BONDURANT
Bondurant Mixson & Elmore LLP

Michael B. Terry

Partner
404-881-4108
404-881-4111
terry@bmelaw.com
1201 West Peachtree Street NW, Suite 3900
Atlanta, GA 30309

Biography

Mike Terry handles high-stakes class actions, trials, and appellate matters.

He has tried cases to verdict across a wide range of issues, including fraud, breach of contract, products liability, civil RICO, CERCLA, and antitrust. He was on the plaintiffs' teams for the three largest verdicts in Georgia history.

Mike's practice also focuses extensively on appellate litigation, particularly in the areas of constitutional law, class actions, and punitive damages. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Appellate Lawyers, an honor reserved for a small number of those demonstrating appellate advocacy excellence.

In recognition of his career achievements, Mike received the State Bar of Georgia's "Tradition of Excellence Award" in 2024. He was also named a finalist for the national "Trial Lawyer of the Year" award by Public Justice in 2023 and was honored as Georgia's overall "Lawyer of the Year" in 2021 by American Lawyer Media and the Daily Report, after being a finalist in 2017. Additionally, he received the inaugural "Guardian of Justice" Award from the Council of State Court Judges in 2017.

Mike has been ranked by Chambers USA every year since 2008 and has earned seven "Lawyer of the Year" distinctions from Best Lawyers across three practice areas—appellate, antitrust, and banking litigation. He was recognized as a Top 10 Georgia Super Lawyer in 2023, 2024, 2025, and 2026, and named a Top 100 Georgia Super Lawyer 15 times.

> In 2021, the Supreme Court of Georgia selected Mike to reargue its most famous case, the "Three Governors Case," during the Court's 175th Anniversary event, a testament to his stature in the legal community.
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> Mike served as president of the Atlanta Bar Association from 2010 to 2011, where he prioritized judicial funding. In 2019, he received the organization's highest honor, the Charles Watkins Award for lifetime service, and later served as president of the Atlanta Bar Foundation from 2018 to 2019. He served almost 20 years on the board of the Atlanta Bar Association, six years on the ABA's House of Delegates, and served for a decade on the State Bar of Georgia's Board of Governors.
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> He has published three books and numerous articles on appellate practice. He frequently writes and lectures on class actions and punitive damages and is often invited to moderate judicial panels, particularly on professionalism.

Representative Matters

- Part of a trial team that obtained a $1.7 billion verdict, the largest in Georgia history at that time, in the case of *Hill v. Ford* in 2022. His cross-examination of the defense's engineering expert was referred to in the closing argument as the crux of the case.
- Served on the trial team that secured a $454 million verdict, then Georgia's largest, affirmed on appeal, *Six Flags v. Time Warner*.
- Part of a trial team that obtained an $80.2 million verdict in the case of *Pritchard v. Mendoza* in Cobb County, Georgia, in 2023.
- Part of a trial team that obtained a $103.5 million verdict in the case of *Adams v. Claxton* in Cobb County, Georgia, in 2023.
- Part of the trial team that obtained a $99.9 million verdict in *Huynh v. Transportation Inc. Agent Group* in Fulton County, Georgia, in 2025.
- Served as class counsel for certified classes in numerous class actions, including *Bickerstaff v. SunTrust Bank, Adams v. DeKalb County*, *Griner v. Synovus Bank, Brown v. Fidelity Bank, Buckner v. Resource Life Insurance Company, Schorr v. Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., Toole v. JMIC Life Insurance Co.,* and *Green v. Griffin Industries*.

- Argued and achieved a 7-0 victory before the Georgia Supreme Court in a landmark challenge to the constitutionality of the state's caps on pain and suffering damages in medical malpractice cases.
- Argued and obtained a unanimous victory before the Georgia Supreme Court for a class of 12,000 teachers alleging improper elimination of retirement plan contributions from the school district.
- Argued and achieved a 7-0 reversal of the denial of class certification for 700,000 consumers

alleging their bank had charged them usurious fees.
- Argued and won two cases combined for oral argument in the Georgia Supreme Court, which refined the standard for foreseeability of third-party conduct.
- Argued and won a case in the Georgia Court of Appeals addressing, inter alia, personal jurisdiction based on business registration.
- Argued and won in the Georgia Supreme Court a case extending the rights of victims of childhood sexual abuse.
- Argued and achieved a victory before the Georgia Supreme Court in a $46 million medical malpractice case.
- Selected by the Council of State Court Judges of Georgia to represent that body in two successful Georgia Supreme Court challenges to actions taken by the Georgia Judicial Qualifications Commission.

Professional Activities

- Atlanta Bar Association, Past President and Executive Committee Member; Litigation Section, Past Chair; Continuing Legal Education Board of Directors, Past Chair; Judicial Campaign Conduct Committee, Past Chair
- State Bar of Georgia, Member, 2012 - 2022
- American Bar Association, Member, 2018 - 2024
- Lawyers Foundation of Georgia, Sustaining Member
- Georgia Trial Lawyers Association, Executive Committee, Member
- American Association for Justice, Member
- Lawyers Club of Atlanta, Member
- American Constitution Society, Member
- Lumpkin Inn, American Inns of Court, Executive Committee, Member; Program Committee, Chair
- Supreme Court of Georgia, Standing Committee on the Unauthorized Practice of Law, Member, 2005 - 2011, Chair 2010 - 2011; Emergency Management Committee, Member
- Druid Hills Civic Association, Former President
- Atlanta Youth Soccer Association, Board of Directors

Honors & Awards

- University of Georgia School of Law’s Distinguished Service Scroll Award, 2026
- Legal 500, Atlanta City Elite, 2025
- Benchmark Litigation, Star, 2025
- State Bar of Georgia, Tradition of Excellence Award, 2024
- Public Justice, Trial Lawyer of the Year Finalist, 2023
- American Lawyer Media and Daily Report, “Lawyer of the Year,” 2021
- Atlanta Bar Association, Charles Watkins Award, 2019

- American Lawyer Media and Daily Report, “Lawyer of the Year” Finalist, 2017
- Council of State Court Judges, Guardian of Justice Award, 2017
- American Academy of Appellate Lawyers, Fellow
- Best Lawyers, "Lawyer of the Year" (7 times)
- Chambers USA, 2008 - Present
- Georgia Super Lawyers, Top 10, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026
- Georgia Super Lawyers, Top 100 (15 times)
- Georgia Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, Case of the Year Award

Credentials

Education

- University of Georgia School of Law, J.D., 1987, Magna Cum Laude
- University of Georgia, A.B., 1982, Magna Cum Laude

Admissions

- State Bar of Georgia
- Supreme Court of Georgia
- Georgia Court of Appeals
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit
- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Georgia
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia
- U.S. District Court for the Western District of Michigan

Thought Leadership

- Presenter, 360 Advocacy conference
- Speaker, "Oral Argument", Georgia Appellate ICLE Seminar
- Moderator, "Handling Big Cases", Georgia ICLE seminar