

**Enrique J. Gimenez**

Partner

Birmingham

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Henry Gimenez is a strategic communicator who is experienced in litigation and collegiate sports law.

Henry represents a wide variety of clients in the areas of litigation and collegiate sports law, from Fortune 500 manufacturers and service providers to NCAA national championship contenders and Heisman Trophy winners. He has represented these clients in an equally wide variety of settings, including state and federal court trials across the Southeast and hearings before the NCAA's Committee on Infractions and Infractions Appeals Committee.

Henry's traditional litigation practice focuses on product liability and commercial cases. In his collegiate sports practice, Henry handles traditional NCAA compliance issues and investigations while also helping colleges and universities with investigations relating to Title IX and student welfare issues, athletics-related employment disputes, negotiating and drafting coaching contracts, and more.

For Henry, success in any arena is rooted in effective communication. Favorable results are largely dependent on an attorney's ability to develop and communicate a compelling, understandable and credible story that will persuade the audience, whether that's a judge, jury or panel of academia members.

As a first-generation Cuban-American, Henry is committed to promoting inclusion in the courtroom and ensuring equal access to civil justice for all minorities. He is a member of the Hispanic National Bar Association and served multiple terms as the president of Region VII covering Alabama, Georgia and Mississippi. He recently completed a multiyear term on the Board of Directors for the Alabama Defense Lawyers Association (ADLA) and served on the organization's first-ever Diversity Task Force. He was also selected as a founding member of an Alabama State Bar committee to address providing legal services to the Hispanic community. Additionally, Henry serves on the firm's Inclusion Committee and its Associate Committee.

PRACTICE AREAS

Product Liability
Commercial Litigation
NCAA Compliance & Investigations
Automotive

EDUCATION

University of Alabama School of Law (J.D., *summa cum laude*)
Auburn University (B.A., *cum laude*)

BAR ADMISSIONS

Alabama

As a proud husband and father to two sons and a daughter, Henry strives to emphasize communication at home as much as he does at work. However, he recognizes that as far as his kids are concerned, there is no verbal equivalent to a fistful of Starbursts.

JUDICIAL CLERKSHIPS

Judge James H. Hancock, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama (2001-02)

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Alabama Defense Lawyers Association (ADLA)

Hispanic National Bar Association

Law360's Sports & Betting Editorial Board, member (2021-22)

LEAD1

AWARDS

Benchmark Litigation, "Local Litigation Star" — Top 10 Plaintiffs (2018-19), Product Liability (2018-2021)

Benchmark Litigation, "Litigation Star" (2022-2024)

Benchmark Litigation, "Future Star" (2016-17)

The Best Lawyers in America® by BL Rankings — Sports Law, Personal Injury Litigation, Product Liability (2021-24)

Mid-South Super Lawyers by Thomson Reuters, "Rising Star" — Business Litigation (2012-2013)

Mid-South Super Lawyers by Thomson Reuters — Product Liability (2014-2020)

PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

Presenter, "October 2020 Update: What Every LEAD1 Athletic Department Should Know about NCAA Enforcement & Compliance," LEAD1 Association (2020)

Presenter, "NCAA's Adopted Attestation and Certification of Compliance Obligations," LEAD1 Association (2019)

Presenter, "How 'Varsity Blues' Affects College Admissions," Education Writers Association National Seminar (2019)

COURT ADMISSIONS

U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit

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