

VIRGINIA

Local litigation firms

Highly recommended

Hunton & Williams

Kaufman & Canoles

McGuireWoods

Troutman Sanders

Wilcox & Savage

Williams Mullen

Recommended

Akerman Senterfitt

Christian & Barton

Gentry Locke Rakes & Moore

Goodman Allen & Filetti

LeClairRyan

Morris & Morris

Oblon Spivak McClelland Maier & Neustadt

Woods Rogers

Local litigation stars

Charles Allen

Goodman Allen & Filetti
Commercial Litigation, Intellectual Property,
Products Liability, Professional Liability

Everette Allen, Jr

LeClairRyan
Commercial Litigation, Environmental

David Anthony

Troutman Sanders
Class Actions, Commercial Litigation

Rudy Austin

Gentry Locke Rakes & Moore
Commercial Litigation

Stanley Barr, Jr

Kaufman & Canoles
Construction, Employment

William Bayliss

Williams Mullen
Commercial Litigation, Construction, Products
Liability

Cameron Beck, Jr

Morris & Morris
Civil Litigation, Products Liability, Transportation

Bruce Bishop

Wilcox & Savage
Asbestos, Environmental, Products Liability

Susan Blackman

Wilcox & Savage
Immigration, Labor & Employment

William Broaddus

McGuireWoods
Appellate, Environmental, Toxic Tort

Gary Bryant

Wilcox & Savage
Commercial Litigation, Environmental

Stephen Busch

McGuireWoods
Commercial Litigation, Environmental, Products
Liability

Thomas Cawley

Hunton & Williams
Commercial Litigation, Labor & Employment

Donald Clark

Williams Mullen
Antitrust, Commercial Litigation, Products Liability,
Securities

John Claytor

Harman Claytor Corrigan & Wellman
Insurance

Richard Cullen

McGuireWoods
Civil Litigation, Commercial Litigation

William Devine

Williams Mullen
Commercial Litigation, Insurance, Intellectual
Property, Products Liability

Patricia Epps

Hunton & Williams
Labor & Employment

Dante Filetti

Goodman Allen & Filetti
Commercial Litigation, Health Care, Professional
Liability, Real Estate

Calvin Fowler, Jr

Williams Mullen
Class Actions, Commercial Litigation, Insurance

Edward Fuhr

Hunton & Williams
Commercial Litigation, Securities

William Furr

Wilcox & Savage
Labor & Employment

Matthew Green

Morris & Morris
Commercial Litigation, Construction, Environmental,
Transportation

Warren Harless

Christian & Barton
Commercial Litigation, Employment, Products
Liability

Michael Harman

Harman Claytor Corrigan & Wellman
Legal Malpractice, Products Liability

Richard Kelly

Oblon Spivak McClelland Maier & Neustadt
Intellectual Property

William King, Jr

McGuireWoods
Commercial Litigation, Products Liability

Craig Merritt

Christian & Barton
Antitrust, Appellate, Intellectual Property, Media Law

SD Roberts Moore

Gentry Locke Rakes & Moore
Appellate, Commercial Litigation, Health Care,
Medical Malpractice, Personal Injury

Philip Morris

Morris & Morris
Civil Litigation

James Morris III

Morris & Morris
Civil Litigation, Commercial Litigation, Personal
Injury

Stephen Northup

Troutman Sanders
Commercial Litigation, Energy, Securities

Rosewell Page III

McGuireWoods
Commercial Litigation, Environmental, Health Care,
Products Liability

David Paxton

Gentry Locke Rakes & Moore
Commercial Litigation, Employment

Mary Priddy

Goodman Allen & Filetti
Medical Malpractice

James Roberts

Troutman Sanders
Appellate, Commercial Litigation

Robert Rolfe

Hunton & Williams
Commercial Litigation, Employment, Securities

Conrad Shumadine

Wilcox & Savage
Antitrust, Commercial Litigation

Charles Sims

LeClairRyan
Insurance, Intellectual Property

Hunter Sims, Jr

Kaufman & Canoles
Commercial Litigation, Intellectual Property,
Securities, White-Collar Crime

Thomas Slater, Jr

Hunton & Williams
Antitrust, Commercial Litigation, Intellectual
Property

Michael Smith

Christian & Barton
Appellate, Commercial Litigation, Health Care,
Products Liability

Gregory Stillman

Hunton & Williams
Intellectual Property, Securities

Michael Ward

Morris & Morris
Civil Litigation

Hill Wellford, Jr

Hunton & Williams
Labor & Employment

John West

Troutman Sanders
Civil Litigation, Criminal Litigation, White-Collar
Crime

Anne Marie Whittemore

McGuireWoods
Appellate, Commercial Litigation, Securities

Future stars

Patrick Blake
Wilcox & Savage

Turner Broughton
Williams Mullen

Adam Casagrande
Williams Mullen

Meghan Cloud
McGuireWoods

Cassandra Collins
Hunton & Williams

Jason Davis
Kaufman & Canoles

Maya Eckstein
Hunton & Williams

Michael Katchmark
Wilcox & Savage

David Kushner
Wilcox & Savage

Monica McCarroll
Williams Mullen

Sona Rewari
Hunton & Williams

Brett Spain
Wilcox & Savage

Virginia

While the litigation market is still down overall, lawyers in Virginia say it has picked up over the past year. Commercial litigation still lags, but intellectual property matters are picking up significantly, particularly in the Eastern District. Hoping to keep costs low, commercial clients are increasingly looking at arbitration and mediation to settle their disputes. Government contractors handle significant work within the state, leading to litigation, including increasing False Claims Act matters.

Highly recommended firms

Hunton & Williams

Founded in Virginia in 1901, Hunton & Williams has grown into a truly global firm, with over 900 lawyers handling matters in over 100 countries. The Richmond office is the largest in the firm, carrying over 250 lawyers, with additional Virginia offices in Norfolk and McLean. The Virginia offices are noted for their commercial, securities, intellectual property, products liability, labor and employment, and white-collar crime practices. “Knowledge, experience, judgment and a history of successful litigation outcomes are why we stay,” says a client.

Hunton is currently representing Chevron in multiple state investigations involving leaking underground storage tanks, potentially worth a significant sum of money. **Thomas Slater, Jr.**, who serves as group head of the firm’s litigation and labor and competition practices, is handling the matter from the Richmond office. **Patricia Epps** handles labor and employment and has represented several Fortune 500 companies in class actions involving wage and hour claims. **Edward Fuhr** heads the firm’s securities practice and served as attorney-advisor in the Office of Legal Counsel at the Department of Justice prior to joining the firm. Noted for his ability to handle complicated cases, **Gregory Stillman** serves as managing partner of the Norfolk office. “Greg Stillman is a real detailed oriented person who can synthesize a lot of complicated facts,” says a competitor.

Kaufman & Canoles

Formed in 1982 by the merger of Norfolk firms Kaufman & Oberndorfer and Conoles Mastracco Martone Barr & Russell, Kaufman & Canoles has been a presence in the state since 1919. The firm has seven offices in Virginia, recognized for their commercial, labor and employment, and intellectual property practices. A commercial and labor and employment specialist, **Stanley Barr, Jr.** has represented corporations, lenders, municipalities, hospitals, doctors and property owners. **Hunter Sims, Jr.** has tried over 100 civil and criminal jury trials to verdict, representing clients like the city of Virginia Beach, Eastern Virginia Medical School and a group of doctors sued for alleged violations of the civil False Claims Act.

McGuireWoods

Known for its commercial, products liability and white-collar crime litigation, McGuireWoods has served the Virginia marketplace since 1834. Today, the firm has over 900 lawyers in 19 offices in the US and Europe. The Richmond office carries the most litigators and has been open since 1897. The firm recently won a jury verdict on behalf of Dominion Advertising against the Chandler Law Group, seeking to enforce a promissory note and defend against counterclaims of fraud and breach of fiduciary duty.

Noted for her commercial, securities, environmental and constitutional litigation practices, **Anne Marie Whittemore** clerked for the Honorable Albert Bryan, Sr prior to joining the firm. **William Broaddus**, a former Virginia attorney general, handles commercial, environmental and toxic tort litigation. He has argued numerous cases before the Virginia and US Supreme Courts. **Stephen Busch** defends toxic tort, environmental, products liability and professional liability cases, particularly for the alcoholic beverage industry. For over 30 years, **William King, Jr.** has handled products liability litigation, particularly for industrial products including automobiles and automotive components, chemicals and industrial equipment. **Rosewell Page III** has served as lead counsel in state and federal courts in 42 states, handling primarily products and professional liability matters. **Richard Cullen** serves as firm chairman and has represented members of Congress and the CEOs and boards of directors for several Fortune 500 companies. “Richard Cullen is a former US Attorney and very well respected,” says a competitor.

Troutman Sanders

With over 650 lawyers in 16 offices in North America, Europe and Asia, Troutman Sanders is an international firm and a strong Virginia presence dating back to 1926. The firm, itself dating back to 1897, has a strong labor and employment, intellectual property, and commercial litigation practice. **David Anthony** focuses on financial services litigation and has handled over 325 federal court cases under the Fair Credit Reporting Act, the Fair Debt Collections Practices Act, the Equal Credit Opportunity Act and state consumer protection acts.

Stephen Northup handles litigation, arbitration and mediation for financial institutions and the energy industry, including Bank of America, Fleet Finance, and Virginia Electric and Power Company. **James Roberts** has over 50 years experience handling energy, commercial and white-collar crime litigation at the trial and appellate levels. **John West** represents individuals and corporations in commercial, maritime and white-collar crime litigation, including multiple government contractors in defense of False Claims Act violations.

Wilcox & Savage

Established in 1895, Wilcox & Savage is noted for its commercial and products liability practices. The firm has 28 litigators in two Virginia locations: Norfolk and Virginia Beach. Representative clients include Salmons, Norfolk Southern Railway and Potomac Hospital. **Bruce Bishop** handles asbestos defense, transportation, trucking, aviation and environmental litigation in state and federal courts throughout the country, including a defense verdict in the first asbestos personal injury involving exposure to a building occupant rather than industrial exposure to be tried to verdict. Noted for her labor and employment practice, **Susan Blackman** also handles business immigration matters. **Gary Bryant** heads the firm’s litigation group, focusing on commercial and environmental litigation. Bryant currently represents Salmons, a large grain dealer, on unfair and deceptive practices charges brought against First Citizens Bank. Salmons contends the bank made misrepresentations to convince Salmons to provide a blanket lien on assets.

Conrad Shumadine specializes in antitrust and media matters. He has represented McClatchy Newspapers, News & Observer Publishing and The Anchorage Times. **William Furr** chairs the labor and employment group and practices in both state and federal courts and before the National Labor Relations Board, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the US Department of Labor, the Virginia Department of Labor and Industry and the Virginia Employment Commission. “Billy is smart, efficient, and effective,” says a client. “His oral and written work are both high-quality. He is a native of Norfolk and is well connected in the legal community in Virginia, which is helpful in a smaller city such as Norfolk. He relates well to lawyers and management.”

Williams Mullen

With over 300 lawyers practicing from offices in North Carolina, Virginia, Washington DC, and London, Williams Mullen serves Fortune 500 companies, family-owned businesses, nonprofit organizations and government entities. Formed in 1909 by two Richmond lawyers, the firm is noted for its labor and

employment, commercial, intellectual property and products liability practices. “We still use them, and they have become a more trusted firm, getting a greater percentage of our work as time goes on,” says a client.

When Brake Resources filed a \$10.4 million arbitration demand against Motion Control Industries alleging a breach of an exclusive manufacturing contract, Motion Control turned to Williams Mullen. The four-day arbitration resulted in a denial of all of Brake Resources’s claims, and a \$404,000 award on Motion Control’s countersuit. Calvin Fowler, Jr handled the case. William Bayliss recently represented financial advisor Lowe, Brockenbrough & Co against claims that they breached an agreement to manage a

and their insurers in defamation, freedom of information and access issues, prepublication review and reporters’ privilege matters. “I associate him name with being quality,” says a competitor. David Harless heads the firm’s employment practice group. “David Harless is very good very on brief and very good on his feet,” says a peer.

Gentry Locke Rakes & Moore

Established in Roanoke in 1923, Gentry Locke Rakes & Moore works to develop relationships with clients that allow them to anticipate their litigation needs. Rudy Austin has represented general contractors on construction claims, numerous self-insured interstate motor carriers and motor carrier fleet insurers in third-party trucking cases,

intellectual property litigation, as well as estate matters and claims before various state agencies, including the State Corporation Commission and the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Board. Everette Allen, Jr handles high-profile corporate, fiduciary, business and tort matters. “Everette Allen is the go-to bet-the-farm lawyer in the state,” says a competitor.

Morris & Morris

Primarily a litigation firm, Morris & Morris attorneys practice regularly in state and federal courts throughout Virginia. Founded in 1989, the firm strives to be known as a Richmond boutique. The firm has grown to 14 lawyers handling a wide range of civil litigation, including transportation, labor and employment, and construction matters. “The two Morris brothers are top-flight,” says a competitor. The firm recently represented The Salvation Army and one of its drivers against a suit brought by a woman injured in an accident while being transported to church in a Salvation Army van. The firm successfully argued for charitable immunity, so the group is immune from any financial responsibility if they lose the case.

“Greg Stillman [of Hunton & Williams] is a real detailed oriented person who can synthesize a lot of complicated facts,” says a competitor.”

client’s investments, including related claims that they breached fiduciary duties. The \$1.5 million claim was dismissed with prejudice. Working out of Hampton Roads, William Devine handles commercial, intellectual property, insurance and land use litigation. Future stars Monica McCarroll and Adam Casagrande currently represent Tarmac America in a class action claiming the company, along with other cement and concrete producers, fixed prices. “Adam has handled some rather difficult litigation with good results,” says a client. “He thinks strategically over the entire case, not just the immediate issue.”

Recommended firms

Akerman Senterfitt

Established in 1920, Akerman Senterfitt has over 500 lawyers in 19 offices across the US. The firm represents corporations and financial institutions in civil and criminal litigation involving banking, securities, health care, real estate, insurance, and construction disputes. Stephen Hurlbut serves as the managing shareholder for Akerman’s Tysons Corner office and formerly co-chaired the Construction Practice. Hurlbut has over 25 years of experience handling construction and government contract litigation with an emphasis on resolution of delay and other schedule-related claims.

Christian & Barton

Based in Richmond, Christian & Barton represents Fortune 500 companies, small businesses, government entities, nonprofit organizations and individuals. Craig Merritt handles commercial, antitrust and intellectual property cases, particularly media companies

and patent holders and alleged patent infringers in trials of patent infringement issues. SD Roberts Moore has represented plaintiffs in products liability cases ending in settlements or verdicts up to \$13 million. David Paxton represents employers on claims of discrimination, harassment and retaliation; senior executives in disputes with companies; and college coaches against public universities on breach of contract claims.

Goodman Allen & Filetti

Primarily a litigation firm, Goodman Allen & Filetti has represented insurers, manufacturers, health care providers, businesses, authors, artists and inventors. The firm has five offices in Virginia: Richmond, Norfolk, Charlottesville, Williamsburg, and Arlington, all noted for their intellectual property and products liability work. Managing Member Charles Allen focuses his practice on intellectual property, commercial, products liability and professional liability litigation. Working out of Norfolk, Dante Filetti served as a judge advocate in the Judge Advocate General’s Corps of the United States Navy prior to founding the firm. Mary Priddy exclusively defense health care providers, particularly hospitals and hospital employees.

LeClairRyan

Established in 1988, LeClairRyan strives to provide practical advice supporting the business objectives of its clients. The firm has over 350 lawyers in 22 offices, including 10 in Virginia and is noted for its labor and employment, and commercial work. Charles Sims heads the firm’s business litigation practice, handling commercial and

Oblon Spivak McClelland Maier & Neustadt

Founded 1968, Oblon Spivak McClelland Maier & Neustadt is one of the largest firms in the US solely dedicated to intellectual property. The firm recently won a \$10.9 million judgment for Saint-Gobain Autover in their patent infringement lawsuit against Chinese windshield manufacturer Xinyi Automobile Glass. The jury found the infringement to be willful, prompting the judge to double the damages and including attorney’s fees, bringing the total settlement to over \$24 million. Managing partner Richard Kelly handles matters involving pharmaceutical drugs, software, semiconductor processing devices and plastics. Kelly began his career as a patent examiner at the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Woods Rogers

Founded in 1893, Woods Rogers handles various types of litigation, including family law, civil matters, and insurance coverage disputes. The firm has offices in Charlottesville, Danville, Lynchburg, Richmond and Roanoke. “Wood Rogers in Roanoke, they have some litigators and are among the best in that area,” says a competitor.

PATRICIA K EPPS**HUNTON & WILLIAMS**

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Patricia K Epps, a partner on the labor and employment team, has been practicing law for over 25 years. Her work focuses on employment and employee benefits advice and litigation, labor-management relations, and administrative practice before the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Department of Labor - Wage and Hour Division and Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, and the National Labor Relations Board.

Mrs. Epps has significant litigation experience in federal courts defending claims under Title VII, Americans with Disabilities Act, Age Discrimination in Employment Act, Fair Labor Standards Act, Family and Medical Leave Act and ERISA. She represented a Fortune 500 company in a major class action involving age discrimination and ERISA claims arising out of a plant shutdown. She has also represented several Fortune 500 companies in class actions involving wage and hour claims.

Mrs. Epps advises corporations on employment issues related to outsourcing operations, reorganizations, relocations, and the sales and acquisitions of domestic and foreign businesses. She has also advised and represented numerous federal contractors in over 100 OFCCP establishment and headquarters audits. She has substantial experience in investigating, mediating and defending sexual harassment claims in federal and state courts. Mrs. Epps has advised numerous corporations on executive terminations, including preparing and negotiating severance packages. She represents clients with regard to traditional labor matters, including organization campaigns, labor contract negotiations, arbitration proceedings and NLRB cases.

Mrs. Epps is listed in *Best Lawyers in America* for labor and employment law and has been voted among The Legal Elite, Virginia's Top Lawyers in Labor/Employment by *Virginia Business* for the past 10 years. She is a fellow in both the American Bar Foundation and Virginia Law Foundation. Mrs. Epps is a member of the Virginia State Bar, American and Virginia Bar Associations and Judicial Conference for the US Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. She is admitted to practice before the US Supreme Court and the US Courts of Appeals for the 2nd, 4th, 5th, 6th, and 11th Circuits, as well as numerous district courts.

**HUNTON &
WILLIAMS**

EDWARD J FUHR**HUNTON & WILLIAMS**

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Edward J Fuhr, Head of the Hunton & Williams securities litigation practice, has been recognized as a leading securities litigator for years. He has been recognized as a leading litigator by publications such as *Who's Who In American Lawyers*, *The Best Lawyers in America - Business Litigation* and *Virginia's Legal Elite*, and received the Patrick Henry Award for Distinguished Service to Virginia.

Throughout his career, Mr. Fuhr has successfully represented clients in a variety of matters related to securities class actions, mergers and acquisitions, derivative suits, SEC investigations, and corporate governance. Mr. Fuhr has extensive experience in SEC investigations, and has lectured to law schools, corporate gatherings and industry conventions on defending securities and derivative litigation and securities class actions.

For the past six months, Mr. Fuhr has been defending the merger of two large public utilities from ten shareholder class actions seeking to enjoin the transaction. Among his notable victories, Mr. Fuhr successfully represented a *Fortune* 200 retailer and its officers in shareholder class actions alleging securities law violations, and successfully represented a major US homebuilder and its board of directors against several derivative and shareholder class action suits seeking to enjoin a \$1.7 billion merger.

Recently, Mr. Fuhr has devoted substantial time leading an internal investigation for one of the nation's largest financial institutions into allegations regarding the company's securitized mortgage loan and financing practices. Mr. Fuhr is also representing a financial institution before the SEC, regarding allegations of securities law violations in connection with its valuations and securitized loan portfolios.

Mr. Fuhr recently argued successfully before the US Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit over a district court's decision not to dismiss a corporate defendant in a securities fraud class action after dismissing claims against two of the company's officers accused of misleading investors. At issue in the case was whether a corporation can act with fraudulent intent under Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act when none of its employees acted with such intent. Commentators referred to the appeal as one of the most significant securities matters of the year, noting that if the Second Circuit had affirmed the decision, it would create a circuit split that would present an attractive candidate for review by the U.S. Supreme Court.

In addition to his work at Hunton & Williams, Mr. Fuhr was employed as an attorney-advisor in the United States Department of Justice, where he advised the Attorney General and the President on, among other things, the legality and constitutionality of various programs, actions and policies. Mr. Fuhr has held several gubernatorial appointments in Virginia, serving as chairman of the Virginia Charitable Gaming Commission and vice chairman of the State Board of Community Colleges. He is admitted to practice before the Second, Third, Fourth, Sixth, Seventh and Eleventh US Circuit Courts of Appeal and the US Supreme Court.

ROBERT M ROLFE**HUNTON & WILLIAMS**

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Robert M Rolfe is the firm's general counsel. He also serves as a partner on the complex commercial litigation team. His litigation practice focuses on internal investigations, complex commercial litigation, legal malpractice and other law firm related problems, commercial fraud, the utility and coal industries, corporate governance and securities litigation and land use disputes.

Mr. Rolfe has tried and handled complex cases for commercial plaintiffs and defendants in federal and state courts throughout the United States and before the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, as well as international arbitrations before the London Court of International Arbitration. He has argued appeals in the Second, Fourth, Seventh and DC Circuits and the Supreme Court of Virginia.

Mr. Rolfe has led internal investigations for a law firm and several major corporations. He has also handled numerous law firm and legal department issues, including defense of state bar disciplinary charges, defense of malpractice claims and defense of disqualification motions. In addition, he has prosecuted and defended litigation involving corporate governance disputes for publicly-traded and privately-held corporations, limited liability companies and limited partnerships.

Mr. Rolfe is listed in *Best Lawyers in America* and was ranked a Virginia Litigation Star in the 2009 *Benchmark Litigation Guide*. He has also been recognized as a Virginia Super Lawyer by *Richmond Magazine* and one of Virginia's Legal Elite by *Virginia Business Magazine*.

Mr. Rolfe received his BA from the University of Virginia. He received his JD from the University of Virginia School of Law, where he received the Alumni Award for Academic Excellence for graduating first in his class.

A member of the Virginia and New York State Bars, he is admitted to practice in the US Supreme Court, Courts of Appeals for Second, Fourth, Seventh and DC Circuits, District Courts for Eastern and Western Districts of Virginia, Eastern and Southern Districts of New York, District of Columbia, and Eastern District of Michigan, and Court of Federal Claims.

**HUNTON &
WILLIAMS**

THOMAS G SLATER, JR**HUNTON & WILLIAMS**

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Thomas G Slater, Jr is group head for Hunton & Williams' litigation, labor, and competition practices, and has over 30 years' experience handling antitrust and competition trials. His work focuses on complex antitrust, intellectual property, franchise, unfair trade practice disputes, and white-collar criminal defense representations.

Mr. Slater is a fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers and in the American Bar Foundation. He has handled over 70 jury trials in state and federal courts throughout the United States and has served as lead trial counsel for Fortune 100 companies in numerous national and state class action antitrust cases, as well as lead trial counsel in patent infringement cases. Notable recent representations include successful results in major national litigation in the processed meat, electric utility, and mobile telecommunications industries. He is currently defending a major energy company in multi-state investigations and litigation alleging fraud, unjust enrichment, and false claims.

Mr. Slater is listed in *Best Lawyers in America* for antitrust and corporate litigation. He is listed in *Chambers, Who's Who in American Law and Who's Who in America*, and on *Lawdragon's Top 500 Leading Litigators* list.

Mr. Slater received his LLB from the University of Virginia and his BA from Virginia Military Institute. A member of the Virginia and DC Bars and a member of the Fourth Circuit Judicial Conference, he is admitted to practice in the Fourth, Fifth, Federal, and District of Columbia US Circuit Courts of Appeal and the US Supreme Court, and has successfully argued appeals in the Fourth, Fifth and DC Circuits.