

Wade H. Hargrove

Partner Emeritus



EDUCATION

University of North Carolina School of Law
Law

J.D., Alumni Scholar

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Hill

A.B., with honors; Jefferson
Foundation Scholar

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

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After a successful professional career of more than 50 years, Wade Hargrove retired from the practice of law in 2018. He served as partner at Brooks Pierce for over 20 years, helping to establish the firm's nationally-recognized media and communications practice.

MY PRACTICE

BIOGRAPHY & PRACTICE

Wade is widely known as one of the leading media and communications attorneys in the country. His influence over the media, telecommunications and broadcast industries has been monumental in scope. Wade spent his career representing many of the nation's largest corporations, media companies, and national and state trade associations, counseling them in corporate matters, mergers and acquisitions, FCC regulatory issues, contracts, antitrust, copyright issues, compliance, libel and slander, privacy, and legal issues involving the use of new technology.

Wade regularly helped shape government policy, specifically as it relates to the media industry. He testified before numerous Congressional and legislative committees on issues involving corporate law, copyright law, the internet, satellite broadcasting, open government, libel and slander, political broadcasting, cable television, and public utility law. He appeared regularly before the Federal Communications Commission and other government regulatory agencies, as well as federal and state courts.

Wade has been honored numerous times for his contributions to media law. He was named by *The National Law Journal* as one of the nation's 10 leading media/telecommunications lawyers. He was awarded the Ward L. Quaal award from the Broadcasters Foundation of America, and was inducted into the North Carolina Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame. In 2013, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill established the "Wade H. Hargrove Colloquium in Media Law and Policy" to honor the UNC alum's contribution to media law. The North Carolina Association of Broadcasters honored Wade with the establishment of the "Wade H. Hargrove Community Service Award" in 2011, given to North Carolina broadcasters who have demonstrated an abiding commitment to public service in their communities.

Wade has been active in professional and community service throughout his career. He served on the board of trustees and the board of visitors for the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He has chaired the North Carolina Security and Privacy Board, the North Carolina News Media-Administration of Justice Council, the board of commissioners for the North Carolina Agency for Public Telecommunications, and the North Carolina Center for Public Policy Research, among other organizations.

HONORS

Named by *The National Law Journal* as one of the nation's 10 leading media/ telecommunications lawyers

Named by *TVNewsCheck* as one of the nation's top 5 media lawyers

Recognized by his peers for inclusion in *Business North Carolina's* "Legal Elite" in Business Law (2014)

Selected by his peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*® in Communications Law, First Amendment Law, Copyright Law, Litigation - Intellectual Property, Media Law, Corporate Law, Mergers & Acquisitions Law

Recognized in *North Carolina Super Lawyers* (Thomson Reuters) in Communications Law (2007-2011)

Listed in *Who's Who in America* and *Preeminent Lawyers of America*, Top Rated Lawyer

Awarded the University of North Carolina Law School's Distinguished Alumnus Award

Honored by the Broadcasters Foundation of America with the Ward L. Quaal Award in recognition of leadership of and contributions to the media industry and public service to his state and community

Honored by the University of North Carolina, media clients and friends by establishment of the "Wade H. Hargrove Colloquium in Media Law and Policy" at the University of North Carolina

Honored by the North Carolina Association of Broadcasters with establishment of the "Wade H. Hargrove Community Service Award" given to North Carolina broadcasters who have demonstrated an abiding commitment to public service in their communities

Inducted into the Order of the Golden Fleece by the University of North Carolina
Awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, the State of North Carolina's highest award for public service
Inducted in the North Carolina Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame
Recipient, North Carolina Association of Broadcasters Distinguished Service Award
Recipient, North Carolina Cable Telecommunications Distinguished Service Award

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Chairman, Board of Trustees of the University of North Carolina
Chairman, North Carolina Security and Privacy Board
Chairman, North Carolina News Media-Administration of Justice Council
Member, Governor's Council on State Goals and Policy
Chairman, Board of Commissioners, North Carolina Agency for Public Telecommunications
Member, Governor's Telecommunications Policy Task Force
Member, Legislative Study Commission on Open Government
Chairman, Board of Directors of the University of North Carolina Foundation
Member, Board of Visitors, University of North Carolina
Member, Board of Directors, North Carolina Citizens for Business & Industry
Member, Board of Directors, University of North Carolina School of Journalism and Mass Communications
Chairman, The North Carolina Center for Public Policy Research
Chairman, Raleigh Board of Directors, First Union National Bank
Member, Board of Editors, Federal Communications Bar Journal
Member, Board of Directors, Alumni Association, University of North Carolina School of Law
President, Alumni Association, University of North Carolina School of Law
Member, Center for Media Law Advisory Board, University of North Carolina
Member, Board of Directors, Alumni Association, University of North Carolina
President, University of North Carolina School of Law Foundation
Member, Board of Trustees, Peace College
Member, Raleigh Committee of 100
Member, Board of Trustees and General Counsel, Broadcasters Foundation of America
Member, Board of Directors, Cardinal Club

Eighteen Brooks Pierce Attorneys to Speak at the 2016 Festival of Legal Learning, February 2, 2016
David Cohen of Comcast, Keynote Speaker at the 2015 Wade H. Hargrove Media Colloquium, March 25, 2015
C-SPAN Rolls-Out National Cablecast of the Inaugural Wade H. Hargrove Communications Law and Policy Colloquium, January 16, 2014

Wade Hargrove Named One of Nation's Top Media Lawyers, February 7, 2013

Brooks Pierce partner recognized in national television industry publication [Read more](#)

Brooks Pierce Broadcasting Clients Prevail in U.S. Supreme Court, June 22, 2012

Hargrove Receives UNC Distinguished Alumni Award, October 19, 2011

Hargrove Elected to Chair UNC Board of Trustees, July 28, 2011

Hargrove Honored by Broadcasters Foundation of America, April 23, 2010

Establishment of "Wade H. Hargrove Communications Law and Policy Colloquium" at UNC, October 29, 2009

Wade Hargrove Elected to UNC Board of Trustees, July 1, 2009