



# Joseph L. Reese, Jr.

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## PARTNER

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## ABOUT JOSEPH

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Joseph joined Starnes Davis Florie upon graduating law school in 1997 and became a partner in 2004. His practice is devoted to civil litigation, with an emphasis on professional liability matters in which he represents physicians, hospitals, long-term care facilities, and other healthcare providers. Joseph has tried over 50 complex civil cases to a jury verdict, has arbitrated 10 healthcare provider liability cases to a final binding decision following an evidentiary hearing, and has represented facilities in administrative proceedings. He is licensed in both Alabama and Tennessee.

## Legal Assistant

Tracie Hopwood  
thopwood@starneslaw.com

## Areas of Practice

- Arbitration
- Complex Litigation
- Healthcare
- Long Term Care & Nursing Home Litigation
- Long Term Care & Other Healthcare Regulatory Compliance
- Medical Malpractice
- Products Liability
- Professional Liability
- Wrongful Death / Catastrophic Injury

## EDUCATION

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J.D., magna cum laude, University of Alabama School of Law (1997)  
B.S., summa cum laude, University of Alabama (1994)

## COURTS

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U.S. District Court, Northern District of Alabama  
U.S. District Court, Middle District of Alabama  
U.S. District Court, Southern District of Alabama  
U.S. Supreme Court

## BAR ADMISSIONS

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Alabama  
Tennessee

## ACCOLADES

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## PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

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Member, American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA): President (2021-2022); Vice-President (2020-2021); Treasurer (2017-2020)

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Listed in Best Lawyers in America® for Medical Malpractice Law

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## EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

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Obtained a defense verdict for a gastroenterologist following a 6 day jury trial, involving allegations of a perforated esophagus during the performance of an esophageal dilation procedure.

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Obtained a defense award in a wrongful death case brought against a skilled nursing facility following an arbitration hearing involving allegations of negligence.

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Obtained a defense award in a personal injury case brought against a skilled nursing facility and the Director of Nursing, involving a left distal femur fracture of unknown etiology.

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Obtained a defense award in an arbitration in favor of a nursing home in a wrongful death case arising from allegations involving a fall sustained by a resident.

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Obtained a jury verdict for a general surgeon accused of negligently performing a gallbladder removal surgery, causing a bile duct injury.

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Obtained a jury verdict in favor of a general surgeon charged with medical negligence in the performance of a laparoscopic cholecystectomy (minimally invasive surgery to remove the gallbladder).

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Obtained a defense verdict following a 3 day arbitration in a case alleging the defendant nursing home's unsanitary environment and its failure to properly clean, treat, and monitor a surgical incision site caused the resident to develop an infection that necessitated amputation of the resident's leg.

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Obtained a defense judgment following a nursing home malpractice case involving the death of a resident alleged to have resulted from a medication error and the failure to appropriately treat the resident's condition and monitor the resident's hydration status.

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Obtained a defense judgment following an arbitration of a nursing home malpractice case involving claims of personal injury and wrongful death arising out of a fall and the subsequent development of a bedsore.

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Obtained a defense judgment following a four day arbitration of a nursing home malpractice case involving claims of personal injury and wrongful death.

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Obtained defense verdict on behalf of a surgeon in a wrongful death case in which the patient died at home of a perforated colon only hours after being evaluated by the surgeon in his office.

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Obtained judgment as a matter of law during jury trial for general surgeon accused of negligently failing to prescribe anticoagulants following an intra-operative surgical complication.

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Obtained a defense verdict on behalf of a nursing home following a five day jury trial in a case involving a rehabilitation resident who was assessed on admission as a high fall risk and who later fell, sustaining a depressed skull fracture with resulting brain injury.

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Obtained a defense verdict on behalf of a gastroenterologist following a seven day jury trial in a case involving a patient who suffered a cardio-pulmonary arrest during an endoscopic procedure performed under conscious sedation.

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## PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

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*Getting it Right the First Time: Learning from Today's Top Verdicts and Settlements*, American Conference Institute 7th Annual Forum on Long Term Care Litigation, Miami, FL (January 19, 2017)

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*Is this Just Another One of Those Nursing Homes?* Alabama Nursing Home Association Meeting, Birmingham, AL (February 3, 2014)

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*Medical Malpractice: Expert Witness Issues — Case Law, Depositions, and Impeachment*, NBI Webinar (August 8, 2013)

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*Lessons Learned from Recent Arbitrations*, Alabama Nursing Home Defense Lawyers Association, Perdido Beach, AL (April 28, 2012)

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*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.*