



Blair B. Evans

Shareholder

Memphis | 901.577.2192 | bevans@bakerdonelson.com

Blair B. Evans is a creditors' rights and business litigator, representing lenders and special servicers in commercial loan recovery matters, including receiverships and other workout strategies. She also represents major automotive and commercial equipment creditors, banks, credit unions, and other lenders in replevin, government seizure and high-level litigation of commercial collection actions in state and federal courts.

In addition to her extensive representation of auto finance lenders and other financial institutions, Ms. Evans represents assisted living facilities, nursing homes, and health care facilities, advising them in the drafting of their financial agreements and litigating their collection and eviction actions in state and federal courts. Furthermore, she assists commercial real estate companies, property management companies, receivers, lenders, and other commercial landlords in their eviction proceedings in state courts and U.S. Bankruptcy Court.

Ms. Evans advises employers and financial and credit institutions on garnishments, levies and executions and frequently represents employers and their insurers in workers' compensation matters before the Tennessee Department of Labor. She has tried more than 20 jury trials in addition to innumerable bench trials and served as a deputy prosecuting attorney before entering private practice. Ms. Evans also leverages her previous experience as senior counsel at a national non-profit to better understand the business side of legal decision making, along with the need for cost-containment and a focus on the client's definition of success.

Ms. Evans works out of the Memphis office and serves as chair of the Firm's Auto Finance Team.

Representative Matters

- Manages two commercial loan default portfolios for major lender and coordinates litigation throughout the Firm's footprint, directing and overseeing the work of more than 30 team members, including 21 attorneys.
- Provided long-term representation of a major automotive creditor in state court trials involving breach of contract actions and actions to recover personal property.
- Successful representation of major automotive creditors in contests of vehicle confiscations by law enforcement agencies before the Tennessee Department of Safety, Tennessee Board of Claims, Shelby County Criminal Court and U.S. Department of Justice.
- Long-term representation of a large local credit union in replevin actions, vehicle forfeiture proceedings, foreclosures, bankruptcy proceedings and state court collections actions.
- Successful representation of an international elevator producer in state court litigation of contractual disputes.
- Recovery of debts for assisted living, skilled care, nursing home and other health care facilities in actions in state courts.
- Numerous trials of consumer credit issues before U.S. Bankruptcy Court for major mortgage companies and automotive creditors.
- Representation of a local utility provider before state courts in litigation of damage claims.
- Representation of multiple commercial real estate entities in state court eviction proceedings and in U.S. Bankruptcy Court in actions to lift the automatic stay and adversary proceedings, in which the tenant is ordered to assume or reject a lease.

- Litigated breach of employee retention bonus agreements against former employees of a major health care provider.



Professional Honors & Activities

- AV® Preeminent™ Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell in the area of Commercial Litigation
- Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization law (2021 – 2024); Litigation - Banking and Finance (2022 – 2024)
- Member – Memphis (CLE Committee Chair 2006 – 2007 and Co-Chair 2005 – 2006; Bench Bar Committee Chair 2014 – 2015, Member 2012 – 2013, 2011 – 2012, 2005 – 2006 and 2004 – 2005; Bench Bar CLE Subcommittee, Co-Chair 2013 – 2014; Subcommittee 2005 – 2006 and 2004 – 2005), Arkansas and Tennessee Bar Associations
- Midsouth Commercial Law Institute Board of Directors (2024 – 2025)
- Master – Leo Bearman, Sr. American Inn of Court (2020 – present)
- President – Sewanee Club of Memphis (2005 – present)
- Recipient – Baker Donelson Work-Life Warrior Award (2023)
- Church of the Holy Communion (Episcopal)
 - Vestry Member (2011 – 2014, 2024 – 2027; Junior Warden, 2013 – 2014, 2024 – 2025)
 - Parish Chancellor (January 2014 – present)
- Baker Donelson Recruiting Committee Memphis Office, Chair (2019 – 2021)
 - Co-Chair – Recruiting Committee (2018)
 - Member – Recruiting Committee (2016 – 2021)
- Baker Donelson Recruiting-Social Activities Subcommittee (Chair, 2008, 2006, 2005; Co-Chair 2004, 2007)
- Member – Programming Committee of Baker Donelson's Baker Women
 - Co-Chair, Alternative Work Arrangements Committee
- St. Columba Episcopal Camp & Retreat Center Board of Directors
 - Chair (2021 – 2023)
 - Vice Chair (2020 – 2021)
 - Member (2017 – 2024)



Publications

- "TCPA Compliance Policy," *Practical Guidance*® (August 2023)
- "Open Letters: A Special Bond Between a Working Mom and Her Son," *Women's Initiative Newsletter* (June 2023)
- "Baker's Dozen: What Are Your Best "Balance" Tips?," *Women's Initiative Newsletter* (June 2023)
- "Baker's Dozen – Tips on the Way to the Top," *Women's Initiative Newsletter* (October 2022)
- "COMMENTARY: Discussion About CFPB's Structure About to Get More Interesting," *Subprime Auto Finance News* (August 2018)
- "The CFPB's Regulation of the Auto Finance Industry is Legally and Ethically Wrong," *Auto Finance News* (December 2016)
- "The Impact of Driverless Cars, Uber, Lyft and Fewer Teen Drivers on the Auto Finance Industry," *Bank & Lender Liability*, Volume 22, Issue 14 (November 2016)
- Co-author – "CFPB Appears Poised to Increase Its Focus on Auto Lending," *Auto Finance News* (August 2016)
- Co-author – "Was a CFPB Enforcement Action Based on 'Racial Profiling and Junk Science?'," *Corporate Counsel* (August 2016)
- Co-author – "The Hidden Risks of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act," *Corporate Counsel* (July 2016)
- "CFPB's Auto Finance Push Hurts Consumers," *American Banker* (January 2016)



Speaking Engagements

- "General Sessions Court - Civil," Tennessee Faith & Justice Alliance Volunteer Attorney Training (March 2016)
- "Collection Law from Start to Finish: Collecting the Judgment," NBI Seminar (December 2015)



Webinars

- Effective Utilization of Paralegals (February 2024)
- Ethics 2021 (December 2021)
- Regions/Baker Donelson Webinar: Mid-Pandemic Topics and Trends in Financial Services – CFPB Regulation F Changes (May 2021)
- Bracing for the Next Bankruptcy Wave in the Post-COVID World (July 2020)
- Regions/Baker Donelson Webinar: FDCPA Dos and Don'ts (June 2020)



Education

- The University of Arkansas at Little Rock School of Law, J.D., 1993
- The University of the South at Sewanee, B.A., 1990



Admissions

- Tennessee, 1997
- Western District of Tennessee, 1997
- Middle District of Tennessee, 2004
- Eastern District of Tennessee, 2004
- Arkansas, 1993
- Eastern and Western Districts of Arkansas, 1996
- Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals, 2008