

Matthew Justin Pearce

Associate, Atlanta

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Matt Pearce is an associate in the Business Litigation and Arbitration practice group. Mr. Pearce's practice is devoted to complex commercial litigation in both state and federal courts.

Mr. Pearce has experience in handling litigation matters in the following areas:

- Noncompetition and nonsolicitation covenants
- Trusts, estates, and fiduciary claims
- Trade secret disputes
- Business torts
- Consumer claims
- ERISA and employee benefits
- Energy regulation and litigation

Representative engagements include:

- Representation of a national magazine publisher in a litigation matter involving the misappropriation of trade secrets.
- Representation of a Fortune 500 Company in litigation to enforce noncompete and nonsolicitation covenants.

Practices

- Complex Commercial & Business Litigation
- Litigation

Education

- J.D., With Honors, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2002
- B.A., *magna cum laude*, Florida State University, 1999 (Phi Beta Kappa)

Bar & Court Admissions

- Georgia
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia
- Georgia Court of Appeals
- Supreme Court of Georgia
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit

Memberships

- American Bar Association
- Bleckley Inn of Court, Barrister
- Break Away, Board of Directors
- State Bar of Georgia, Fiduciary Law Section

- Representation of financial institutions and individuals in a wide range of fiduciary litigation matters, including breach of fiduciary duty claims, will caveats, will and trust construction cases, actions for removal of trustees and executors, and actions for trust modification and termination.
- Representation of a corporation in a factually complex garnishment proceeding involving competing claims to a bank account. The matter proceeded to a bench trial, which resulted in a judgment in favor of Mr. Pearce's client.
- Representation of a corporation and the trustees of an employee stock ownership plan against claims arising under ERISA and state law for benefits and breach of fiduciary duty.
- Representation of a manufacturing company in litigation related to the construction of a combustion energy system.
- State Bar of Georgia, General Practice and Trial Section

Mr. Pearce is active in the community and regularly serves as a volunteer lawyer in AVLF's Saturday Lawyers Program, in which he represents indigent clients in a variety of matters.