Lightfoot

**M. Christian King**
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## Chris King has been handling high-stakes, complex litigation for decades.

When leading companies are facing bet-the-company litigation, they turn to Chris and his extensive litigation experience to get them through it. One of the firm's founding partners, Chris is passionate about solving his clients' problems, whether through prelitigation advice, negotiation or trial.

Chris focuses on high-stakes cases, particularly those involving derivative or class action claims, which frequently carry the risk of significant damages. Much of his practice is devoted to representing Fortune 100 companies, including those in the financial services, manufacturing and energy sectors. Chris often works hand-in-hand with counsel throughout the United States to address serial claims against his clients. He has handled high-exposure cases throughout the Southeast, and has tried many of them to verdict for both plaintiffs and defendants. As a result of his trial resume, Chris has been a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers since 2004.

In addition to his trial work, Chris also has an active appellate practice. In particular, he has extensive experience with the post-trial and appellate review of punitive damages awards and the limits imposed on them by the U.S. Constitution. Chris has argued these issues in the Alabama Supreme Court in numerous cases, including a number of precedent-setting consumer fraud lawsuits and the successful appeal of the largest judgment in Alabama history. He has also argued in several federal appellate courts. Chris has such a significant reputation in this area that he is frequently retained by clients and trial counsel in matters other firms have handled. In these cases, he acts as appellate counsel to protect the record leading up to and during trial, and handles any resulting appeal.

Chris is a member of the adjunct faculty at the University of Alabama School of Law, where he teaches a course on appellate advocacy each fall semester. He also lectures frequently at CLE events on class

### PRACTICE AREAS

Class Actions
Commercial Litigation
Consumer Fraud & Bad Faith
Directors' & Officers' Liability
Environmental & Toxic Torts
Professional Liability
Securities & Shareholder Disputes
Software & Technology

### EDUCATION

University of Virginia School of Law (J.D.)
Rhodes College (B.A., *with distinction*)

### BAR ADMISSIONS

Alabama

actions, punitive damages, appellate issues and ethics. Chris is the chair of the firm's Inclusion Committee and serves as the firm's General Counsel. The son of an outstanding Mississippi trial lawyer, Chris is married to the daughter of an outstanding Alabama trial lawyer. He is the proud father of four sons and three accomplished daughters-in-law.

## PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

American Board of Trial Advocates

American College of Trial Lawyers, Fellow

Alabama Defense Lawyers Association (ADLA)

Defense Research Institute (DRI)

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## AWARDS

*Alabama Super Lawyers* by Thomson Reuters, "Top Fifty"

*Benchmark Litigation,* "Local Litigation Star" — Appellate, General Commercial, Product Liability (2017-21)

*Benchmark Litigation,* "Litigation Star" (2022-26)

*The Best Lawyers in America*© by BL Rankings — Appellate, Bet-the-Company Litigation, Commercial Litigation, Environmental Litigation, Securities Litigation (2003-27)

*The Best Lawyers in America©,* “Lawyer of the Year” for Birmingham by BL Rankings — Securities Litigation (2024)

*Chambers USA*, “Leading Lawyer” for Litigation (Alabama)

*Mid-South Super Lawyers* by Thomson Reuters, "Top Lawyer" (2024)

*Mid-South Super Lawyers* by Thomson Reuters — Business Litigation (2008-26)