

TENNESSEE

Local litigation firms

Highly recommended

Bass Berry & Sims

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings

Harwell Howard Hyne Gabbert & Manner

Miller & Martin

Neal & Harwell

Walker Tipps & Malone

Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis

Recommended

Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz

Burch Porter & Johnson

Glankler Brown

Riley Warnock & Jacobson

Sherrard & Roe

Local litigation stars

H. Lee Barfield

Bass Berry & Sims
Commercial Litigation, Securities

Leo Bearman

Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz
Antitrust, Appellate, Intellectual Property, Products Liability

Saul Belz

Glankler Brown
Appellate, Commercial Litigation

Robert Boston

Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis
Appellate, Commercial Litigation

Gary Brown

Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz
Commercial Litigation

Webb Campbell

Sherrard & Roe
Commercial Litigation, Insurance, Securities

Oscar Carr III

Glankler Brown
Commercial Litigation, Medical Malpractice, Personal Injury

WJ Michael Cody

Burch Porter & Johnson
Commercial Litigation, White Collar Crime

Michael Dagley

Bass Berry & Sims
Securities

Roger Dickson

Miller & Martin
Complex Commercial Litigation, Products Liability, White Collar Crime

Wallace Dietz

Bass Berry & Sims
Securities

James Doran

Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis
Appellate, Commercial Litigation, Products Liability

Alexander Fardon

Harwell Howard Hyne Gabbert & Manner
Commercial Litigation, Securities

Jef Feibelman

Burch Porter & Johnson
Commercial Litigation, Intellectual Property, White Collar Crime

Samuel Felker

Bass Berry & Sims
Commercial Litigation, Products Liability

Craig Gabbert

Harwell Howard Hyne Gabbert & Manner
Commercial Litigation

Dale Grimes

Bass Berry & Sims
Antitrust, Commercial Litigation, Products Liability, Securities

William Harbison

Sherrard & Roe
Commercial Litigation

Aubrey Harwell

Neal & Harwell
Commercial Litigation, White Collar Crime

John Hicks

Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz
Bankruptcy, Commercial Litigation, Insurance, Medical Malpractice

John Jacobson

Riley Warnock & Jacobson
Commercial Litigation, Products Liability, Securities

James Kelley

Neal & Harwell
Commercial Litigation

Samuel Lipshie

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings
Commercial Litigation, Intellectual Property

Gayle Malone

Walker Tipps & Malone
Insurance, Personal Injury, Products Liability

William Morrow

Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis
Securities

Patricia Moskal

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings
Insurance, Tax Litigation

James Neal

Neal & Harwell
Commercial Litigation

Robert Patterson

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings
Commercial Litigation, Intellectual Property

William Ramsey

Neal & Harwell
White Collar Crime

Steven Riley

Riley Warnock & Jacobson
Commercial Litigation, Securities

Glenn Rose

Harwell Howard Hyne Gabbert & Manner
Bankruptcy, Commercial Litigation

James Sanders

Neal & Harwell
White Collar Crime



Overton Thompson

Bass Berry & Sims
Commercial Litigation, Securities

Mark Tipps

Walker Tipps & Malone
Personal Injury, Products Liability

Robert Walker

Walker Tipps & Malone
Antitrust, Commercial Litigation, Products Liability

Timothy Warnock

Riley Warnock & Jacobson
Commercial Litigation, Intellectual Property,
Securities

Thor Urness

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings
Intellectual Property

Future stars

Eileen Burkhalter Smith
Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis

Patrick Burnett
Glankler Brown

Phil Cramer
Sherrard & Roe

Britt Latham
Bass Berry & Sims

W. Brantley Phillips
Bass Berry & Sims



Tennessee

In July 2009, The Tennessee Supreme Court amended the state's rules for professional conduct to require attorneys who hold eligible client funds to participate in the Tennessee Bar Foundation's Interest on Lawyer's Trust Accounts (IOLTA) program. Additionally, the amendment requires that attorneys maintain their IOLTA accounts at a financial institution that pays the same dividend or interest rate as paid to other non-IOLTA accounts maintained at that institution.

Highly recommended firms

Bass Berry & Sims

With offices in the Tennessee's three key markets of Nashville, Knoxville and Memphis, Bass Berry & Sims offers clients a comprehensive array of business and litigation and dispute resolution services. Peers confirm that "they absolutely deserve to be regarded as one of the highly recommended firms in the state." The firm made local headlines in July 2009, when a federal jury ruled that the firm's client, Whirlpool Corp., was not guilty of harassment. The suit was filed by a white employee claimed who claimed that the company should be liable for "associational harassment" after she defended her black co-workers and testified on their behalf in a previous harassment case filed against the company, after which she subsequently was also harassed.

Competitors mention **H. Lee Barfield** as a standout within the firm. Barfield has substantial experience in litigating both jury and non-jury civil cases in state and federal court, including healthcare cases, business disputes, insurance litigation, class actions, and constitutional law claims. He has also been involved in litigation over the valuation of closely held corporations.

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings

Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings is the product of the 2009 merger of Boulton Cummings Connors & Berry and Alabama-based Bradley Arant Rose & White. The combined firm has since earned a reputation as a legal powerhouse throughout the South, with offices in Tennessee, Alabama, North Carolina and Washington D.C. "They've got some real talent over there," says one peer while assessing the new entity's potential. Within the last year, the firm represented Affiliated Computer Services, Inc. in a \$9 million suit brought by The Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County ("Metro"), in which the plaintiffs claimed that they were defrauded by Affiliated in connection with the provision of software to operate Metro's traffic court. The firm obtained a favorable settlement on behalf of its client after it was able to prove through discovery that Metro's witness was unreliable.

In the Nashville office, **Robert Patterson**

practices complex commercial litigation, and peers call him "one of the most experienced litigators around." Also receiving multiple mentions is **Thor Urness**, who is lauded for his focus on commercial litigation and intellectual property. **Russell Morgan** represents clients in business, products liability and intellectual property litigation. Peers say "if I had to send a case over there, I'd send it to him."

Harwell Howard Hyne Gabbert & Manner Nashville-based Harwell Howard Hyne Gabbert & Manner is devoted solely to business law. Harwell Howard Hyne represents clients in state and federal courts throughout the United States, with its attorneys handling disputes involving state and federal securities laws, corporate governance, debtor/creditor relations, commercial transactions, state and federal employment laws, non-competition and non-disclosure agreements, trademark and copyright laws, healthcare regulations, consumer protection laws, construction issues, attorney-client relations, and trusts and estates. Over the last year, the firm represented the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce in its opposition to placing Councilman Eric Crafton's "English-only" referendum on an upcoming ballot.

Litigator **Alexander Fardon** handles all types of business-related litigation including contract claims, business torts, employment disputes, trade secrets litigation, attorney malpractice claims, ERISA benefits litigation, securities claims, and property disputes.

Miller & Martin

Operating since 1867, Miller & Martin today houses almost 200 attorneys in three cities: Nashville and Chattanooga in Tennessee, and Atlanta, Georgia. In June 2009, the firm successfully defended Blount Memorial Hospital, when the plaintiff, a nephrologist who had chronic and disruptive behavioral problems at the hospital for a number of years, sued the hospital in federal court alleging constitutional, tort and contract claims when the hospital eventually took action to revoke his hospital privileges.

In the Nashville office, **Todd Presnell** concentrates on commercial, products liability, and employment litigation. He has experience handling jury and bench trials in state and federal courts. In Chattanooga, **Randy Wilson** concentrates on health care,

construction litigation, and personal injury defense. He regularly counsels general contractors on risk management and construction disputes involving both small and multimillion dollar claims. Over the last year, he successfully represented a general contractor in a claim brought by a roofing subcontractor on a large commercial project. Despite acknowledging at trial that the subcontractor was likely entitled to additional compensation, a judgment in favor of the general contractor was obtained.

Neal & Harwell

Nashville-based boutique firm Neal & Harwell was formed in 1971 and remains focused on litigation. Peers claim that "they are great litigators, and they pretty much are only litigators, which is uncommon." The firm's civil litigation practice encompasses a wide range of subject matter, including complex business disputes, insurance coverage, products liability, class actions, aviation, environmental, defamation and First Amendment, and entertainment litigation. The firm has defended individuals and major corporations in many significant criminal matters including allegations of Medicare/Medicaid fraud and violation of anti-kickback regulations, labor and environmental crimes, mail and wire fraud, bank fraud, criminal tax fraud, securities violations, bribery, antitrust, RICO, and violation of campaign laws.

Peers point to the firm's namesakes, **James Neal** and **Aubrey Harwell**, as "two real litigators who can hold their own." Clients include ExxonMobil, General Motors and Bridgestone Firestone.

Walker Tipps & Malone

The strictly litigation boutique of Walker Tipps & Malone was originally formed as Walker Bryant & Tipps in 2000 and became known under its current name in 2002 when **Gayle Malone** joined the practice. From its sole Nashville office, the firm's litigation practice encompasses routine disputes, class actions, complex litigation, and jury and bench trials in state and federal courts in Tennessee and nationwide. Peers claim it is "probably the best litigation firm in the state." Some of its notable commercial clients including AmSurg Corporation, Healthways, Inc., and Kraft Foods, Inc.

Robert Walker focuses on commercial and business litigation, including securities and corporate governance lawsuits, shareholder and hostile takeover suits, business fraud suits, proxy challenges, and director and officer liability claims. Peers rave that Walker is "someone I think highly of," "an exceptional lawyer," "a hell of a litigator" and "a go-to-guy." **J. Mark Tipps** tries cases involving personal injury claims, environmental property damage claims, federal tax penalties, products liability, municipal annexation, copyright infringement claims, RICO violations, and

minority shareholder rights. **Gayle Malone** is also widely recognized for representing plaintiffs and defendants in business, construction, insurance, health care, medical staff and certificate of need actions, and all types of personal injury litigation.

Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis

With one office in Nashville and one in Birmingham, Alabama, Waller Lansden Dortch & Davis has a deep bench of approximately 200 experienced business lawyers.

legal community for over 120 years. In addition to offices in Nashville, Knoxville, Chattanooga, Memphis, East Memphis and Huntsville, the firm maintains a presence throughout the Southeast, with outposts in Louisiana, Georgia, Mississippi and Washington, D.C. Peers recommend Memphis-based **Leo Bearman**, who practices civil litigation, class action defense, antitrust matters, insurance defense litigation, products liability defense, intellectual property, professional negligence defense, and commercial litigation.

community. The firm also operates a satellite office in East Memphis. **Oscar Carr III** concentrates his practice in litigation, with an emphasis on business, construction, environmental, and other civil litigation. **Lee Chase** concentrates on tort, health, and construction law with an emphasis on personal injury, medical malpractice, commercial disputes, and construction litigation.

Riley Warnock & Jacobson

Nashville boutique Riley Warnock & Jacobson concentrates primarily on litigation, and in this capacity has managed to impress its Tennessee peers. "They cut through the bureaucracy with a smaller, leaner edge," maintains one local competitor. Clients explain that "they are very cost-effective and efficient, with some very sharp lawyers that give you everything you need and nothing you don't." Peers specifically mention **Steven Riley**, who has extensive jury and bench trial experience in securities, class action, health care, and general commercial litigation.

Sherrard & Roe

Another Nashville boutique firm, Sherrard & Roe provides a full range of sophisticated legal services to its clients throughout the United States and abroad. The firm's attorneys have significant experience in dispute resolution in a variety of areas including intellectual property, technology, securities, employment, real estate, and health care. **Webb Campbell's** specific areas of practice are insurance, securities litigation, and a general contract disputes. **Phillip Cramer**, called "unbelievable and a star in this community" by peers, represents clients in complex business disputes, including antitrust and competition issues, insurance coverage matters and business torts. **Bill Harbison** practices corporate and trust and estates litigation.

“Nashville boutique Riley Warnock & Jacobson...cuts through the bureaucracy with a smaller, leaner edge.”

The firm maintains a primary focus on the health care industry, and in this capacity, peers recognize **William Morrow**. Morrow's clients include public and private companies in a wide range of industries including healthcare, manufacturing, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, consumer services, banking and technology. **Robert Boston's** legal expertise is in significant commercial and business litigation, and he often represents employers in labor and employment litigation and dispute resolution. Boston has extensive trial and appellate experience successfully defending businesses against class actions and individual claims. Peers rate him as a "really prominent litigator, with high quality skills."

Recommended firms

Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz

With an impressive six offices in Tennessee, Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz has been a force in the Tennessee

Burch Porter & Johnson

Memphis-based boutique firm Burch Porter & Johnson concentrates primarily on commercial litigation. The firm also serves the western portion of the state through its office in Paris, Tennessee. **Jef Feibelman** engages principally in litigation, arbitration or mediation of complex commercial matters. He has litigated substantial claims involving fraud, breach of contract, misappropriation of trade secrets, breach of non-compete and confidentiality agreements, shareholder and partnership disputes, and business dissolution and valuation controversies. **W.J. Michael Cody's** practice focuses on mediation and arbitration of complex commercial disputes, as well as internal investigations, and regulatory matters.

Glankler Brown

Memphis firm Glankler Brown has been operating out of its downtown headquarters for over 100 years and has established itself as a mainstay in the west Tennessee legal

