

DAYATRA T. MATTHEWS

Dayatra Matthews concentrates her practice on civil litigation at both the trial and appellate levels, with an emphasis on the defense of personal injury, commercial, business torts, insurance and bad faith claims. She is also heavily involved in the firm's employment and municipal litigation practices, focusing on the defense of municipal and police liability claims. Her clients include individuals, local and national businesses, insurers and governmental and law enforcement entities.

Ms. Matthews is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of North Carolina @ Chapel Hill and a 1997 graduate of Duke University School of Law. Prior to joining the firm in 1998, she served as law clerk to Judge James A. Wynn of the North Carolina Court of Appeals, now Justice Wynn of the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals.

An AV rated attorney by Martindale-Hubbell since 2006, Ms. Matthews is actively involved in the local and state bars and their affiliated organizations. She lectures frequently before paralegals, attorneys and local business representatives at professional legal seminars presented by the National Business Institute and the North Carolina Association. She is the former chair of the general liability practice group of the North Carolina Association of Defense Attorneys, and now serves as a member of that association's Board of Directors. For almost the entirety of her 12 years in private practice, Ms. Matthews has served diligently as a member of the Minorities in the Profession Committee of the North Carolina Bar Association, and is currently President of the Capital City Lawyers' Association.

Equally devoted to the service of her community, Ms. Matthews is a former girl's scout troop leader and member of the Board of Directors for Hospice of Wake County.

PRACTICE AREAS

- Administrative and Regulatory Law
- Appellate Practice
- Civil Litigation
- Employment Law
- Governmental Law
- Insurance Coverage/Bad Faith Litigation
- Insurance Defense Litigation
- Insurance Law
- Litigation



Municipal Law

EDUCATION

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill 1994

B.A.

Duke University 1997

J. D.

JURISDICTIONS LICENSED

All North Carolina State Courts
Federal District Courts for the Eastern and Western Districts of North Carolina
United States Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit

PROFESSIONAL/COMMUNITY

Professional Activities
Wake County, North Carolina, and American Bar Association
North Carolina Association of Black Attorneys
North Carolina Association of Defense Attorneys
Defense Research Institute

Reported Cases

Griffis v. Lazarovich, 164 N.C. App. 329, 595 S.E.2d 797 (2004)

Griffis v. Lazarovich, 161 N.C. App. 434, 588 S.E.2d 918 (2003)

Ragland v. Harris, 152 N.C. App. 132, 566 S.E.2d 827 (2002)

Council v. Slack, 153 N.C. App. 571 S.E. 2d 86 (2002)

Baggett v. Summerlin Ins. and Realty, Inc., 354 N.
C. 347, 554 S.E.2d 336 (2001)

Johnson v. First Union Corp., 351 N.C. 648, 543 S.E.2d 870 (2000)