

# Matthew T. Richardson, MEMBER

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Matthew's practice focuses mostly on complex civil litigation, and he has participated in cases involving shareholder and minority owner oppression, high-profile and high-stakes business and governmental litigation, white collar criminal investigation and prosecution, consumer protection, voting rights and election protests, commercial and real estate law, copyright infringement, insurance bad faith, employment law, medical malpractice, personal injury, and products liability. His experience includes jury trials, bench trials, agency hearings and contested cases, preliminary motions and injunctions, dispositive motions, class action certification determinations, mediations, arbitrations, and appeals. Matthew is based in our Columbia, SC office.



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## CONTACT

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## PRACTICE AREAS

- **Appellate Advocacy**
- **Class Action Litigation**
- **Governmental Representation**
- **Intellectual Property**
- **Litigation**
- **Shareholder Oppression**
- **Plaintiff's Personal Injury Practice**
- **Whistleblower and False Claims Act Litigation**
- **Big Case Litigation**
- **Novel Questions of Law**

## EDUCATION

1998, J.D.	University of South Carolina School of Law, <i>South Carolina Law Review</i> , Editor in Chief, 1997-98; Order of the Wig and Robe
1995, A.B.	Duke University, Economics

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## REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

Matthew has appeared in federal and state courts in South Carolina regularly since joining the Bar, and in a variety of matters as:

- Lead counsel in obtaining an arbitration award with a value in excess of \$25 million for business litigation involving one of South Carolina's largest privately held companies
  - Lead counsel in minority shareholder oppression suit involving multiple entities organized in multiple states and with operations and assets in multiple countries
  - Lead counsel in consumer protection litigation with statewide and policy-level implications
  - Counsel for a class of all foster care children in South Carolina for systemic constitutional and statutory violations and for monitoring successful completion of the implementation plans
  - Counsel for the state agency charged with protecting the public interest in the biggest utility case in the history of South Carolina
  - Counsel in various minority owner and shareholder disputes to resolve governance, succession, oppression, buy-outs, and judicial dissolution in closely held and family businesses
  - Lead counsel in a products liability class action removed to federal court and that was transferred by the Judicial Panel on Multi-District Litigation to the District of South Carolina for pre-trial litigation
  - Counsel for the lead plaintiff in a federal three-judge panel redistricting case that went through trial resulting in affirmative relief and an agreed-on fee award for the client
  - Counsel in various personal injury and medical malpractice cases with catastrophic and permanent injuries and deaths
  - Counsel for various clients in state and federal court for redistricting, election challenges and protests, and voter protection issues
  - Counsel for various County governments in litigation and advisory roles
  - Counsel for complaints and proceedings involving the State Ethics Commission and licensing matters with state agencies
  - Local counsel for supplementary proceedings in the U.S. District Court for collection of a judgment on behalf of the victims of an international terrorist act in which competing claims were made for the funds that had been frozen in the District of South Carolina
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## PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

2001-Present	Wyche, P.A.
2000-01	Law Clerk to the Honorable P. Michael Duffy, United States District Court, District of South Carolina
1998-99	Law Clerk to the Honorable Kaye G. Hearn, South Carolina Court of Appeals

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## **BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS**

- **South Carolina Bar**
  - **District of South Carolina**
  - **Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals**
  - **District of Columbia Circuit Court of Appeals**
  - **United States Supreme Court**
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## **PROFESSIONAL & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES`**

- **South Carolina Access to Justice Commission, Chair, 2014-17**
  - **South Carolina Association for Justice: President, 2012-13; Board of Governors, Officer, 2007-11**
  - **Fourth Circuit Judicial Conference, Permanent Member**
  - **John Belton O'Neill Inn of Court, Member**
  - **Richland County Bar Association, Bench-Bar Liaison Committee, 2007-Present**
  - **Project Homeless Experience Legal Protection, volunteer**
  - **2010 Democratic Nominee for Attorney General of South Carolina**
  - **Liberty Fellowship, Senior Advisor, Class of 2014**
  - **Eagle Scout**
  - **Federal Bar Association, President of the South Carolina Chapter, 2004-05**
  - **American Association for Justice**
  - **American Bar Association Foundation, Fellow**
  - **South Carolina Bar Association**
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## **PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS**

- **Presentation, "Candor Toward the Tribunal," Richland County Bar Association Annual Free Ethics CLE, Columbia, SC, October 28, 2016**
- **Program Coordinator and Moderator, "Summit on Access to Justice for All," USC Alumni Center, October 24, 2016**
- **Presentation, "Access to Justice for All," S.C. State Judicial Conference, Columbia, SC, August 20, 2015**
- **Presentation, "More Light! Protecting Public Housing Participants through Utility Allowance Litigation" for S.C. Appleseed, Columbia, SC, November 21, 2014**
- **Presentation, "2014 Mid-Year Review: Civil Practice Update," Columbia, SC, June 27, 2014 & July 11, 2014**
- **Presentation, "Plaintiffs' Civil Trial Practice," LAWS 557, USC School of Law, Columbia, SC, February 24, 2013, February 25, 2014, & February 23, 2015**
- **Presentation, "Truthiness: Justice at Stake," Auto Torts Seminar for S.C. Association for Justice, Atlanta, GA, December 1, 2012**
- **Doing Business in South Carolina Guide, co-author of Section XVI: Ethics, Lobbying, and Campaign Financing**
- **Program Coordinator and Moderator, "Guns Rights and Laws" CLE, USC School of Law, September 9, 2010**
- **Presentation, "Discovery Issues and Techniques from the Plaintiff's Perspective," SC Bar CLE Seminar, Discovery: Problems & Solutions, Columbia, SC, May 14, 2010**
- **Panel Discussion with Federal Judges, "Candor Towards the Tribunal," Federal Bar Association 2009 Ethics CLE and Annual Meeting, Greenville, SC, September 17, 2009**

- Co-Author, "Insurance Bad Faith," South Carolina Damages, S.C. Bar 2d ed. 2009
- Co-Moderator, "Should the South Carolina Constitution Support a Stronger Executive?," Symposium: State Constitutional Reform in the New South, Charleston School of Law, January 16, 2009
- Moderator, "Exploring Bans on Illegal Immigrant Admission to State Colleges & Universities," Symposium: State Constitutional Reform in the New South, Charleston School of Law, January 16, 2009
- Presentation, "Election Protection Strategies," NAACP Faith Community Summit, October 23, 2008
- Presentation, "Statutory Changes to Joint and Several Liability," SCTLA Convention, August 3, 2007
- Presentation, "No-Injury Class Actions are Coming to South Carolina," S.C. State Circuit Judges Conference, May 17, 2007
- Presentation, "No-Injury Class Actions: Frontier or Futile?" RPWB Co-Counsel Seminar, April 27, 2007, and SCTLA Convention, August 3, 2007
- Presentation, "Is 'Joint and Several' Becoming 'Blame Everybody'?" SCTLA Convention, August 3, 2006
- Presentation, "Overview of the Federal Legal System," FBA Summer Clerks Program, 2006, 2007 and 2008
- Presentation, "2005 Legislative Changes to Joint and Several Liability in South Carolina," Judges Meeting, U.S. District Court for the District of South Carolina, May 12, 2006
- Presentation, "What it Means to be a Trial Lawyer," SCTLA Student Chapter, USC School of Law, October 27, 2005
- Moderator, Fourth Annual Federal Practice in the District of South Carolina, September 9, 2005
- Presentation, "All Aboard, The Train is Leaving: Electronic Case Filing is Mandatory in the District of South Carolina," SCTLA Convention, August 5, 2005
- Author, "2005 Legislative Changes to the South Carolina Civil Justice System," SCTLA Bulletin, Summer 2005
- Co-Author, "The Tort of Unauthorized Pelvic Exams," *Trial*, October 2004
- Co-Author, "Secret Settlements: Reports of Their Demise Are Premature," 15 S.C. Law. 29, May 2004
- Co-Author, "Insurance Bad Faith," 2 South Carolina Damages 11, S.C. Bar 2004

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## HONORS AND AWARDS

2017	Named Greenville Appellate Practice "Lawyer of the Year" by <i>Best Lawyers</i>
2015	S.C. Association for Justice Matthew J. Perry Public Service Award
2015	Greenville Business Magazine "50 Most Influential"
2014 - Present	Listed in <i>Chambers USA</i>
2014 - Present	Listed in South Carolina <i>Super Lawyers</i>
2013 - Present	Listed in <i>Best Lawyers in America</i>
2012 - 2013	Named a "Rising Star" by South Carolina <i>Super Lawyers</i>
2010	Top 20 Under 40, The State
2009	Liberty Fellowship, Aspen Global Leadership Network
2003	Compleat Lawyer Award, University of South Carolina School of Law