



Tonya Willis

Litigation Attorney

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Tonya Willis is a member of the Health Care Litigation Group and is located in the Firm's Knoxville office.

Tonya focuses her practice on health care litigation, with a robust background in both trial and appellate practice. Prior to her focus on health care litigation matters, her experience includes handling cases involving products liability; premises liability; workers' compensation, particularly toxic exposure; pharmaceutical manufacturer liability; motor vehicle accidents, including defense of tractor-trailer drivers and carriers; estate litigation; and mass tort/complex litigation.

Tonya previously served as a law clerk for the Honorable Michael Swiney at the Tennessee Court of Appeals, where she assisted in drafting the Court's opinions for a variety of appellate matters, including all types of civil litigation, domestic relations, and estate litigation. Tonya also served as a managing attorney and the U.S. contact for clients for an offshore legal services company, providing legal support services to corporate and law firm clients in a variety of matters, including financial services, employment, property, and contracts. Further, Tonya's experience includes providing writing and consulting services to Tennessee attorneys in a variety of litigation and appellate settings, such as domestic relations, estate litigation, and personal injury.

In her practice, Tonya prepares litigation strategies for discovery and trial; drafts motions and legal memoranda for all stages of pre-litigation, litigation, and appeals; and provides comprehensive legal representation to her clients. Her dedication and versatile experience have made her a trusted advisor to her clients.

Professional Honors & Activities

- Member – Tennessee Bar Association
- Member – Knoxville Bar Association
 - Co-chair – Knoxville Bar Association Barristers Hunger and Poverty Relief Committee (2001 – 2003)
- Co-chair – Knoxville Bar Association Barristers Law Day Committee (2002)
- KBA Barrister's President's Award (2002)
- Member – East Tennessee Lawyer's Association for Women
- Panel Adjudicator – East Tennessee Performing Arts Association (2016 – present)
- Court Appointed Special Advocates of the TN Heartland, Blount County Fundraising Committee (2014 – 2017)
- Sponsorship Committee co-chair – ETLAW, 30th Anniversary Event (2013)

Education

- University of Tennessee College of Law, J.D., 1996
 - Awarded Certificates of Academic Excellence in Pre-trial Litigation, Insurance Law and Legal Clinic – Civil Litigation
- University of Tennessee, B.A., 1993, magna cum laude

Admissions

- Tennessee State Courts, 1996
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee, 1997

- Sixth Circuit Federal Court of Appeals, 1999