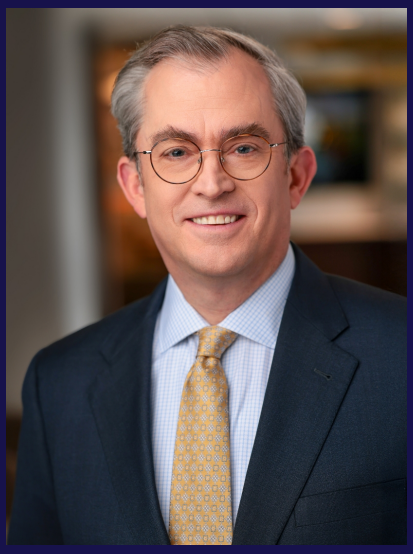
BONDURANT
Bondurant Mixson & Elmore LLP



Robert L. Ashe III

Partner

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Biography

Robbie Ashe represents plaintiffs and defendants in state and federal courts. He dedicates a significant portion of his practice to matters involving public entities and regulatory authorities across Georgia, leveraging his extensive background in politics and government. He has decades of experience evaluating, negotiating, and addressing a range of issues, including procurements, annexations, tax disputes, open records and meetings issues, and government ethics and campaign finance matters.

In addition to his work on public matters, Robbie focuses his practice on complex commercial litigation across industries, including real estate, transportation, banking, technology, and hospitality. Whether representing clients in high-stakes employment covenant disputes, RICO actions, or trade secrets cases, Robbie has a proven track record of securing favorable outcomes for his clients.

Representative Matters

- Successfully defended a plaintiff's verdict under the Federal Employers Liability Act (FELA) at the 11th Circuit (*Cephus v. CSX Transportation, Inc.,* 771 Fed. Appx. 883 (11th Cir. 2019)).
- Defended and prevailed in a First Amendment challenge to the City of Atlanta's public comment

policy, including through appeal and oral argument before the 11th Circuit. See *Cardinale v. City of Atlanta,* 2022 WL 2983366 (11th Cir. July 28, 2022); *Cardinale v. City of Atlanta,* 2021 WL 10330479 (N.D. Ga. Feb. 25, 2021) (trial court granted summary judgment).

- Successfully represented the City of Brookhaven and its officials in a suit brought by a developer over a failed redevelopment, including first getting an adverse jury verdict reversed, then summary judgment granted for the defense on remand. See *Ardent Companies, LLC v. City of Brookhaven,* 2025 WL 1792666 (Ga. Court of Appeals June 30, 2025) (upholding trial court's grant of summary judgment following earlier remand); *City of Brookhaven v. Ardent Companies, LLC,* No. A22A1540 (Ga. Ct. of Appeals Dec. 28, 2022) (setting aside jury verdict, dismissing claims, and remanding for further action).
- Prevailed in defending a major annexation and development of hundreds of affordable housing units in the City of Clarkston, Georgia, including through appeal (*City of Tucker v. City of Clarkston, et al.,* Civil Appeal No. A23A0511 (Ga. Ct. of Appeals June 15, 2023)).
- Successfully defended the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA) at the Georgia Supreme Court, preserving a favorable liability standard from the Georgia Court of Appeals for MARTA and other Georgia transit providers.
- Successfully represented a healthcare provider at the Georgia Court of Appeals and Georgia Supreme Court against a multi-decade-long local government effort to tax it, saving the healthcare system over $160 million. See *Columbus Board of Tax Assessors v. Medical Center Hospital Authority,* 368 Ga. App. 489 (2023) (cert granted, then denied as improvidently granted).
- Successfully defended a national developer sued over a zoning dispute in Savannah, Georgia, including winning sanctions against the plaintiff developer (*Vista Acquisitions, LLC v. West Shore Walden, LLC,* 2023 WL 2145515 (N.D. Ga. Feb. 21, 2023)).
- Won an extraordinary motion for a new trial on behalf of a bank seeking to enforce a guaranty.
- Successfully represented a commercial landlord in arbitration against a tenant regarding lease performance.
- Served as plaintiffs' counsel in a class action breach of contract and RICO case against a major shipping company, settling for $21.5 million.
- Secured a confidential settlement for TASER International, Inc., and shareholders in a RICO and securities violation lawsuit.
- Successfully defended a national developer sued over a zoning dispute in Savannah, Georgia, including winning sanctions against the plaintiff developer (*Vista Acquisitions, LLC v. West Shore Walden, LLC,* 2023 WL 2145515 (N.D. Ga. Feb. 21, 2023)).
- Won a trial defending an international hotel company against government property theft charges.
- Successfully defended the City of Atlanta against the secessionist Buckhead City Committee (BCC), including testifying at the Georgia State Senate and getting BCC's lawsuit alleging various constitutional and tort claims against the City dismissed with prejudice. See *Buckhead City*

Committee v. City of Atlanta, 1:22-CV-00234 (N.D. Ga.).

- Defended and prevailed in a First Amendment challenge to the City of Atlanta's public comment policy, including through appeal and oral argument before the 11th Circuit. See *Cardinale v. City of Atlanta,* 2022 WL 2983366 (11th Cir. July 28, 2022); *Cardinale v. City of Atlanta,* 2021 WL 10330479 (N.D. Ga. Feb. 25, 2021) (trial court granted summary judgment).
- Successfully defended a $250 million food and beverage concessions contract at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport through administrative proceedings and litigation while also advising other concessionaires and vendors on compliance matters.
- Guided and successfully defended the City of Atlanta's annexation of Emory University and the Centers for Disease Control, resulting in the largest expansion of the City of Atlanta in several decades.
- Led a trial team securing a unanimous ruling permitting a major annexation by the City of Brookhaven, facilitating a major mixed-use development in north DeKalb County.
- Successfully represented the City of Brookhaven and its officials in a suit brought by a developer over a failed redevelopment, including first getting an adverse jury verdict reversed, then summary judgment granted for the defense on remand. See *Ardent Companies, LLC v. City of Brookhaven,* 2025 WL 1792666 (Ga. Court of Appeals June 30, 2025) (upholding trial court's grant of summary judgment following earlier remand); *City of Brookhaven v. Ardent Companies, LLC,* No. A22A1540 (Ga. Ct. of Appeals Dec. 28, 2022) (setting aside jury verdict, dismissing claims, and remanding for further action).
- Prevailed in defending a major annexation and development of hundreds of affordable housing units in the City of Clarkston, Georgia, including through appeal (*City of Tucker v. City of Clarkston, et al.,* Civil Appeal No. A23A0511 (Ga. Ct. of Appeals June 15, 2023)).
- Successfully represented Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms and the Atlanta City Council against Governor Kemp's lawsuit challenging the City of Atlanta's Mask Order during COVID.
- Successfully represented Athens-Clarke County, Georgia, in a lawsuit defending COVID-related ordinances.
- Successfully defended the Fulton-DeKalb Hospital Authority against Open Records and Open Meetings Act claims.
- Successfully defended the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA) at the Georgia Supreme Court, preserving a favorable liability standard from the Georgia Court of Appeals for MARTA and other Georgia transit providers.
- Successfully represented a healthcare provider at the Georgia Court of Appeals and Georgia Supreme Court against a multi-decade-long local government effort to tax it, saving the healthcare system over $160 million. See *Columbus Board of Tax Assessors v. Medical Center Hospital Authority,* 368 Ga. App. 489 (2023) (cert granted, then denied as improvidently granted).

Professional Activities

- Atlanta Legal Aid Society, Advisory Committee Member
- Bleckley Inn of Court, Master
- The Bondurant Center for Constitutional Law, Board of Advisors
- Central Presbyterian Church, Elder
- Central Presbyterian Outreach Advocacy Center, Board Chair
- Georgia State University College of Law Alumni Council, Class Representative
- Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA), Chairman, Board of Directors, 2014 - 2018
- MARTA Board Member, 2011-2023
- Piedmont Park Conservancy, Mayoral Appointee Board Member, 2022 - Present
- Red Clay Democrats, Founder and Board Member
- Woodward Academy Alumni Association, Secretary and Board Member

Honors & Awards

- Georgia Super Lawyer, 2020 - 2026
- Atlanta Magazine, Atlanta’s Most Powerful Leaders, 2019
- Georgia Trend, 100 Most Influential Georgians, 2018 and 2019
- Georgia Rising Star, 2016 - 2019
- Daily Report, On The Rise, 2014
- Woodward Academy Distinguished Alumni Award, 2016
- Leadership Atlanta, Graduate
- Marshall Memorial Fellow

Credentials

Education

- Georgia State University College of Law, J.D., 2009, Summa Cum Laude
    - Legislative Editor, Georgia State Law Review
    - Board Member, Moot Court
    - Bleckley Inn of Court Pupil
- Dartmouth College, B.A., 1997, Honors

Previous Experience

- Intergovernmental Affairs Manager, Mayor’s Office of the City of Atlanta
- Law Clerk, Chief Justice Carol Hunstein, Georgia Supreme Court
- Law Clerk, Chief Judge Anne Barnes, Georgia Court of Appeals

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. District Court for the Middle District of Georgia
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Georgia
- U.S. District Court for the Western District of Tennessee

Thought Leadership

- Speaker, Georgia Institute for City and County Attorneys – State Bar of Georgia ICLE, September 2025
- Co-author, Fighting for Common Sense Annexation – *Georgia Cities Magazine, January 2022*
- Presenter, “Making Transportation & Infrastructure More Resilient” – ABA Inaugural National Institute on Resiliency
- Panelist, "Infrastructure, TSPLOST and MARTA." – City of Atlanta, Local Government Law Seminar
- Panelist, Atlanta Chapter of Young Professionals in Transportation
- Panelist, National Conference of State Legislatures’ Annual Legislative Summit
- Co-author, "A Class of Their Own - Recent Supreme Court Cases Addressing Class-Wide Arbitration" – *21st Tropical Seminar, Georgia ICLE, 2011*
- Co-author, "Tick, Tock: Statutes of Limitation & Repose in Georgia as Traps for the Unwary and Possible Escape Options" – *20th Anniversary Tropical Seminar, Georgia ICLE, 2010*
- Author, "Getting Too Personal: An Analysis of Mitsubishi Motors Corp. v. Coleman and the Current State of Georgia’s Long-Arm Statute and Personal Jurisdiction" – *Calendar Call, Fall/Winter, 2009*
- Author, "Getting Personal With Our Neighbors—A Survey Of Southern States’ Exercise Of General Jurisdiction & A Proposal For Extending Georgia’s Long-Arm Statute" – *Calendar Call, Fall/Winter, 2009*