effectively managing budget. Analyze complex questions related to coverage defenses and duties to defend and to indemnify. Counsel on contracts, intellectual property, land use and zoning proposals, Special Local Option Sales Tax allocation, and citizens claims. Tried 100+ jury trials to verdict.
- **Local Government Representation:** Counsel City and County clients on operations. Review, draft, and negotiate key contracts—including multimillion- and billion-dollar construction agreements—as part of city development plans. Provide advice during employee negotiations and supplier/customer negotiations. Interpret and advise on statutes, local codes and ordinances to effect client plans and proposals. Draft local legislation and ordinances as directed. Direct and conduct internal investigations. Reduce risk exposure by proactively developing policies and procedures
- **Crisis Response and Investigations:** Partner with city officials and consultants to develop public response strategy to issues raised by unexpected events. Work with local government leaders to quickly address concerns and deploy adequate resources. Investigate allegations of misfeasance or malfeasance in office by elected or appointed local government officials. Document investigations and provide detailed reports with recommended actions for based on facts. Balance necessary confidentiality of inquiry and public's right to know what is being done to respond to crisis.
- **Management and Leadership:** Direct and motivate team of professionals to accomplish organization goals. Provide training and mentorship to junior employees to further professional development. Implement processes and procedures for efficient handling of office and department workflow. Served as Board Member and Chair of several organizations, led Financial Responsibility Committee for Charitable Trust, and co-chaired and facilitated annual meetings.

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**Experience with highlights**

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**Balch Law Group**, Atlanta, Georgia, July 2008 – Present

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**Principal.** Represent and counsel several counties, including Cobb, Sumter, and Fayette, and cities, including Atlanta and Union. Served as General Counsel for Brookhaven, Georgia's 11th largest city, for 7+ years. Lead litigation on stormwater, land use and zoning, employment, and governance matters. Counsel on development and project management related to land use regulations and design implementation. Conduct coverage analysis and interact with insurers on claimed losses. Select representative matters include:

- **Contract negotiations:** Negotiated \$45M Community Investment Agreement related to the construction of a \$1.5B hospital campus by Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, Inc. Negotiated and facilitated incentives for

title project with the Atlanta Hawks Basketball club for the construction of a \$75 million practice and healthcare facility in conjunction with Emory University. Negotiated CMAR contract for construction of new city hall. Negotiated resolution to contract dispute with builder over public construction project.

- **M&A:** Led and directed property acquisition for large linear multi-use path to connect to Atlanta Beltline; Negotiated and led effort for annexation of large residential and commercial areas for city.
- **Litigation:** Successfully led effort to close problem nighttime entertainment venue with multiple violations of city ordinances. Defended city sexually oriented business ordinance from facial and as-applied challenges by shop owner. Obtained favorable Court of Appeals opinions upholding Council decision to bar rock crushing operation from residential area of City. Led coverage analysis and litigation for clients whose insurers had denied coverage for claim.
- **Ordinance and Statute Crafting:** Prepare and draft ordinances to give legal effect to policy initiatives of local government. Draft local legislation for passage by the General Assembly to authorize city initiatives. Testify before General Assembly on bills under consideration that would limit local government autonomy. Present legislative initiatives before Councils and Commissions summarizing terms and conditions and explaining enforcement.
- **Georgia Super Lawyer, 2021-2025** Local Government Counsel

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**Jarrard & Davis, LLP, Cumming, GA, February 2007–June 2008**

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**Of Counsel.** Served as Senior Litigation Counsel across broad range of litigated matters involving local government, including land use, Special Local Option Sales Tax allocation, and citizens claims

- **Litigation:** Lead Litigation Counsel for local government boutique representing counties across North Georgia. Successfully led pre-election challenge to SPLOST vote preserving rights of County Commissioners to set agenda for county tax initiative. Obtained sole defense verdict in favor of police executive in multi-defendant trial alleging 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment political retaliation by county sheriff.
- **Investigations:** Directed and conducted internal employment investigations
- **Management and Supervision:** Directed litigation team involving contract disputes, intellectual property, and employment matters. Supervised and reviewed staff. Managed budget

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**Swift, Currie, McGhee & Hiers, LLP, Atlanta, GA, 1996–2007**

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**Partner.** Promoted to partner in 2001. Acted as lead litigation and trial counsel in insurance coverage disputes, intellectual property, civil rights and employment matters, and serious personal injury and death claims

- **Litigation:** Managed active litigation case load of 100+ files through discovery and trial. Successfully represented Ebenezer Baptist Church in litigation resulting in a finding of no liability prior to trial. Resolved bad faith insurance claim based on misfeasance by Third Party Administrator for 60% of damages reserves.
- **Insurance Coverage Analysis:** Provided coverage analysis to clients in complex liability claims and
- **Special Appointments:** Appointed Special Assistant Attorney General by Georgia Attorney General Thurbert Baker to lead prison litigation response on behalf of Department of Corrections
- **Management and Supervision:** Directed and supervised team of lawyers and paraprofessionals in successful management of litigation practice. Established and led formal training program for associates. Revised and amended discrimination and harassment policy for law firm.
- **Martindale Hubbel AV Rating, 2002**

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**Associate, Chambless, Higdon & Carson, Macon, GA, 1994–1996**

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**Associate.** Managed general litigation caseload of more than 100 active cases

- Interacted with clients in dispute resolution, including mediations, litigation, and investigations
- Appeared as lead or secondary counsel in state and Federal Courts, including Appellate Courts

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**The Honorable Duross Fitzpatrick, U.S. District Court, Macon, GA, 1992–1994**

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**Law Clerk.** Assisted Federal Court Trial Judge with rulings on motions to ensure risk of error was reduced insofar as possible

- Prepared jury charges for civil and criminal trials, including drug possession and distribution, sentencing issues, fraud, UCC, slip and falls, employment discrimination, and excessive force by police officers
- Drafted over 800 Orders for Court consideration in 2 years

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**U.S. Marine Corps, Camp Pendleton, CA • Active Duty 1986–1989 • Reserves 1989-1993**

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- Served as noncommissioned officer in charge of office providing legal services to logistical support command for the First Marine Division
- Awarded Navy Achievement Medal for Professional Accomplishments on Active Duty, 1989
- Awarded Good Conduct Medal (1989 and 1992)

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**COURT AND BAR MEMBERSHIPS**

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| ▪ U.S. Supreme Court, 1999                                       | ▪ U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Georgia, 1992 |
| ▪ U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit, 1994               | ▪ Georgia Supreme Court, 1992                                  |
| ▪ U.S. Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit, 2019               | ▪ Georgia Court of Appeals, 1992                               |
| ▪ U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia, 1994 | ▪ Georgia Trial Courts, 1992                                   |
|  | ▪ State Bar of Georgia, 1992                                   |

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**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

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**International Municipal Lawyers Association**, 2015-present. Marvin J. Glink Award for Outstanding Private Practice Local Government Attorney (2022); Local Government Fellow (2018 to present); Georgia State Chair (2017-2019, 2024 to present); Small and Rural Community Committee Co-Chair (2018-19); 2019 Annual Conference Host Committee; Board of Directors (2019-2023); Amicus Award for Brief in *Smart v. City of Wichita*, 951 F.3d 1161 (10th Cir. 2020), Case No. 18-3242 United States Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit (2020).

**Defense Research Institute**, 1997-2022. Governmental Liability Committee, Publications Chair (2004–2006, 2020-2021), Web Page Chair (1997–2004); Employment Law Committee; Trial Tactics Committee- Membership Chair (2004–2006), Liaison to Annual Meeting Steering Committee (2007), Complex Medicine Seminar Steering Committee (2005-2006); Annual Meeting Presentation on Risks of Cyber Evidence for Governmental Clients (2020).

**State Bar of Georgia**, 1992 to Present; Member, Local Government Committee, Secretary Treasurer 2024 to present); Appointed to Task Force on Lawyer Liability Insurance (2019); Chair, Intrastate Moot Court Competition (1998-2000)

**Georgia Municipal Association**, (2015 to 2023; 2025 to present); City Attorney Section, Vice Chair (2018-2019), Chair (2019-2020), Board of Directors (2019-2020), Ad hoc Committee on Telecommunications Legislation

**American Bar Association**, 1994–2023; Member State and Local Government Committee

**Lawyers Club of Atlanta** (2018 to present); Membership Committee (2019 to present).

**Marine Corps Association of Georgia Lawyers**, 1997 to present; Chair, 1999, 2001, Board of Directors 2019 to Present

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**SELECT PRESENTATIONS**

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- Ethics in local government representation, International Municipal Lawyers Association, Annual Meeting, Orlando, FL, September 2024.
- Ethics in Multi-Party litigation: A case study of misapplied standards, Georgia Institute of Continuing Education, City and County Attorney Institute, Athens, GA September 2024.
- Drones as First Responders: New Technology and New Privacy Concerns, International Municipal Lawyer's Association Mid-Year Seminar, Omni Shoreham Hotel, Washington, DC April 2023 & Annual Meeting, LaQuinta Resort, Palm Springs, CA September 2023

- Model City Charters, Improvements and Changes: The National Civic League's 9th Model Charter, International Municipal Lawyers Association Mid-Year Seminar, Omni Shoreham Hotel, Washington, DC April 2022
- The 19th Century meets the 21st: Qualified Immunity and Current Jurisprudence, International Municipal Lawyers Association, Virtual Conference, April 2021
- Local Jails and Sexual Identity: Managing the transgender incarcerated, Governmental Liability Seminar, Defense Research Institute, Nashville, TN, August 2021
- Investigations in the Time of Social Media, Defense Research Institute Virtual Annual Meeting, October 2020
- Problem Elected Officials: What to say when you don't know what to say, Kansas League of Municipalities, Virtual Annual Meeting, June 2020
- Advanced Topics for Local Government Regulation of Small Cell Wireless Deployment, NBI, Atlanta, GA November 2019
- First Amendment and Local Government: A primer for local government officials, South Dakota Municipal League, Aberdeen South Dakota, October 2019
- Legal Issues for Artists: How to make a living while covering your a\$\$, Society of North American Goldsmiths Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois, May 2011
- Leadership from the City Attorney's Chair, International Municipal Lawyers Association 83d Annual Conference, Houston Texas, October 17-20
- Appellate Practice for the Local Government Lawyer, Moderator of Panel of Judges from the Georgia Court of Appeals and the Georgia Supreme Court, City and County Attorney Institute, Institute of Continuing Legal Education, Athens, Georgia, September 2018
- The Good, the Bad & the Ugly: Hiring and Supervising Outside Counsel for the Local Government Lawyer, International Municipal Lawyers Association 82d Annual Meeting, Niagara Falls, ON, October 16-19, 2017
- Small Cell Regulation for Georgia Cities and Counties, City Attorney's Section Annual Meeting, Georgia Municipal Association, Savannah, Georgia (June 2017), City & County Attorney Institute, Institute of Continuing Legal Education, Athens, Georgia (September 2017)
- Amateur Radio Towers and Local Government Regulation: The Federal Thumb on the Scales, Gwinnett County Amateur Radio Society, Lawrenceville, GA 2014, Alford Memorial Radio Club, Stone Mountain, GA, 2014, Sawnee Amateur Radio Association, Cumming, GA 2014, Southeastern DX Club, Atlanta, GA 2014; Huntsville Hamfest, Huntsville, AL August 2014
- Crisis Management in YouTube and CNN World, City and County Attorney's Institute, Institute for Continuing Legal Education in Georgia, Athens, Georgia 2011
- Electronic Discovery: The Amended Federal Rules and Strategies for Litigation, Insurance Law Institute, St. Simons Island, GA September 2007
- Lessons for Trial from Children's Stories: Winnie the Pooh as a Trial Lawyer, Ohio Association of Civil Defense Lawyers, Dayton, OH, May 2006

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### SELECT PUBLICATIONS

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- Litigating Cases involving Transgender Inmates, Municipal Lawyer (Sep/Oct 2021)
- Cross-examination of the Plaintiff Damages Expert, For the Defense (June 2021)
- Arguments for Qualified Immunity, CQ Researcher (30:36 Oct. 9, 2020)
- Crisis and the Constitution: Governing in a Global Pandemic, Municipal Lawyer (Sep/Oct 2020)
- Handling the Difficult Elected Official: A primer for local government counsel, Municipal Lawyer (Mar. 2019)
- Defending Land Use Cases When the Elected Official is the Problem, 61 For the Defense 8 (Feb. 2019)
- The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: Hiring and Supervising Outside Counsel for Local Government Lawyers, Municipal Lawyer 12 (Jan/Feb 2018)
- Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 68: An Underutilized Mechanism of Settlement, 46 For the Defense 38 (2004)
- Is There Hope After Hope? Qualified Immunity in the Eleventh Circuit, 54 Mercer L. Rev. 1293 (2003)
- The Art of War and the Art of Trial Advocacy: Is There Common Ground? 42 Mercer L. Rev. 861 (1991)

## **EDUCATION**

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Juris Doctor, cum laude, Walter F. George School of Law, Mercer University, Macon, GA, 1992.  
Top 10% of Class, Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society; Brainerd Currie Honor Society; Order of Barristers;  
Mercer Law Review, 1990–1992; Moot Court Board 1991; Best Oral Advocate Team, Florida Institute of Worker's  
Compensation, Orlando, Florida 1991.

Bachelor of Arts, History, 1985, University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
Section leader, Pride of the Southland Marching Band, and UT Concert Band

## **COMMUNITY and VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT**

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Successful service as Board Member and Chair of Substantive Committees for International Arts Organization

Lead Financial Responsibility Committee for Leach Charitable Trust, St. Ives, Cornwall, UK in managing £6.9M  
government grant

**Fulton County Board of Commissioners Appointment 2020 to 2022.**

Chair, Board of Commissioners Election Task Force—Charged with a detailed and comprehensive investigation  
into the work and decisions of the Fulton County Board of Elections, recommend changes to the Board, and address  
allegations of Voter Suppression by Local Board of Elections

**City of Atlanta City Council Appointment, 2014-2020**

- Proclamation by Atlanta City Council honoring individual service to the City, Veterans Day, November 11, 2020
- Inaugural Member, City of Atlanta Veterans Commission
- Elected First Chair of the Veterans Commission
- Appointed by Council Members Carla Smith (District 1), Kwanza Hall (District 2), Ivory Young (District 3), Clela Winslow (District 4), and Council Member at Large Michael Julian Bond (Post 1)
- Re-appointed for a second term
- Led effort to amend enabling legislation for Commission
- Led 1st Veterans Exposition sponsored by the City bringing together agencies and organizations from a broad spectrum to respond to needs of veterans and their families

**Bernard Leach Charitable Trust, St. Ives, Cornwall, UK**

- Elected to the Board of Trustees, 2021
- Appointed to the Finance Committee 2022
- Only US member of Board

**Society of North American Goldsmiths, An international arts organization serving artists who work in non-ferrous metals – 2016 to 2018**

- Outside Member, Board of Directors
- Chair, Impact & Evaluation Committee of the Board
- Chair, Strategic Planning Committee of the Board
- Ad hoc Member of the Board Executive Committee
- Led revisions to and modernization of organization bylaws and Constitution, adopted 2017

## **RESUME OF ABBOTT S. HAYES, JR.**

**DATE OF BIRTH:** Born Gainesville, Georgia, May 21, 1969.

**EDUCATION:** Gainesville High School, 1987.

University of Georgia, B.A. Degree, 1990.

University of Georgia School of Law, 1994.

**EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:** Internships during Law School at Myers & Stroberg, Stewart, Melvin & Frost, Hulsey, Oliver & Mahar, and Hall County DA's Office, 1991-1994.

Law Clerk to Honorable Richard W. Story, 1994-1996.

Hulsey, Oliver & Mahar, 1996-present.

**EXPERIENCE:** Devoted primarily to the practice of local government law and business litigation. Currently the primary attorney for Gainesville, Hoschton, and the Franklin County Industrial Building Authority, with history of representation of other governmental entities including the cities of Braselton, Oakwood, Dunwoody, Blairsville, Dawsonville, Maysville, and Lula, as well as Jackson, Fannin, and Towns counties. Also represents a variety of businesses in litigation matters, including SouthState Bank, Peach State Bank, and Southern First Bank.

**PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC ACTIVITIES:** President, Gainesville-Northeastern Bar Association, 2012-2013.

President, Wyc Orr Inn of Court, 2010-2011.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Lanier Board, including service as President, Vice-President, Board Development Chair, Resource Development Chair, 1996-current.

Gainesville First United Methodist Church service as chair of Capital Campaign, Debt Campaign, Outreach Committee, and Evangelism Committee.

President, Gainesville High School Athletic Booster Club, 2013 - 2015.

Meals on Wheels volunteer, 2003-2020.

Hall County Mentor Program Board member, including service as President, 1995-2000.

Named Young Man of the Year for Gainesville/Hall County by Gainesville Jaycees, 2003-2004.

Kiwanis Youth Service Award winner, 2014.

Member of the State Bar of Georgia and the Gainesville-Northeastern Bar Association.



# Prebula Law LLC

## MARY A. PREBULA RESUME

### **PERSONAL:**

Born Binghamton, New York  
Raised in Montrose, Pennsylvania, and Goldsboro, North Carolina.

### **LEGAL RATINGS & HONORS:**

**America's Most Honored Lawyers,<sup>TM</sup> American Registry 2021-present**  
**Georgia's Top Rated Lawyers<sup>TM</sup>**  
**Tradition of Excellence Award 2013—State Bar of Georgia, General Practice & Trial Law Section**  
**Martindale-Hubbell© Peer Review Ratings—AV Preeminent, the Highest Possible Rating Both Legal Ability & Ethical Standards**  
**Bar Register of Preeminent Women Lawyers--AV Preeminent, Martindale-Hubbell (2011 Inaugural Ed.)**  
**Super Lawyers<sup>TM</sup>**  
**National Association of Family Lawyers, Georgia Top Ten 10**  
**Gwinnett Pro Bono Project Award 1995 & 1996**

### **EDUCATION:**

Emory University, School of Law, J.D. 1984.  
University of North Carolina at Greensboro, 1977, M.Ed.  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 1974, B.A. Ed.

### **CAREER POSITIONS:**

**Prebula Law LLC (f/k/a Prebula & Associates LLC), Atlanta & Duluth, Georgia.**  
President 1996 to Present.  
Practice Areas: general civil litigation including commercial, business, real estate, ERISA, COBRA, personal injury, employment law, discrimination, probate, family law, general corporate law, wills and trust.

**Gibson, Deal, Fletcher and Prebula, P.C., Norcross, Georgia, Member of the Firm 1993-1996.**  
Practice Areas: general and complex civil litigation including commercial, business, interstate commerce, real estate, environmental, products liability, ERISA, personal injury as well as environmental regulation, family law and general corporate law.

**Jones, Day, Reavis & Pogue**, Atlanta, Georgia, Associate 1989-1993.

Practice Areas: general civil litigation including business, commercial, interstate commerce, real estate, environmental, products liability, and ERISA, environmental regulation and family law.

**Hansell & Post**, Atlanta, Georgia, Associate 1984-89 (merged into JDRP).

Practice Areas: general civil litigation including business, commercial, interstate commerce, real estate, environmental, products liability, and ERISA, as well as environmental regulation.

**ADMITTED TO COURTS:**

06/15/1984     Georgia State and Superior Courts  
                    Supreme Court of Georgia  
                    Court of Appeals of Georgia  
                    U.S. District Court, Northern District of Georgia

11/20/1986-2021 U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit

09/25/1987     U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

09/10/1992     U.S. District Court, Middle District of Georgia

05/03/2010     U.S. Supreme Court

**LEGAL AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

**AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION**

ABA Advisory Panel Member  
Litigation Section 1990-Present  
Pretrial Practice & Discovery Committee 1990-Present  
Woman Advocate Committee 2022-Present'  
Natural Resources, Energy & Environmental Law Section  
1990-2006  
Young Lawyers Division 1984-1990  
Career Issues Committee 1990-1995

**STATE BAR OF GEORGIA**

Formal Advisory Opinion Board 2014-Present  
    Chair 2022-present  
    Vice Chair 2019-2022  
Board of Governors 1991-1995  
General Practice and Trial Law Section  
    Chair 2007-2008  
    Board Member 2005-Present  
    Member 1984-Present



Chair, GPTS Annual Trial Institute 2008  
Discovery of Electronically Stored Information Task Force  
Chair 2014-2015  
Member 2013-Present  
E-Discovery Joint Task Force, State Bar of Georgia  
and Georgia Chamber of Commerce  
Member 2012-2014  
Judicial Procedure & Uniform Rules Committee  
Chair 2012-2013, 2023-2025  
Co-Chair 2011-2012, 2014-2015, 2020-2022  
Member 2010-Present  
Subcommittee on Electronic-Discovery, Chair 2011-2012  
Environmental Law Section 1987-2007  
Programs Committee 1991-1992  
Overview of the General Counsel's Office Committee 1997-1999  
Co-Chair 1998-1999  
Subcommittee on Ethics Hot Line, 1999-2000  
Chair 1999  
Subcommittee on Lawyer Discipline, 2000  
Attorney-Client Relations Committee 1997-1998  
Annual State Bar Meeting GAWL Program Committee 1992-1993,  
Chair 1993  
Local Bar Associations Committee 1991-1992  
Committee to Examine the Role of Legal  
Assistants 1991-1998, Chair 1993-1996  
Women and Minorities in the Profession Committee  
1991-1995, 1997-2000, Co-Chair 1997-1999  
Institute of Trial Advocacy Committee  
1990-1991

**FELLOW: AMERICAN BAR FOUNDATION**

2016–Present

**FELLOW: LAWYERS FOUNDATION OF GEORGIA**

1999–Present

**CHARTER LIFETIME FELLOW: ATLANTA BAR FOUNDATION**

1999–Present

**GEORGIA ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN LAWYERS**

President 1990-1991

Treasurer 1989-1990

Executive Board 1989-1994

Annual State Bar Meeting Program Committee 1992-1993,

Chair 1993

Scholarship Committee 1992-1997

Founding Chair 1992-1993  
Gubernatorial Forum Committee 1990  
Judicial Selection Committee 1990-2000  
Vice Chair 1992-1993  
Member 1984-2000

**GWINNETT COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION**

Member 1993-Present  
Pro Bono Committee  
Chair 1999-2002  
Law Day Committee 1995  
Gwinnett Pro Bono Project Award 1995 & 1996

**ATLANTA BAR ASSOCIATION**

Member 1984-2013, 2015-Present  
Litigation Section 1987-Present  
Environmental Law Section 1992-Present  
Atlanta Council for Younger Lawyers Section 1984-1990  
Work Options Task Force 1989-1992,  
Chair 1989-1990  
Appellate Advocacy Competition, March 2001

**EMORY UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

Emory Ambassador 2020-2022  
Executive Committee, Member at Large 1993-1996  
Nominating Committee for Law School  
Executive Committee 1992-1993  
Annual Law Firm Fund Raising Campaign

Chair 1992-1993  
Steering Committee Member 1991-1992

**GEORGIA TRIAL LAWYERS ASSOCIATION**

Member 1999-Present

**GEORGIA NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT LAWYERS ASSOCIATION**

Member 2000-Present

**LAW RELATED EDUCATION CONSORTIUM  
CARL VINSON INSTITUTE OF GOVERNMENT  
THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA**

Executive Committee 1991-1993  
Treasurer 1991-1993  
Finance Committee 1992-1999  
Member 1991-Present

## **SELECTED PUBLISHED WORKS and SPEECHES:**

Her Story: The Resilient Woman Lawyer's Guide to Conquering Obstacles, Book 2, Author of Essay "Meeting and Overcoming Socioeconomic Barriers to Law Practice, American Bar Association (2024).

Georgia Procedure, Civil Procedure: Discovery, Pretrial Procedure and Conduct of Trial, Generally, Co-author, Lawyers Cooperative Publishing (2008 & 1995 Editions).

"Service is a Good Thing", American Bar Association, Women and the Law Committee, DLI-266528305v3 (2016)

"Discovery Issues and Social Media" General Practice and Trial Institute, State Bar of Georgia, St. Simons Island, Georgia (2017).

"Litigation Issues and E-Discovery: Holding Your Own With the Big Guns", General Practice and Trial Institute, State Bar of Georgia, Calloway Gardens, Georgia (2014).

"Selected Issues in E-Discovery", General Practice and Trial Institute, State Bar of Georgia, Amelia Island, FL (2012).

"E-Discovery for Small Firms", Solo and Small Firm Summer Seminar, State Bar of Georgia, Atlanta, GA (2012)

"Mediation Pointers", New Lawyers Seminar, State Bar of Georgia, ICLE (2011).

"E-Discovery Basics", General Practice and Trial Institute, State Bar of Georgia, Amelia Island, FL (2011).

"Electronic Discovery in Small Business Litigation", General Practice and Trial Institute, State Bar of Georgia, Amelia Island, FL (2010).

"Guidelines for Electronic Discovery, Parts 1 and 2", Gwinnett Bar Association Monthly Newsletter (April and May, 2010)

"Suggestions for Mediation of the Difficult Case: Kin Representation, Surveillance, Hotheads, and Other Challenges", and Speech, Institute of Continuing Legal Education in Georgia (2008).

"Georgia Civil Procedure: General Provisions Governing Discovery, Requests for Admissions, and Considerations in Trial by Jury", Gwinnett County Bar Association Seminar Safari, The Serengeti, Kilimanjaro, Tanzania, East Africa (2007)

"Plaintiff's Civil Litigation," Civil Justice Panel, Justice Day, Leadership Gwinnett, Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce, Speech (2001).

"Corporate Legal Matters," Gwinnett Charter Chapter, American Business Women's Association, Speech (1999)

"E[lecro] M[agnetic] F[requency] Litigation," Environmental Litigation Committee Newsletter, American Bar Association, Vol. 7, No. 1, at 6 (1995).

"EMF Litigation," Environmental Law Section Newsletter, State Bar of Georgia (Summer, 1994).

"New Developments in Georgia Environmental Laws and the Hazardous Site Inventory," and Speech, Institute of Continuing Legal Education in Georgia (1994).

"Effective Use of Environmental Counsel in Bankruptcy Cases," JDRP Internal Publication, and Speech, Co-author (1992).

"Recent Environmental Developments of Interest," Newsletter, Environmental Law Section of the State Bar of Georgia (1992).

"The RCRA Penalty Policy and Pollution Prevention Projects," Institute of Continuing Legal Education in Georgia, and Speech, Co-author (1992).

"NPDES -- Water Permits and Toxic Control Program Under Sections 304 and 307 of the Clean Water Act," Industry Council on the Environment, Safety and Health, and Speech, Co-author (1990).

"Right-to-Know Laws," Executive Enterprises, Inc., and Speech, Co-author(1990).

"Fiduciary Litigation Discovery: Practical Applications," Institute of Continuing Legal Education in Georgia, and Speech, Co-author (1990).

## **UNIVERSITY ACTIVITIES AND HONORS**

### **EMORY UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW**

Emory Law Journal, Managing Editor 1983-1984;

Staff 1982-1983

American Jurisprudence Award-Contracts 1981

Emory University Scholarship 1981-1984

Moot Court Society 1982-1984

International Law Society 1982-1984

Environmental Law Society 1981-1984

Legal Association of Women Students 1982-1984

Vice President 1982-1983

Phi Delta Phi 1982-1984

### **UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT GREENSBORO**

Masters of Education Thesis 1977

**UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL**

UNC Parents' Council 2004-2008, Emeritus 2008-Present

UNC General Alumni Association 1975-Present

James M. Johnston Honors Scholar

Dean's List

Phi Mu Sorority

President of Pledge Class

National Scholarship Award

Secretary of Residence College Association

**OTHER HONORS**

European Tour for International Understanding, 1970 North Carolina Representative,  
Tour sponsored by the National Association of Secondary School Principals

**CIVIC AND COMMUNITY MEMBERSHIPS:**

**ATLANTA VOLUNTEER LAWYERS FOUNDATION**

Contributor 2012-present

**WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER TO END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

**Contributor, Cheers to Champions 2020-2022**

**AID TO AFRICA SCHOOLS 2007-2008**

Privately organized project with my daughter to deliver school textbooks, supplies, clothing, medical supplies, and other needs to bush schools in Botswana, Namibia, and South Africa. Worked with local agencies to find schools in need and met teachers and students to deliver items. Worked with Delta Airlines to ship crates for free.

**GWINNETT COUNTY LEGAL AID**

**Founder's Committee**

**Steering Committee**

Member of its predecessor **GWINNETT PRO BONO PROJECT**

Participant 1993-Present

**HIGH SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL PROGRAM**

Coach, Wesleyan School, 2003-2007

Judge/Evaluator, 1991-2003

**LEADERSHIP GWINNETT**

Graduate 1995-1996

**AMERICAN BUSINESS WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION 1994-2005**

Woman of the Month 1999

Scholarship Committee Chair 1997-1998  
Business Associate of the Year Committee 1994-1996,  
Chair 1996  
Public Service Awards Committee 1994-1996,  
Chair 1996

**DULUTH KIWANIS CLUB**

Member 2000 – 2004  
Committee on establishing Teen Court  
in Gwinnett County 2002-2003

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL PROGRAM**

Organizer and Instructor for Woodward Academy North Mock Trial Program  
1998-6<sup>th</sup> grade, 1995-3<sup>rd</sup> grade, 1994-2<sup>nd</sup> grade,  
1993-1<sup>st</sup> grade

**MOUNT PISGAH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Member 1999-Present  
Chancel Choir 1999–2003, 2008  
Costa Rica Missions 2006-2007  
Finance Committee 2001–2002  
Hospital Foundation Service Project 2001  
Pro Bono legal services 1999-2010

**REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS DURING LEGAL CAREER:**

- Represented gender discrimination claimant obtaining largest single gender discrimination verdict, including fees, of \$1.2 million in Middle District of Georgia.
- Handled employer claims against insurance broker, third party administrator, and excess loss carrier over non-payment and non-processing employer claims for medical care, related breach of contract, breach of fiduciary duty, and other tort claims.  
  
--Jury verdict of just under \$1 million in claim by Homeowners against Home Owners Association for Quiet Title, Breach of Quiet Enjoyment, trespass, and punitive damages.
- Represented individual in nursing home and rehab facilities where facility sought to displace them with no safety care plan in place and successfully protected their interests, including during COVID.
- Represented numerous individuals in personal injury cases and nursing home cases, with favorable results.

- Represented Georgia corporations in responding to Department of Justice inquiries and subpoenas with regard to contracts for the rebuilding of Iraq.
- Represented Georgia corporate plaintiff against British conglomerate in a failed acquisition including breach of letter of intent and contract of sale, promissory estoppel, breach of fiduciary duty, fraud and other business torts.
- Represented corporation in case alleging conversion and breach of escrow contract, which resulted in jury verdict in excess of \$5.5 million.
- Successfully represented major processor of agricultural product in significantly reducing \$15 million penalty under improperly enacted regulations.
- Defended major HUD developer in dissolution and accounting of partnership and breach of fiduciary duty case.
- Title VII claims for sexual and racial discrimination and harassment, including successful representation of multiple plaintiffs against Georgia manufacturer for sexual discrimination, plaintiffs in religious discrimination cases, racial cases involving racial epithets, laborers in Fair Labor Standards Act cases.
- Domestic cases involving divorce, custody, division of marital assets, child support, contempt, grandparent custody, Family Violence Act claims, pre-nuptial agreement drafting and litigation, adoption, interstate custody, international custody, Hague Convention.
- Real estate breach of contract, negligent construction, landlord tenant issues..
- Wrongful death claim against major motor vehicle manufacturer for rollover of SUV.
- Employment litigation, including breach of contract, enforceability of covenants not to compete and not to solicit.
- Other litigation, including specific performance of a lease option to purchase realty; claims against insurer for benefits; violations of Fair Credit Reporting Act; defense of false arrest and malicious prosecution; defense of assault and battery; professional and medical malpractice, personal injury and wrongful death cases.
- Seminal ERISA case in Georgia establishing Top Hat Plan requirements and reclaiming a pension for a retiree whose pension was wrongfully eliminated.
- Recovering ERISA benefits for breast cancer patient whose benefits were denied as experimental and creating new settlement approach for insurer to pay provider and provider to refund to claimant so claimant received “whole” recovery or more than insurer paid.

- Litigation and pre-litigation involving Internet and computer issues, theft of computer data, drafting agreements regarding services by computer consultant.
- Responsible for National Environmental Policy Act issues arising in the Presidential Parkway Litigation.
- Represented former President Jimmy Carter and the Carter Library in the litigation concerning the Presidential Parkway.
- Advice regarding various corporate matters including incorporation, employee handbooks, shareholder agreements, trust agreements, non-profit corporations, negotiation of loan documents for multi-million dollar loans, representing multi-state corporations, procuring and coordinating out-of-state counsel, cyber-stalking, trademark and copyright violations via internet.
- Represented parents in international and interstate custody cases successfully recovering children.
- Estate and probate litigation matters including recovering abducted mother from another state who suffered from neglect.