



James Wilson Axon Jr. (Will)

PARTNER

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ABOUT WILL

Will began his practice with the firm in 1999, and he has served in numerous leadership roles within the firm including as a member of the Executive Committee. His practice focuses on complex, high exposure matters largely in the healthcare field including medical malpractice claims, qui tam actions, batch claims, infectious disease outbreaks and multi-district litigation. Will has extensive experience both in trying complex cases to a jury verdict, and also seeking solutions to high risk problems through mediation and other methods of alternative dispute resolution. He regularly litigates cases in state and federal courts, and has experience arguing before the 11th Circuit. Will also concentrates on advising hospitals and academic medical centers on safety, compliance, and systems issues which can be used to avoid future litigation. He has led teams in conducting root cause analyses, counseled academic medical centers on best practices around the country, and advised hospitals on emergency plans and protocols during the COVID crisis. He regularly speaks at seminars and grand rounds on multiple topics where law and medicine intersect.

Legal Assistant

Michelle Parker
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Areas of Practice

- Early Case Assessment
- Complex Litigation
- Healthcare
- Healthcare Audits and False Claims Act Investigations
- Healthcare Fraud
- Medical Malpractice
- Products Liability
- Professional Liability
- Recalls
- White Collar, Compliance & Investigations
- Wrongful Death / Catastrophic Injury

EDUCATION

J.D., University of Alabama School of Law (1999)
Thomas J. Watson Fellow, Prague Czech Republic (1995)
B.A., Birmingham-Southern College (1994)

BAR ADMISSIONS

Alabama

COURTS

U.S. District Court, Middle District of Alabama
U.S. District Court, Northern District of Alabama
U.S. District Court, Southern District of Alabama
Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals

ACCOLADES



PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Fellow of the American Board of Trial Advocates

Named "Birmingham Best Lawyers - 2023 Lawyer of the Year" for Healthcare Litigation, Medical Malpractice-Defendants & Professional Malpractice Law-Defendants

Listed in Best Lawyers in America®

Super Lawyer in Alabama by Mid-South Super Lawyers® magazine

Litigation Star for Alabama in Benchmark Litigation

AV Preeminent Rating by Martindale Hubbell

EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Obtained a defense verdict for a general surgeon in case involving allegations of negligently performing abdominal surgery resulting in the retention of a foreign body which caused various injuries and damages to the patient.

Obtained a defense verdict for a urologist accused of negligently and wantonly allowing a retained wire fragment to remain in a patient's urinary tract over several months following a procedure to remove kidney stones.

Obtained a jury verdict in favor of two surgeons accused of negligently delaying surgery to repair a gunshot wound to the abdomen.

Obtained a defense verdict for an obstetrician in a case claiming negligence in failing to remove a sponge from the patient's body after vaginal delivery, resulting in alleged permanent pelvic floor injury.

Obtained defense verdict for a Birmingham internal medicine physician in a lawsuit alleging wrongful death of a 26 year old mentally disabled female.

Obtained defense verdict in a medical malpractice on behalf of a family medicine physician in a prolonged 8-week trial with multiple defendants.

Obtained a defense verdict at trial for an emergency physician in a case alleging negligent failure to diagnose septic arthritis, resulting in below the knee amputation.

Obtained a defense verdict for a pediatrician in an eight-day trial in a case involving alleged negligent failure to diagnose subarachnoid hemorrhage in a fifteen year old girl, resulting in brain surgery and brain injury.

Obtained a defense verdict at trial on behalf of an ENT Medical Facility alleging unsafe conditions caused injuries to patients including a rare neurologic condition, ultimately leading to surgical implantation of spinal cord stimulator.

Obtained summary judgment for medical center in a case alleging unethical research practices caused permanent developmental injuries to neonates.

Obtained dismissal of Qui Tam/False Claims Act for two physicians which was affirmed by the 11th Circuit.

Successfully represented hospital in coordination with CDC during outbreak of harmful bacterium resulting multiple deaths.

PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

Keynote presenter, "Liability Issues for Nurse Anesthetists," ALANA Fall Convention.

Keynote presenter, "Medical Liability for Third-Party Nonpatients," ALAMTA Regional.

CLE Presenter, "Cutting Edge Issues in Medical Malpractice," National Business Institute.

DISCLAIMER: The following language is required by the Alabama Rules of Professional Conduct: No representation is made that the quality of legal services to be performed is greater than the quality of legal services performed by other lawyers.