



Rachel M. Lary
Partner

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Rachel Lary never shies away from a challenge.

A talented litigator, Rachel takes a tailored approach to each matter she handles and is always up for a challenge. These traits have served her well in litigating a broad spectrum of cases, including business disputes, product liability claims, medical malpractice, and trust and estate disputes.

Aware of what is required to take a case through to trial, Rachel works toward developing a persuasive story for each stage of litigation. She enjoys uncovering key details, crafting a narrative that embraces the truth, dealing with the hard facts and persuading a court or jury to find in her client's favor.

Rachel serves as national counsel for several major clients. She leads a product liability team for a Fortune 500 company that requires overseeing and managing litigation in multiple states, including Alabama, Georgia and Louisiana. She defends automotive manufacturers in product liability claims throughout the Southeast. In addition, Rachel's business practice includes handling disputes across the South, including those in Arkansas and Tennessee. She also serves as chair of the firm's Associate Committee.

She is an active and committed member of her community in Homewood, Alabama, where she grew up and where she and her husband have chosen to raise their family. Most of her free time is consumed with navigating the trials of raising two young children, one of whom has her mother's tenacious personality, which makes parenting an everyday lesson in negotiation.

JUDICIAL CLERKSHIPS

Joel F. Dubina, Chief Justice, U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Alabama Defense Lawyers Association (ADLA), Task Force Committee (2009)

PRACTICE AREAS

Automotive
Commercial Litigation
Pharma & Medical Device
Medical Malpractice
Product Liability
Trust & Estate Disputes
White-Collar Criminal Defense & Corporate Investigations

EDUCATION

Samford University, Cumberland School of Law (J.D., *magna cum laude*)
University of Alabama (B.A., *magna cum laude*)

BAR ADMISSIONS

Alabama
Mississippi

Alabama State Bar, Lawyers Voices for Survivors Task Force, Co-Chair (2020-21)

Alabama State Bar, Pro Bono Committee, member (2020-21)

Birmingham Bar Association, Women's Section Membership Committee Co-Chair (2009-10)

Defense Research Institute (DRI), Women in Law Committee (2011-12)

Girls, Inc. of Alabama, Board of Directors, Governance Committee chair (2020-21), Vice Chair (2022-2023)

Product Liability Advisory Council (PLAC)

The Service Guild of Birmingham

The Trial Network, Women in Network Society

AWARDS

The Best Lawyers in America© by BL Rankings — Commercial Litigation, Corporate Compliance Law, Trusts and Estates, Personal Injury, Product Liability Litigation (2018-2024)

Benchmark Litigation, "Future Star" (2024)

B-Metro magazine, "Top Women Attorneys" (2020)

Birmingham Business Journal, "NextGenBHM Award" (2020)

Birmingham Business Journal, "Rising Star in Law" (2019)

Birmingham Business Journal, "Top Birmingham Women" (2024)

Birmingham Business Journal, "Women to Watch" Award (2021)

Mid-South Super Lawyers by Thomson Reuters, "Rising Star" — Business Litigation (2014-20)

Mid-South Super Lawyers by Thomson Reuters — Product Liability (2024)

PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

Speaker, "Ethical Considerations in Challenging Environments," CLE presentation, (2018)

Panelist, "What Not to Do — Mistakes We Have Seen," U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit Appellate Practice Institute, (2010)

Author, "Retail Store Size-Capping Ordinances and the Dormant Commerce Clause Doctrine," *The Urban Lawyer: The National Journal on State and Local Government*, (Fall 2005)