



Eric M. David

PARTNER

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Eric David focuses his practice on business litigation, constitutional litigation, and media and communications law. Eric represents businesses, public agencies, and individuals in high-stakes litigation in federal and state court, and especially the North Carolina Business Court.

BUSINESS LITIGATION

Eric represents large and small businesses in complex litigation, particularly in federal court and the North Carolina Business Court. Eric has experience in a wide range of matters, including trade secrets litigation, corporate governance disputes, breach of fiduciary duty claims, and claims brought under the North Carolina Unfair and Deceptive Trade Practices Act.

MEDIA AND FIRST AMENDMENT

Eric has advocated on behalf of publisher and broadcast clients in a variety of First Amendment and newsgathering matters, including disputes over the North Carolina Public Records Act and access to public meetings. Eric has substantial experience defending both large and small publishers against defamation claims in state and federal court.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE/DISSOLUTION

Eric represents companies, shareholders, and directors in a variety of corporate governance disputes, including claims for breach of fiduciary duty, breach of contract, and corporate dissolution. Eric has substantial experience in the North Carolina Business Court, where many of these disputes are litigated.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LITIGATION

Eric represents companies and individuals in a variety of intellectual property disputes, especially claims brought under the North Carolina Trade Secrets Protection Act. Eric has substantial experience in both federal court and the North Carolina Business Court, where many intellectual property disputes are litigated.

EXPERIENCE

Landmark N.C. Civil Rights Case

SERVICES

Appellate

Complex Business Litigation

Federal Litigation

Litigation

IP Litigation

North Carolina Business Court

Media, Publishing & Communications

CREDENTIALS

Honors & Recognitions

Selected by his peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*® in Litigation - First Amendment (Raleigh "Lawyer of the Year" 2020), Commercial Litigation and Litigation - Intellectual Property (2018-2022), Corporate Governance Law (2020-2022)

Recognized by his peers for inclusion in *Business North Carolina's* "Legal Elite" in Young Guns category (2013-2014); for Litigation (2017-2021)

Recognized in *North Carolina Super Lawyers* (Thomson Reuters) in Business Litigation (2019-2021) and as a "Rising Star" in Business Litigation (2014-2018) and Civil Rights/First Amendment (2012-2013)

Selected as *North Carolina Lawyers Weekly* "Leader in the Law" (2018)

Education

University of North Carolina School of Law, J.D., 2008, with high honors; Order of the Coif; Editor-in-Chief, *First Amendment Law Review*

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, M.A., 2005, Park Fellow

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, B.A., 1994, John Motley Morehead Scholar; Phi Beta Kappa

Admissions

North Carolina

U.S. Court of Appeals for the 4th and D.C. Circuits

U.S. District Court for the Western, Middle, and Eastern Districts of North Carolina

U.S. District Court of Colorado

PROFESSIONAL & CIVIC

Founding President, Board of Directors, Lucille Hunter Elementary School Foundation (2017-2019)

President, Board of Directors, *Society for the Preservation of Historic Oakwood* (2017)

Rules Advisory Committee, North Carolina Business Court (2015)

Council Member, Constitutional Rights and Responsibilities Section, *North Carolina Bar Association* (2014-2017)

ABOUT ME

Though not a Tar Heel born, Eric is, by now, a Tar Heel bred. Eric graduated from high school in Baltimore and then attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as a Morehead Scholar. After receiving his undergraduate degree with honors, Eric spent five years teaching history and coaching three sports at Sewickley Academy outside Pittsburgh. In 1999, Eric returned to Chapel Hill to serve for four years as Assistant Director for Summer Enrichment for the John Motley Morehead Foundation (now the Morehead-Cain Foundation).

After nine years in education, Eric decided to return to school, earning a master's degree in journalism and mass communication from UNC Chapel Hill. Eric's passion for law was sparked by a graduate class in media law. As a result, Eric continued on to law school after receiving his master's degree. He graduated with high honors from UNC School of Law in 2008. While in law school, Eric served as editor-in-chief of the First Amendment Law Review.

Eric lives in downtown Raleigh with his two sons.

NEWSROOM

News

72 Brooks Pierce Attorneys Recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America*® 2022 Guide
The Best Lawyers in America®, 08.19.2021

Thirty Brooks Pierce Attorneys Recognized by 2021 North Carolina Super Lawyers
North Carolina Super Lawyers, 01.14.2021

Twenty-Six Brooks Pierce Attorneys Named to Business North Carolina's 2021 "Legal Elite" and "Hall of Fame"
Business North Carolina Legal Elite, 01.03.2021

73 Brooks Pierce Attorneys Recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America*® 2021 Guide
The Best Lawyers in America®, 08.20.2020

Thirty-Four Brooks Pierce Attorneys Recognized in 2020 North Carolina Super Lawyers
North Carolina Super Lawyers, 01.22.2020

Speaking Engagements

Brooks Pierce Attorneys Present Social Media Defamation and Employment Policy CLE for GGI Southeast Chapter
05.01.2020

Brooks Pierce Attorneys Present Social Media Defamation and Employment Policy CLE for Association of Corporate Counsel
12.05.2019

Eric David Presents to Guilford Merchants Association on Gossip and Defamation on Social Media
07.02.2019

Eric David Presents Sports and Entertainment IP Law CLE for the North Carolina Bar Association
12.16.2014

Eric David Presents "Covering the Courts" to the North Carolina Press Association
04.28.2010

Publications

Social Media and Politics: What President Trump's Recent Executive Order Means

06.30.2020

Reviewing Business Contracts in Light of the COVID-19 Crisis
COVID-19 Response Resource Center: Timely Counsel for your Business, 03.25.2020

Understanding New Attacks on Section 230 Immunity
Westlaw Journal 03.16.2017

Pitfalls in Managing Online Reputations
06.02.2016

Brooks Pierce Media Attorneys Author Survey of North Carolina Privacy and Related Claims Against the
Media
07.13.2015