

Shortlist for Benchmark Annual Awards – South

The nominations for the inaugural *Benchmark Litigation* Annual Awards-South have been announced. The shortlist candidates for categories at the state and national levels are listed below. State-level categories include firm of the year, case of the year and litigator of the year. Regional categories include awards according to practice area, diversity efforts, pro-bono work and female litigator of the year. There is also an award for best in-house counsel team of the year.

The Lifetime Achievement Award will recognize one litigator deemed to have had an exemplary career spanning multiple decades.

States to be recognized during this awards session include Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia.

Individuals and firms nominated are based upon preliminary research and submissions. For questions about the Awards and the selection process, please contact Benchmark Litigation staff writer Anne Szustek at aszustek@euromoney.com.

The awards ceremony will take place on Thursday, March 8 at the Ritz-Carlton in Atlanta, Georgia. To reserve a place please email Jonathan McReynolds at jmcreynolds@euromoney.com or call 212-224-3337.

Woman Litigator of the Year

Judy Barrasso
Barrasso Usdin Kupperman Freeman & Sarver

Cari Dawson
Alston & Bird

Katherine Giddings
Akerman Senterfitt

Wendy Lumish
Carlton Fields

Kathy Patrick
Gibbs & Bruns

Virginia Snell
Wyatt Tarrant & Combs

Chilton Varner
King & Spalding

Practice Area firms of the Year

General Commercial

Jackson Kelly

Liskow & Lewis

Susman Godfrey

Vinson & Elkins

Insurance

Barrasso Usdin Kupperman Freeman & Sarver

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings

Fulbright & Jaworski

Intellectual Property

Fultz Maddox Hovious & Dickens

McGuireWoods

McKool Smith

Stoll Keenon Ogden

Troutman Sanders

Product Liability

Colson Hicks Eidson

Hare Wynn Newell & Newton

King & Spalding

Lightfoot Franklin & White

Turner Padgett Graham & Laney

Securities

Bass Berry & Sims

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings

Gibbs & Bruns

Robinson Bradshaw & Hinson

Bankruptcy

Bass Berry & Sims

McKool Smith

White & Case

In-House Team of the Year

Georgia-Pacific

The Home Depot

Kinder Morgan Pipeline Distribution

Morgan Keegan

Pioneer Natural Resources

Tyson Foods

UPS

Diversity

Adams and Reese

Akerman Senterfitt

Ashe Rafuse & Hill

Bass Berry & Sims

Morris & Morris

Pro-bono

Adams and Reese

Bass Berry & Sims

Beck Redden & Secrest

Brooks Pierce McLendon Humphrey & Leonard

Appellate

Akerman Senterfitt

Baker Botts

Brunini Grantham Grower & Hewes

Carlton Fields

Smyser Kaplan & Veselka

Vinson & Elkins

Wyatt Tarrant & Combs

State Awards

Alabama

FIRM OF THE YEAR

Beasley Allen Crow Methvin Portis & Miles

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings

Hare Wynn Newell & Newton

Lightfoot Franklin & White

Starnes Davis Florie

CASE OF THE YEAR

HealthSouth v. former CEO (Bradley Arant Boult Cummings)

Arkansas Farmers v. Bayer CropScience (Hare Wynn Newell & Newton)

Sunshine Mills v. Ross Systems (Lightfoot Franklin & White)

LITIGATOR OF THE YEAR

David Hymer
Bradley Arant Boult Cummings

John Johnson
Lightfoot Franklin & White

Scott Powell
Hare Wynn Newell & Newton

Arkansas

FIRM OF THE YEAR

Eldredge & Clark Quattlebaum

Grooms Tull & Barrow Wright

Lindsey & Jennings

CASE OF THE YEAR

Green v. Tyson Foods (Quattlebaum Grooms Tull & Barrow)

Credit card debtors v. Hosto & Buchan (Wright Lindsey & Jennings)

LITIGATOR OF THE YEAR

Kimberly Wood Tucker
Wright Lindsey & Jennings

Kevin Crass
Friday Eldredge & Clark

Steven Quattlebaum
Quattlebaum Grooms Tull & Barrow

Florida

FIRM OF THE YEAR

Akerman Senterfitt

Bilzin Sumberg

Podhurst Orseck

CASE OF THE YEAR

Bank overdraft fees cases (Podhurst Orseck)

BP class actions (Akerman Senterfitt)

Chinese drywall cases (Colson Hicks & Eidson)

Texas Rangers bankruptcy (White & Case)

LITIGATOR OF THE YEAR

Ervin Gonzalez
Colson Hicks & Eidson

Thomas Lauria
White & Case

James Miller
Akerman Senterfitt

Aaron Podhurst
Podhurst Orseck

Georgia

FIRM OF THE YEAR

Alston & Bird King &

Spalding Rogers &

Hardin CASE OF

THE YEAR

Toyota class actions (Alston & Bird)

GlaxoSmithKline Paxil cases (King & Spalding)

Tri-State Water Litigation (Rogers & Hardin)

LITIGATOR OF THE YEAR

Cari Dawson
Alston & Bird

Chilton Varner
King & Spalding

Richard Sinkfield
Rogers & Hardin

Kentucky

FIRM OF THE YEAR

Fultz Maddox Hovious & Dickens

Middleton Reutlinger

Stoll Keenon Ogden

Wyatt Tarrant & Combs

CASE OF THE YEAR

Fortune Brands v. Diageo (Fultz Maddox Hovious & Dickens)

Lexmark v. Ink Technologies Printer Supplies (Stoll Keenon Ogden)

LITIGATOR OF THE YEAR

Gregg Hovious
Fultz Maddox Hovious & Dickens

Steven Loy
Stoll Keenon Ogden

Dennis Murrell
Middleton Reutlinger

Virginia Snell
Wyatt Tarrant & Combs

Louisiana

FIRM OF THE YEAR

Jones Walker

Barrasso Usdin Kupperman Freeman & Sarver

Liskow & Lewis

CASE OF THE YEAR

Chevron v. Aker-Lone Star (Liskow & Lewis)

United States of America ex rel. Branch Consultants, LLC. v. Allstate Ins. Co. (Barrasso Usdin Kupperman Freeman & Sarver)

LITIGATOR OF THE YEAR

Roy Cheatwood
Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz

Judy Barrasso
Barrasso Usdin Kupperman Freeman & Sarver

Gene Fendler
Liskow & Lewis

Mississippi

FIRM OF THE YEAR

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings

Brunini Grantham Grower & Hewes

Butler Snow

Forman Perry Watkins Krutz & Tardy

CASE OF THE YEAR

Eaton Corp v. Frisby Aerospace (Forman Perry Watkins Krutz & Tardy)

NAACP v. Haley Barbour, Gov. of Mississippi et al (Brunini Grantham Grower & Hewes)

Rosenberg v. Merck (Butler Snow)

LITIGATOR OF THE YEAR

Wayne Drinkwater

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings

Christy Jones
Butler Snow

David Kaufman
Brunini Grantham Grower & Hewes

Alan Perry
Forman Perry Watkins Krutz & Tardy

North Carolina

FIRM OF THE YEAR

Brooks Pierce McLendon Humphrey & Leonard

Ellis & Winters

Robinson Bradshaw & Hinson

Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice

CASE OF THE YEAR

Charles Schwab v. Albert Parish Jr. Ponzi scheme (Moore & Van Allen)

confidential securities case (Robinson Bradshaw & Hinson)

ABC Television Affiliates Association v FCC; ABC v Fox (Brooks Pierce McLendon Humphrey & Leonard)

LITIGATOR OF THE YEAR

James Cooney III
Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice

Robert Fuller
Robinson Bradshaw & Hinson

Leslie Packer
Blis & Winters

Mark Prak
Brooks Pierce McLendon Humphrey & Leonard

Oklahoma

FIRM OF THE YEAR

Crowe & Dunlevy

McAfee & Taft

CASE OF THE YEAR

Dollar Thrifty class action (McAfee & Taft)

GoForIt Entertainment LLC v. Digimedia.com (Crowe & Dunlevy)

Mark Brill v. Walt Disney (Hall Estill Hardwick Gable Golden & Nelson)

LITIGATOR OF THE YEAR

Phillip Free
Hall Estill Hardwick Gable Golden & Nelson

John Hermes
McAfee & Taft

Mack Morgan III
Crowe & Dunlevy

Clyde Muchmore
Crowe & Dunlevy

South Carolina

FIRM OF THE YEAR

Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd

Nexsen Pruet

Turner Padget Graham & Laney

Wyche Burgess Freeman & Parham

CASE OF THE YEAR

Branham v. Ford Motors (Turner Padget Graham & Laney)

Federal action against national bank, plaintiffs alleged bank violated Fair Credit Reporting Act (Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd)

Richard Davis v. A&E Television Networks (Nexsen Pruet)

LITIGATOR OF THE YEAR

Kenneth Carter
Turner Padget Graham & Laney

John Tiller
Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd

Thomas Tisdale
Nexsen Pruet

Tennessee

FIRM OF THE YEAR

Bass Berry & Sims

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings

Harwell Howard Hyne Gabbert & Manner

Walker Tipps & Malone

CASE OF THE YEAR

King Pharmaceuticals Shareholder Litigation in \$3.6 billion buyout by Pfizer (Bass Berry & Sims)

American National Property and Casualty Company case (Bradley Arant Boult Cummings)

LITIGATOR OF THE YEAR

Webb Campbell
Sherrard & Roe

Michael Dagley
Bass Berry & Sims

Alexander Fardon
Harwell Howard Hyne Gabbert & Manner

Robert Walker
Walker Tipps & Malone

Texas

FIRM OF THE YEAR

Baker Botts

Beck Redden & Secrest

Gibbs & Bruns

Lynn Tillotson Pinker & Cox

Vinson & Elkins

CASE OF THE YEAR

Chartis Insurance/Brent Cooper case (Fulbright & Jaworski)

i4i v. Microsoft (McKool Smith)

institutional investors v. Bank of America (Gibbs & Bruns)

Multi-District BP Litigation on behalf of Cameron International Corporation (Beck Redden & Secrest)

LITIGATOR OF THE YEAR

David Beck
Beck Redden & Secrest

Douglas Cawley
McKool Smith

Kathy Patrick
Gibbs & Bruns

Karl Stern
Vinson & Elkins

Stephen Susman
Susman Godfrey

Virginia

FIRM OF THE YEAR

Hunton & Williams

McGuireWoods

Troutman Sanders

CASE OF THE YEAR

DuPont v. Kolon Industries (McGuire Woods)

Twitter case (Troutman Sanders)

LITIGATOR OF THE YEAR

Robert Angle
Troutman Sanders

Brian Riopelle
McGuire Woods

Thomas Slater
Hunton & Williams

West Virginia

FIRM OF THE YEAR

Flaherty Sensabaugh Bonasso

Guthrie & Thomas

Jackson Kelly

Steptoe & Johnson

CASE OF THE YEAR

West Virginia University v. Big East (Jackson Kelly)

Grant Thornton v Kutak Rock (Guthrie & Thomas)

LITIGATOR OF THE YEAR

Rebecca Betts
Guthrie & Thomas

Stephen LaCagnin
Jackson Kelly

Don Sensabaugh Jr.
Flaherty Sensabaugh Bonasso

