

DAVID S. COATS

David Coats is the firm's co-managing partner and senior litigation partner. He has been recognized by and peer selected for The Best Lawyers in America; Business North Carolina magazine's Legal Elite; and Charlotte Magazine and Law & Politics magazine's North Carolina Super Lawyers. Since 1996, Martindale Hubbell has recognized Mr. Coats with its prestigious peer "AV" rating.

Mr. Coats focuses his practice on commercial litigation, construction defect litigation, insurance coverage litigation, insurance bad faith and unfair claim practices, appellate practice, and environmental law, as well as personal injury actions. Experienced in federal and state court proceedings, Mr. Coats is the attorney of record in over 35 published opinions from the North Carolina Court of Appeals, the North Carolina Supreme Court, Federal District Courts in North Carolina and South Carolina, and the U.S. Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals and he has tried a large number of cases to verdict both in state and federal court. Mr. Coats is also a certified mediator and has mediated and arbitrated a variety of cases.

Mr. Coats has lectured at over 20 continuing education seminars for organizations such as the North Carolina Bar Association, the North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers, and the North Carolina Association of Defense Attorneys. His sessions cover a variety of topics, including insurance bad faith, construction litigation, construction liens, insurance coverage litigation and trial techniques.

Among other community activities, Mr. Coats has served on the steering committees and as Campaign Treasurer for the 2012 Re-Election Committee for North Carolina Court of Appeals Judge Cressie Thigpen; 2008 Re-Election Committee for North Carolina Court of Appeals Chief Judge John Martin; the 2006 Election Committee for North Carolina Supreme Court Chief Justice Sarah Parker; the 2004 Re-Election Committee for North Carolina Supreme Court Associate Justice Sarah Parker; and the 2000 Re-Election Committee for North Carolina Court of Appeals Judge John Martin.

Mr. Coats' reported cases include the following: Estate of Sean Paddock v. Wake County Dept. of Human Services, et al., 674 S.E. 2d 689 (N.C. App. 2009); Park v. Young Homes, 650 S.E. 2d 676 (N.C. App. 2007); Magnolia Mfg. Inc. v. Erie Insurance Exchange, 639 S.E. 2d 443 (N.C. 2007); King Associates, LLP v. Bechtler Development Corp., 632 S.E. 2d 243 (N.C. App. 2006); Rainey v. St. Lawrence Homes, Inc., 621 S.E. 2d 217 (N.C. App. 2005); Winters v. Allen et al., 595 S.E. 2d 813 (N.C. App. 2004); Swain v. Reynolds Construction, 576 S.E. 2d 699 (N.C. App.



2003), disc. rev. denied, 583 S.E. 2d 290 (N.C. 2003); Nationwide Mutual Ins. Co. v. Grady, 502 S.E. 2d 648 (N.C. App 1998); Allstate Ins. Co. v. Hester, 493 S.E. 2d 416 (N.C.1998); Daughtry v. Castleberry, 474 S.E. 2d 137 (N.C. App 1996), aff'd per curiam, 485 S.E. 2d 45 (N.C. 1997); Nationwide Mutual Ins. Co. v. Integon Indemnity Corp., 473 S.E. 2d 23 (N.C. App. 1996); Nationwide Mutual Ins. Co v. Williams, 472 S.E. 2d 220 (N.C. App. 1996); Imperial Casualty & Indemnity Co. v. Radiator Specialty Co., 862 F. Supp. 1437 (E.D.N.C. 1994); aff'd. per curiam, 67 F. 3d 534 (4th Cir. 1995); Nationwide Mutual Fire Ins. Co. v. Banks, 443 S.E. 2d 93 (N.C. App. 1994), disc. rev. denied, 448 S.E. 2d 530 (N.C. App. 1994); Harward v. Smith, 441 S.E. 2d 313 (N.C. App 1994), disc. rev. denied, 447 S.E. 2d 391 (N.C. 1994); Jefferson-Pilot Fire and Casualty Co. v. Sunbelt Beer Distributors, Inc., 839 F. Supp. 376 (D.S.C. 1993); Nationwide Mutual Ins. Co. v. Silverman, 423 S.E. 2d 68 (N.C. 1992).

PRACTICE AREAS

Appellate Practice
Business & Corporate Law
Civil Litigation
Construction Law
Insurance Coverage/Bad Faith Litigation
Insurance Defense Litigation
Insurance Law
Legal Malpractice Defense and Claim Repair
Litigation
Business Litigation

EDUCATION

Wake Forest University 1988
J.D.

Guilford College 1984
B.S.

JURISDICTIONS LICENSED

All North Carolina State and Federal District Courts
United States Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit
United States Supreme Court

PROFESSIONAL/COMMUNITY

Professional Activities

Defense Research Institute
North Carolina Bar Association (Appellate Rules Committee
1996-2000; Chair of Environmental Issues Committee 1994-1995; Member Litigation and Construction Law Sections)
North Carolina Association of Defense Attorneys
Wake County Bar Association (Board of Directors 2002-2004; Chair of Directory Committee 1996-2000)

REPRESENTATIVE REPORTED DECISIONS:

Park v. Young Homes, 650 S.E. 2d 676 (N.C. App. 2007)

Magnolia Mfg. Inc. v. Erie Insurance Exchange, 639 S.E.2d 443 (N.C. 2007)

King Associates, LLP v. Bechtler Development Corp., 632 S.E.2d 243 (N.C. App. 2006)

Winters v. Allen et al., 595 S.E.2d 813 (N.C. 2004)

Swain v. Reynolds Construction, 576 S.E.2d 699, disc. rev. denied, 583 S.E.2d 290 (N.C. App. 2003)

Nationwide Mutual Ins. Co. v. Grady, 502 S.E.2d 648 (N.C. App. 1998)

Allstate Ins. Co. v. Hester, 493 S.E.2d 416 (1998)

Daughtry v. Castleberry, 474 S.E.2d 137 (N.C. App. 1996), aff'd per curiam, 485 S.E.2d 45 (N.C. 1997)

Nationwide Mutual Ins. Co. v. Integon Indemnity Corp., 473 S.E.2d 23 (N.C. App. 1996)

Nationwide Mutual Ins. Co. v. Williams, 472 S.E.2d 220 (N.C. App. 1996)

Imperial Casualty & Indemnity Co. v. Radiator Specialty Co., 862 F.Supp. 1437 (E.D.N.C. 1994), aff'd. per curiam, 67 F.3d 534 (4th Cir. 1995)

Nationwide Mutual Fire Ins. Co. v. Banks, 443 S.E.2d 93, disc. rev. denied, 448 S.E.2d 530 (N.C. App. 1994)

Harward v. Smith, 441 S.E.2d 313, disc. rev. denied, 447 S.E.2d 391 (N.C. App. 1994)

Jefferson-Pilot Fire and Casualty Co. v. Sunbelt Beer Distributors, Inc., 839 F.Supp. 376 (D.S.C. 1993)

Nationwide Mutual Ins. Co. v. Silverman, 423 S.E.2d 68 (N.C. 1992)

Community Activities

Earth Share of North Carolina Board of Directors 2004-; Chairman of The Board 2012-2013).

North Carolina Rails Trails (Board Counsel and Board of Directors 1992-).

Raleigh Rotary Club

Hayes Barton Methodist Church

Raleigh 11 Precinct Chair

Volunteer Lawyers Program

Campaign Treasurer 2012 Re-Election Committee North Carolina Court of Appeals Judge Cressie Thigpen

Campaign Treasurer 2008 Re-Election Committee North Carolina Court of Appeals Chief Judge John Martin

Campaign Treasurer 2006 Election Committee North Carolina Supreme Court Chief Justice Sarah Parker

Campaign Treasurer 2004 Election Committee North Carolina Supreme Court Associate Justice Sarah Parker

Campaign Treasurer 2000 Re-Election Committee North Carolina Court of Appeals Judge John Martin