



William L. Waudby

Partner

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Birmingham, AL – 205.709.8985

Bill Waudby has more than 30 years of civil jury trial and appellate experience with an emphasis on complex tort/casualty, products liability, transportation, professional liability, commercial litigation, and unfair competition. He is an experienced trial lawyer with numerous jury trials and preliminary injunction hearings in state and federal courts in Alabama. With a honors degree in engineering, Bill is adept at examining experts and explaining scientific evidence to judges and juries.

Commercial Litigation & Unfair Competition

Bill routinely represents businesses and individuals in complex commercial, contract and corporate litigation matters. He has wide experience in risk avoidance, prosecution and defense of unfair competition claims, non-compete agreements, trade secrets, trademarks, confidentiality agreements, business defamation and mail fraud.

Product Liability

Throughout his career Bill has defended manufacturers and suppliers of consumer products, heavy equipment, industrial machinery, chemical products, medical devices and pharmaceuticals in personal injury and wrongful death cases. In addition to single-plaintiff cases, he has vast products experience in multi-plaintiff, mass tort, multistate and multidistrict litigation. Each product and each type of case present different opportunities and challenges for successful resolution. Bill has tried cases to defense verdict for manufacturers of medical devices and heavy equipment. Additionally, he counsels companies on product safety, product recalls and compliance with regulatory standards.

Transportation

Bill routinely defends motor carriers in claims involving serious tractor-trailer accidents and catastrophic injuries. He advises clients on compliance with Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations and is a member of the firm's 24-Hour Emergency Response Team, a group of attorneys dedicated to providing rapid post-accident intervention and investigation.

Services

- Asbestos & Talc
- Commercial Litigation
- Complex Tort & General Casualty
- Life Sciences
- Contractual/Extra-Contractual Liability Litigation
- Product Liability, Prevention & Government Compliance
- Professional Liability & Services
- Transportation
- Toxic Tort

Toxic Tort and Environmental

Bill also regularly defends product manufacturers, suppliers and premises owners in environmental and toxic tort litigation. Many of his cases involve occupational exposures to asbestos, benzene, toxic fumes, and chemicals of all types. His practice routinely intersects with industrial hygiene, toxicology, medicine, and state-of-the-art and complex science.

Education

- Washington and Lee University School of Law (J.D., 1993)
- Vanderbilt University (B.E.in Mechanical Engineering, *magna cum laude*, 1990)

Bar Admissions

- Alabama

Court Admissions

- U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Alabama
- U.S. District Court, Middle District of Alabama
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Alabama

Professional Affiliations

- Alabama State Bar Association
- Birmingham Bar Association
- American Bar Association
- DRI: The Voice of the Defense Bar

Awards & Honors

- Selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America®*, 2024-2026
- Selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America™* since 2012, Product Liability Litigation – Defendants, Mass Tort Litigation/Class Actions – Defendants, and Litigation – Environmental

Representative Matters

Defense jury verdict in personal injury action alleging a design defect in heavy mobile equipment.

Directed verdict for medical device manufacturer in wrongful death action at close of plaintiff's case.

Obtained dismissals for Fortune 100 manufacturers in numerous death and catastrophic injury cases alleging design, manufacturing and warning defects.

Successfully litigated and negotiated inventories of asbestos claims in Alabama, Texas and Multidistrict Litigation for premises owners.

Obtained summary judgment for aviation manufacturer based on the government contractor defense.

Lead counsel for manufacturer in two recalls with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Won summary judgment for a regional surface transportation company in a multimillion-dollar case arising out of a rear-end collision between commercial tractor trailers involving an alleged neck injury that resulted in permanent paralysis.

Favorably settled a leg-off personal injury case during trial for the defendant-employer, involving an issue of first impression under Alabama's workers' compensation exclusivity provisions.

Obtained a preliminary injunction following a four-day bench trial, enjoining a former employee and his new employer from continued solicitation of customers and employees.

Obtained a jury verdict for the defendant-manufacturer in a personal injury action alleging design defects in earth-moving equipment.

Defended a mobile home manufacturer in a punitive class-wide arbitration and individual arbitrations over disputed Housing and Urban Development violations and mold claims.

Successfully represented a surface mining company, resulting in the Mine Safety and Health Administration vacating and reducing many safety standard citations and orders.