

**Wesley B. Gilchrist**

Managing Partner

Birmingham

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wgilchrist@lightfootlaw.com**Wes Gilchrist applies Wall Street knowledge and economic savvy to his high-stakes commercial litigation practice.**

After earning an economics degree from Harvard, he worked on Wall Street for four years in investment banking and equity research covering IT and software companies. He enjoys analyzing financial statements, can run a discounted cash flow model, and knows the value of a dollar and the importance of a good return — something his clients greatly appreciate.

Wes leverages this unique experience when advising plaintiffs and defendants in business and financial disputes. He has represented individual investors, private equity firms, broker dealers and financial advisors, investment banks, national and regional commercial banks, and insurance companies in a variety of matters. He has particular experience in cases involving stock and asset purchase agreements, accountant liability, fraudulent transfer of assets, misappropriation of trade secrets, noncompetition and nonsolicitation provisions, interference with contractual relations, and business divorces.

Wes also has significant class action and complex litigation experience. He has represented defendants in antitrust, insurance and consumer protection class actions, as well as in cases involving the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA), the Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA), the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). In recent years, Wes has defended multiple other law firms in legal malpractice and business disputes.

After law school, Wes clerked for Judge Ed Carnes of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit. He has an active appellate practice in both the 11th Circuit and the Alabama Supreme Court.

In 2026, Wes became Managing Partner following eight years on the Executive Committee and in various other firm roles. As Managing Partner, he is focused on building on the firm's legacy of excellent client service, strengthening a deep bench of seasoned and rising star trial

PRACTICE AREAS

Antitrust

Banking & Financial Services

Class Actions

Commercial Litigation

Construction

Corporate Plaintiff's Litigation

Directors' & Officers' Liability

FINRA Securities Arbitration

Professional Liability

Securities & Shareholder Disputes

Software & Technology

White-Collar Criminal Defense & Corporate Investigations

EDUCATIONUniversity of Alabama School of Law (J.D., *summa cum laude*)Harvard College (A.B., *cum laude*)**BAR ADMISSIONS**

Alabama

lawyers, and continuing to expand the Firm's strong client base.

Outside of his practice, Wes enjoys spending time with his wife and keeping up with their five children. He is active in Scouting as a member of the board of directors of the Greater Alabama Council, and he previously served as president of the board of directors of The Community Kitchens of Birmingham. Wes attends All Saints Episcopal Church, where he has served on the Vestry and Finance Committee.

JUDICIAL CLERKSHPIS

Judge Ed Carnes, U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit

AWARDS

Benchmark Litigation, "Future Star" (2020-23)

Benchmark Litigation, "Litigation Star" (2024)

The Best Lawyers in America© by BL Rankings — Commercial Litigation, Mergers and Acquisitions Litigation, Securities Litigation (2021-26)

The Best Lawyers in America© by BL Rankings, "Lawyer of the Year" for Birmingham — Mergers and Acquisitions, Mergers and Acquisitions Litigation, Commercial Litigation (2023, 2026)

Mid-South Super Lawyers by Thomson Reuters, "Rising Star" — Business Litigation (2012-16)

Mid-South Super Lawyers by Thomson Reuters — Business Litigation (2017-24)

COURT ADMISSIONS

U.S. Supreme Court

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit

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

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

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