Lightfoot

Clinton T. Speegle
Partner

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From the skies to the courtroom, Clint Speegle navigates any challenge with a steady hand.

Leveraging his background in aviation and engineering, Clint focuses his practice on complex product liability litigation, with a particular interest in aerospace matters. A pilot himself, he holds an FAA commercial license for helicopters and a private airplane license. Clint defends aircraft manufacturers, air carriers and engine manufacturers, and has served as general counsel for a corporate airplane hangar. His experience also includes representing owners and operators in NTSB, FAA and TSA investigations.

Clint also handles a variety of other matters that don't happen at 30,000 feet. He uses his quick thinking and problem-solving skills to represent various clients in other product liability litigation, including a prominent national wheelchair distributor, a major American automaker, and a global manufacturer of elevators and escalators. As national litigation counsel for one client that regularly faces lawsuits demanding upwards of $2.5 million in damages, Clint has secured settlements averaging one-tenth of that. His practice also encompasses federal, state and class-action environmental cases for a Fortune 100 chemical company.

Regardless of the matter, Clint takes a proactive, engineering-driven approach to every case. He doesn't just aim to resolve a client's lawsuits, but also looks for ways to reduce future litigation liability.

As a member of the firm's NCAA Compliance & Investigations team, Clint represents schools during the NCAA enforcement process and before the NCAA Committee on Infractions. He advises student-athletes on amateurism issues and counsels coaches through contract negotiations. Over the years, Clint has participated in four Committee on Infractions hearings, hundreds of NCAA interviews, and won an appeal — a rarity in the NCAA world. Clint oversees Lightfoot's Mentorship Program, in addition to serving as Vice President for the Aviation SLG sector of DRI's Product Liability Steering Committee and President of DRI's Veterans' Committee.

PRACTICE AREAS

Aviation & Aerospace
Environmental & Toxic Torts
NCAA Compliance & Investigations
Product Liability
Automotive
Commercial Litigation

EDUCATION

Samford University, Cumberland School of Law (J.D., *magna cum laude*)
United States Military Academy (B.S.)

BAR ADMISSIONS

Alabama

Prior to law school, Clint graduated from West Point and was a **commissioned officer in the United States Army**. He earned a Bronze Star serving multiple tours of duty in Iraq as an attack helicopter pilot with the 4th Infantry Division (Mechanized) and with 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne). Clint and his wife, Cam, are proud parents of two rambunctious boys. He looks forward to introducing his sons to the joys of flying and teaching them to yell “Go Army! Beat Navy!”

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Alabama Defense Lawyer’s Association (ADLA)

Aviation Insurance Associate (AIA)

Birmingham Bar Association, Future Leaders Forum (2017)

Board Member, Birmingham Bar Association

Defense Research Institute (DRI), Product Liability Steering Committee, Aviation SLG (Vice President), Veteran's Committee (President)

International Air & Transportation Safety Bar Association (IATSBA)

AWARDS

The Best Lawyers in America© by BL Rankings "Ones to Watch" — Commercial Litigation, Personal Injury Litigation, Product Liability Litigation (2021-23)

The Best Lawyers in America© by BL Rankings — Commercial Litigation, Product Liability Litigation, Sports Law (2024-27)

Birmingham Business Journal, "Veteran of Influence" (2018)

Birmingham Business Journal, "Rising Star Lawyer" (2017)

Mid-South Super Lawyers by Thomson Reuters, “Rising Star” — Aviation & Aerospace (2017-23)

PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

Author, "Up in the Air: Federal regulations governing drone use," *Inside Higher Ed*, (April 26, 2017)

COURT ADMISSIONS

U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Alabama

U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama

U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Alabama

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas

U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado

Supreme Court of Alabama

Tribal Court for the Poarch Band of Creek Indians