STARNES DAVIS FLORIE LLP

Stephen Wright Still, Jr.

GENERAL COUNSEL

100 Brookwood Place
7th Floor
Birmingham, AL 35209

P: 205-868-6085
F: 205-868-6099
sstill@starneslaw.com

ABOUT STEPHEN

Stephen serves as General Counsel of the firm. Prior to that, Stephen has served as the firm's Hiring Partner.

A majority of Stephen's practice is devoted to defending malpractice claims against long term care providers and claims against insurers, third party administrators, and employers for breach of contract, bad faith, fraud, and the tort of outrage. Stephen also devotes a significant portion of his practice to representing healthcare providers in a variety of regulatory matters. Since 2012, Stephen has represented several attorneys and law firms in legal malpractice lawsuits and investigations before the Alabama State Bar Association. Stephen has recently assisted healthcare providers in investigating and litigating Qui Tam (false claims) and Stark Law matters. He has recently defended several church conferences in litigation.

Legal Assistant

Myste Kennedy
mkennedy@starneslaw.com

Areas of Practice

- Arbitration
- Complex Litigation
- Healthcare Audits and False Claims Act Investigations
- Bad Faith / Insurance Disputes
- Healthcare
- Healthcare Fraud
- Legal Credentialing
- Legal Malpractice
- Long-Term Care & Nursing Home Litigation
- Long-Term Care & Other Healthcare Regulatory Compliance
- Professional Liability
- Regulatory and Compliance
- White Collar, Compliance & Investigations

EDUCATION

J.D., University of Alabama (2005)
B.A., University of the South, Sewanee (2001)

BAR ADMISSIONS

Alabama

COURTS

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

ACCOLADES

AV PREEMINENT Peer Rated for Highest Level of Professional Excellence 2026

PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Serves on The Alabama State Bar's Board of Bar Commissioners for the 10th Judicial Circuit, Place 2

Member of the International Association of Defense Counsel (IADC)

Listed in Best Lawyers in America® for Health Care Litigation, Medical Malpractice Law, and Legal Malpractice – Defendants

Named a Super Lawyer for the State of Alabama by Mid-South Super Lawyers® magazine

An AV Preeminent rated attorney by Martindale-Hubbell® Peer Review Ratings

Served on the faculty at the 2013, 2015 - 2019, and 2021-2023 Alabama Defense Lawyers' Association Deposition Boot Camp

Previously served as President of the Alabama Defense Lawyers' Association

EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Successfully defended an appeal, where the Alabama Supreme Court affirmed without opinion the trial court's order compelling arbitration of the plaintiff's wrongful death and medical malpractice claims against a long-term health facility, rejecting arguments that the arbitration agreement was unenforceable due to lack of mutuality of obligation and other grounds.

Secured a writ of mandamus from the Alabama Supreme Court in Ex parte Alabama-West Fla. Conference of the United Methodist Church, Inc., directing the trial court to dismiss the plaintiff's complaint for lack of subject matter jurisdiction under the ecclesiastical abstention doctrine, as the dispute centered on an internal church disaffiliation vote rather than a neutral property issue (Plaintiff's have filed an application for rehearing).

Secured a defense verdict in nursing home wrongful death medical malpractice case alleging the defendant failed to properly diagnose and treat a resident for Clostridium Difficile Colitis.

Secured Rule 12 dismissal of False Claims Act Complaint against medical provider.

Secured a defense verdict in a medical malpractice wrongful death suit following a five-day jury trial, involving allegations of improper administration of Tissue Plasminogen Activator ("TPA") to a stroke patient by the defendant Emergency Room nurse and hospital.

Obtained a defense award, after a three-day Arbitration, on behalf of a nursing home in a personal injury and wrongful death case arising from resident falling from a wheelchair.

Obtained a favorable ruling from the Alabama Supreme Court, affirming summary judgment on tort of outrage claim against third party administrator arising from administration of workers' compensation claim.

Secured a favorable ruling from the Alabama Supreme Court affirming a Rule 12 dismissal for our client on Tort of Outrage and Wrongful Discharge in Violation of Public Policy claims.

Secured a dismissal of nursing home personal injury malpractice case.

Summary Judgment for a nursing facility in a wrongful death medical malpractice Arbitration.

Rule 12 dismissal for employer in wrongful termination and tort of outrage claims.

Secured summary judgment for third-party administrator in tort of outrage claim arising from administration of workers' compensation claim.

Secured summary judgment in nursing home personal injury and wrongful death medical malpractice case.

Rule 12 dismissal for individual lawyers and law firm in legal malpractice claim.

Secured a summary judgment in Arbitration for a nursing home client in a wrongful death medical malpractice case.

Secured a dismissal of breach of contract and declaratory judgment coverage claims against homeowner's insurance company in United States District Court for the Northern District of Alabama.

Summary judgment for defendant employer on tort of outrage and fraud claims.

Removal and dismissal of legal malpractice claim against out of state attorney and law firm.

Dismissal of third party suit for contribution and indemnification against Alabama law firm in a legal malpractice case.

Summary Judgment for attorney and law firm in legal malpractice lawsuit.

Defense verdict in two-week wrongful death case involving application of South Carolina Wrongful Death Act.

Summary judgment for pediatric orthopedic surgeon in medical malpractice suit.

Reversal by Eight Circuit Court of Appeals of United States District Court Order dismissing 9 U.S.C. § 4 Complaint to Compel Arbitration for lack of subject matter jurisdiction.

Northport Health Services of Arkansas, LLC, et al v. Wayne Rutherford, — F.3d –, 2010 WL 1929777 (8th Cir. May 14, 2010).

Northport Health Services of Arkansas, LLC, et al. v. Wayne Rutherford, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Isaac Mitchell Rutherford (W.D. Ark. March 17, 2009).

Northport Health Services of Arkansas, LLC d/b/a Springdale Health and Rehab. Center, et al. v. Tresa Robinson, as Special Administratrix of the Estate of Donna Faye Snow, deceased, et al, 2009 WL 140983 (W.D. Ark. Jan. 12, 2009).

Vulcan Materials Company v. Alabama Insurance Guaranty Association, et al., Slip Opinion, 2007 WL 2216896 (Ala. Aug. 3, 2007)(No. 1060506).

PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

Defending Abuse of an Aged Individual Claims, the Alabama Nursing Home Association Annual Meeting, Orange Beach, AL (April 24, 2018).

Professionalism to the Court, Your Client, and to Opposing Counsel, moderator of a panel discussion presented on to new admittees to the Alabama State Bar at the University of Alabama School of Law, Tuscaloosa, AL (January 26, 2018).

Overview of Alabama Legal Services Liability Act and Avoiding Suits for Legal Malpractice, Birmingham Bar Association, Birmingham, AL (December 5, 2017).

Alabama State Bar Mandatory Professionalism CLE for New Admittees, University of Alabama School of Law, Tuscaloosa, AL (January 22, 2016).

Ethics: Avoiding a Suit for Legal Malpractice, Marshall County Bar Association, Guntersville, AL (April 25, 2014).

Trends in Nursing Home Litigation – Avoiding the Multi-Million Dollar Mistake, Senior Care Pharmacy Conference, Birmingham, AL (April 10, 2014).

Are You As Guilty As The Criminal? Liability For Criminal Acts Of Third Parties And Employees, *Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel Quarterly Publication, FDCC Quarterly* (Fall 2013).

Moderator, Voir Dire and Jury Selection, American Bar Association Symposium Teleconference (Fall 2010).

Are Marketing Tactics of Pharmaceutical/Device Manufacturers Helping to Erode the Learned Intermediary Doctrine?, Defense Research Institute's *The Voice* (July 2010).

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- CCA, Board Member
- Youth basketball and baseball coach

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.