



Charles E. Coble

Partner

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Charles Coble represents clients in a wide range of complex commercial litigation. He has successfully represented businesses and individuals in a host of settings, including First Amendment and other media litigation, class actions, copyright infringement claims, employment law claims, including covenants not to compete, construction disputes, and North Carolina Business Court litigation. His practice includes trial court and appellate work at both the state and federal level.

Charles has special experience in communications and media law, primarily in representing broadcast, print, and other media clients in First Amendment and other media litigation. He has successfully represented clients defending against libel, defamation, and privacy claims, prosecuting Open Meetings Law, Public Records Act, and courtroom access cases and claims, and resisting subpoenas directed to reporters and media organizations.

Charles authors Brooks Pierce's Newsroom Law Blog and regularly speaks to journalists, public officials, students, and practitioners on these topics.

He is proficient in German.

Practice Areas

Construction
Intellectual Property & Technology
Labor & Employment
Litigation
Media, Communications & Technology

Clerkship(s)

Law Clerk to Judge Frank W. Bullock, Jr., U.S. District Court, Middle District of North Carolina, 1998-1999

Education

Harvard, J.D., *magna cum laude*, 1998

Yale University, B.A., *magna cum laude*, 1995

Honors & Awards

- Recognized as a member of North Carolina's "Legal Elite" in the Young Guns category by *Business North Carolina* magazine, 2011-12
- Recognized by *North Carolina Super Lawyers* as a Rising Star in Administrative Law and Business Litigation, 2010-12

Professional & Community Activities

- Member, Raleigh Board of Adjustment, December 2007--
- Co-founder and Member, Board of Directors, Housing Rights Center of Wake County, Inc.
- Council Member, Constitutional Rights & Responsibilities Section, North Carolina Bar Association, 2006--
- Member, North Carolina Bar Association, 1999--
- Member, American Bar Association, 1999--
- Member, Wake County Bar Association, 1999--

Articles, Publications & Speeches

- Author, Brooks Pierce's Newsroom Law Blog, 2008--
- Panelist, "Newsgathering Law: How to Stay Out of Trouble When You're Gathering Information for a Story," Online Media Legal Network, September 2010
- Panelist, "How Much Do You Really Make? Applying the New Rules on Disclosure of Public Officials' Compensation," Sunshine Center of the North Carolina Open Government Coalition, March 2009
- "A Legal Primer for Architects: Liability Risks and Contract Issues," AIA Triangle Seminar at the NC State School of Design, August 2008
- "Newsroom Seminar," WRAL-TV, July 2006
- "What You Need to Know About Public Records and Open Meetings," Research Triangle Park, March 2006
- Panelist, "Open Meetings in North Carolina," University of North Carolina Festival of Legal Learning, February 2006
- "Libel: Revisiting the Not-So-Obvious," Virginia Press Association, January 2006
- Co-Author, "The Pretext-Plus Standard in the Fourth Circuit", in *Labor & Employment Section Newsletter*, NC Bar Association (Vol. 18, No. 2, February 2000)

Bar & Court Admissions

- North Carolina
- U.S. Court of Appeals, 4th Circuit
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District, North Carolina
- U.S. District Court, Middle District, North Carolina
- U.S. District Court, Western District, North Carolina
- U.S. District Court, Northern District, Florida