

People



Eric D. Coleman

Partner, Litigation

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vCard

Eric Coleman handles a wide variety of complex business litigation matters, including commercial disputes, breach of contract claims, business torts, personal injury, and shareholder derivative actions. Eric's practice spans various industries and includes representation of clients in federal courts, state courts, and arbitration tribunals (AAA and FINRA) across the county.

Eric also represents a number of construction industry clients, including owners, contractors, and subcontractors, in litigation and arbitration involving construction liens, construction defects, project delay claims, and breach of contract disputes. With an undergraduate degree in building science, construction management, from Auburn University, Eric understands the construction industry and its day-to-day challenges, enabling him to quickly and efficiently assess the client's needs and situation and provide informed counsel.

In addition to his practice, Eric serves as the Co-Chair of Akerman's Black Internal Bridge Network Group.

Notable Work

Automotive: Represented a Fortune 200 manufacturer of clutches used in commercial semi-trucks in a two-week jury trial in the Northern District of Ohio, where we obtained a \$30 million plaintiff's verdict against two suppliers. The jury also ruled in our client's favor on the suppliers' counterclaims.

Executive Perquisites: Represented a Fortune 500 company in connection with a shareholder dispute over executive perquisites related to the use of company aircraft.

Trade Secrets Protection: Represented an individual in a lawsuit alleging theft of his prior employer's trade secrets and confidential information.

Areas of Experience

Litigation
Commercial Disputes
Construction
Construction Litigation and Dispute Resolution

Education

J.D., University of Alabama School of Law, 2014, *Civil Rights Civil Liberties Law Review*, Senior Editor
B.S., Auburn University, 2011

Admissions

Bars

Florida
Georgia
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
U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida
U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida
U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit

Related Content

Akerman Sponsors the ACC South Florida 14th Annual CLE Conference
September 12, 2024

Seventeen Akerman Partners Named to *Benchmark Litigation's* 40 & Under List
September 09, 2024

Akerman Lawyers Ranked in Florida by *Super Lawyers Magazine*
July 16, 2024

Higher Education: Represented a university in a lawsuit brought by an expelled student alleging claims of breach of contract and fraud.

Consumer Product Manufacturer: Represented U.S. based consumer product manufacturer against a competitor in a federal action asserting common law and federal Lanham Act claims for trademark infringement, unfair competition and false advertising and for violations of Florida's Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practice Act.

Real Estate: Represented real estate investors and developers in defense of a \$12 million claim that also sought additional punitive damages.

Reinsurance Trade Lawsuit: Served as second chair on jury trial representing two reinsurance companies in defense of multimillion dollar lawsuit alleging violations of the Florida Uniform Trade Secrets Act, Florida Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act, and other claims.

Drilling Company: Represented directional drilling company in multimillion dollar counterclaim and arbitration related to differing site conditions on underground utility installation project.

Salvage and Restoration: Represented national property restoration company in rewriting salvage and restoration contracts across all 50 states.

Construction Contracts: Defended subcontractors in breach of contract and defective construction claims.

Published Work and Lectures

- Association of Corporate Counsel (ACC) South Florida's 14th Annual CLE Conference, Speaker, "Corporate Transparency Act – Federal District Court's Ruling that the Act is Unconstitutional," September 12, 2024
- *Law360*, Co-Author, "Fla. Business Judgment Ruling May Benefit US Country Clubs," September 24, 2021
- *Bloomberg Law*, Co-Author, "Business Liability in a Pandemic—Carefully Drafted Waivers May Help," September 21, 2020

Honors and Distinctions

- *Benchmark Litigation*, 2024, Named to the "40 & Under" List
- *The Best Lawyers in America*, 2022, Listed in Florida for Commercial Litigation as "One to Watch"
- *Super Lawyers Magazine*, 2022-2024, Listed in Florida as a "Rising Star" for Business Litigation
- *Legacy Miami Magazine*, 40 Under 40 Black Leaders of Today and Tomorrow in South Florida, 2019