



William G. Somerville

Shareholder

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Will Somerville concentrates his practice in business litigation, including class actions, health care litigation, employment law, cannabis law and policy, and gaming law.

In addition to defending employers in matters ranging from class action discrimination cases to wage and hour investigations, Mr. Somerville has successfully handled a wide variety of complex and commercial cases on behalf of corporate litigants. His successful representations include prosecuting insurance coverage cases, breach of contract claims, and computer software disputes on behalf of major financial institutions; prosecuting and defending trade secret and intentional interference claims involving corporate plaintiffs and defendants; defending manufacturers in products liability litigation; and extensive litigation on behalf of gaming manufacturers and operators in state and federal courts. Mr. Somerville also represents clients in the cannabis industry in matters such as licensing and litigation.

Mr. Somerville has considerable litigation experience in the health care industry, as well. This includes representing entities in certificate of need litigation; defending health care institutions in litigation brought by physicians; litigating business disputes between hospitals; litigation against governmental entities; and other types of general business litigation.

Professional Honors & Activities

- Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*[®] for Commercial Litigation, Employment Law - Management, Litigation - Labor and Employment (since 2011); Gaming Law (since 2020)
- Listed in *Mid-South Super Lawyers*, Employment & Labor (2012 – 2017)
- Law Clerk to the Honorable Seybourn H. Lynne, United States District Court for the Northern District of Alabama (1986 – 1987)
- Member – Birmingham Bar Association
- Member – Alabama State Bar Association (Labor Law Section)
- Member – American Bar Association
 - Former Member, Committee on Employee Rights and Responsibilities of Labor and Employment Law Section)
- Member – International Association of Gaming Advisors
- Listed in *Chambers USA: America's Leading Business Lawyers* as a leading labor & employment lawyer in Alabama (2008 – 2014)
- AV[®] Preeminent[™] Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell

Publications

- "Alabama Gaming Legislation Approved by State House of Representatives" (February 2024)
- "Proposed Alabama Gaming Legislation is Best Effort to Date" (February 2024)

Speaking Engagements

- "Alabama Medical Cannabis Association's Medical Cannabis Banking & Regulatory Symposium" (June 2023)
- Panelist – "Advertising Restrictions and the First Amendment: The Crossroads Between Free Speech and Expression and Consumer Protections," Global Gaming Expo (G2E), IAGA Best Practices Institute, Las Vegas (October 2019)

- "Office Pools, Fantasy Sports, and Sports Gambling" (August 2018)
- "Fantasy Sports and Similar Phenomena" (January 2018)



Education

- University of Alabama Law School, J.D., 1986
 - Editor in Chief – *Alabama Law Review*, 1985 – 1986
 - Hugo L. Black Scholar
 - M. Leigh Harrison Scholar
- Harvard University, B.A., 1983



Admissions

- Alabama, 1987