

# FormanWatkins

Forman Watkins & Krutz LLP



## Julian D. Miller

### Associate

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After three years of anti-poverty work in the Mississippi Delta (where he is originally from) after college, Julian D. Miller decided to attend law school in order to use the law to serve his purpose and passion for public service and be a top notch litigator. Today, Julian keeps his grand purpose of making others' lives better in mind, as he helps clients navigate their cases with precision and compassion. Julian knows that clients come to him in a crisis they hoped to avoid, and he makes it a priority to approach that crisis with the same urgency as the client desires to get it resolved. Clients can always expect Julian to be honest and motivated, as he believes his work as a lawyer has the potential to create systemic impact and progressive policy change. In addition to having met Magic Johnson and grazed hands with Beyoncé, Julian Miller is unique in that he is the only lawyer in the state of Mississippi to have successfully represented the MS Department of Education, school districts, a charter school, teachers, administrators, and several public school students in school disciplinary and special education matters. Additionally, he has successfully litigated several multi-million-dollar cases at the administrative, trial, and appellate levels in complex governmental litigation, administrative, commercial litigation, products liability, and labor and employment matters in state and federal courts. Clients can be sure they are in good hands, as Julian is a multi-disciplined attorney with a vast repertoire of experience and a heart that cares deeply for every person that walks through his door.

## Education

- University of Mississippi School of Law, J.D., *cum laude*
- Harvard University, A.B.
  - Staff Writer, *Harvard Political Review*; Staff Writer, *Remix Magazine*; Marvin C. Pittman Award for Outstanding and Most Dedicated Senior; Ron Brown Scholar; Jackie Robinson Scholar; National Merit/Achievement Scholar

## Bar Admissions

- Mississippi
- U.S. District Courts for the Northern and Southern Districts of Mississippi
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit

## Important Litigation Involvement

- Successfully obtained favorable settlement on behalf of restaurant franchisee client in breach of contract dispute.
- Successfully obtained favorable settlement on behalf of dentist client in an administrative licensure matter before the Mississippi State Dental Board.
- Successfully obtained favorable settlement on behalf of an educator client in administrative licensure matter before the licensure commission of the Mississippi Department of Education.
- Successfully represented a judicial candidate in residency qualification challenge before the Mississippi State Board of Election Commissioners.
- Served as special counsel to the Mississippi Department of Education and third chair in successful administrative licensure hearings for the state's first major test cheating scandal.
- Served as lead counsel for Mississippi county in major ad valorem tax lawsuit by county taxpayers in the Mississippi Supreme Court.
- Served as lead counsel on behalf of consulting company client in employment status appeal against the Mississippi Department of Employment Security.
- Served as board attorney for North Bolivar Consolidated School District, representing the school board and managing all legal issues, including education law, administrative matters, public works, employment, financing, procurement, and litigation matters.
- ***Robinson v. North Bolivar Consolidated School District***, Bolivar County Circuit Court, Cause No. 2017-0074 - Obtained summary judgment on behalf of school district client in \$1 million wrongful termination and breach of contract case. (2018)
- ***Charles & Linda Bolton v. BancorpSouth Bank et al.***, Forrest County Circuit Court, Cause No. W17-72 [\[REDACTED\]](#) Obtained 12(b)(6) dismissal of lawsuit against banking client involving multiple tort claims. (2018)
- ***Clarksdale Municipal School District vs. The Miss. Dept. of Education and Clarksdale College Public Charter School***, In the County Court of Coahoma County, Cause No. 14-CO-19-0010 - Successfully obtained dismissal of an injunction filed by a public school district to prevent transfer of state and local per-pupil, education funding to the public charter school client. (2019)
- ***Kirkland Group, Inc. vs. Miss. Dept. of Employment Security et al.***, Hinds County Circuit Court, First Judicial District, Cause No. 251-16-721 [\[REDACTED\]](#) successfully reversed adverse employment status decision of MDES on behalf of educational consulting company client; client avoided significant employment insurance tax liability as a result (2019)
- ***Terry v. McNeill, et al.***, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania (2015) Defended product liability action regarding Tylenol allegedly causing liver damage; resulted in defense verdict.
- ***Cavness v. Ethicon, Inc., et al.***, Dallas County, Texas (2015) Defended product liability action involving

pelvic mesh; resulted in defense verdict.

- ***In the Matter of the Estate of Julia V. Borders, Deceased: Campbell v. Borders-Blackwell*, No. 2012-0293, Chancery Court of the Second Judicial District of Bolivar County, Mississippi (2015)** Successfully obtained dismissal of will contest on summary judgment.
- ***Conrod v. Southeastern Management Company, Inc.*, No. 2013-0364, Circuit Court of Sunflower County, Mississippi (2015)** Successfully obtained summary judgment in premises liability matter.
- ***Eley v. W. Point Mississippi*, No. 1:15-CV-00108-SA-DAS, 2017 WL 81781 (N.D. Miss. Jan. 9, 2017)** Successfully obtained summary judgment dismissing a Section 1983, police excessive force, taser claim and precluding a potential \$2 million liability for the city.
- ***Borders-Blackwell, et al. v. Tutwiler, et al.*, No. 2010-0046, Chancery Court of the Second Judicial District of Bolivar County, Mississippi (2016)** Successfully obtained \$68,950.22 judgment on behalf of client in breach of contract claim.
- ***Manfredi v. Harrell Contracting Grp., LLC*, No. 2015-WC-00522-COA, 2016 WL 6963166 (Miss. Ct. App. 2016)** Successfully obtained reversal of workers' compensation decision on appeal that erroneously found a construction subcontractor and its insolvent insurance company as the employer/carrier for a severely injured claimant; makes way for client to be reimbursed for a \$2 million liability.
- ***Barton et. al v. The Estate of Will Ellis Pittman, Sr., Deceased, By and Through Ivy Snider, Executrix of the Estate of Will Ellis Pittman, Sr.*, No. 2016-CA-01099-SCT, (Miss. 2017)** Successfully represented lawyer clients in attorney fee contract dispute against the estate of their former employer; clients retained several hundred thousand dollars in attorneys' fees as a result.
- ***Stringer v. North Bolivar Consolidated School District, et al.*, No. 17-60282 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2018)** Successfully obtained affirmance of the federal district court's dismissal of all employment discrimination and American Disability Act claims of terminated principal on summary judgment.

## Professional Recognition

- *National Black Lawyers*, "Top 40 Under 40," 2017

## Law School Honors & Awards

- Phi Delta Phi
- Dean's List
- Public Interest Law Foundation Scholar
- Public Interest Law Foundation
- Civil Legal Clinic

## Previous Experience

- Law Clerk, Mississippi Court of Appeals, Presiding Judge T. Kenneth Griffis, 2013 - 2014
- Associate, Butler Snow LLP
- Senior Associate, Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP

## Organizations/Committee Membership

- American Bar Association
- Capital Bar Association
- Jackson Young Lawyers, Diversity Committee, co-chair
- Mississippi Bar Association
- Magnolia Bar Association

## Publications

- Munford, Luther; Miller, Julian D. (Assisted in Revising and Editing). Chapter 17: Civil Appeals. *Mississippi Civil Procedure, Volume Two* (pp. 151-200): Thomson Reuters. May 2017.
- Munford, Luther; Miller, Julian D. (Assisted in Revising and Editing). Chapter 17: Civil Appeals. *Mississippi Civil Procedure, Volume Two* (pp. 151-200): Thomson Reuters. May 2016.
- Munford, Luther, Miller, Julian D. (Assisted in Revising and Editing). Chapter 17: Civil Appeals. *Mississippi Civil Procedure, Volume Two* (pp. 151-200): Thomson Reuters. May 2015.
- Miller, Julian D. and Marsha Johnson-Copeland. "Problem Solving for Better Health in the Mississippi Delta." *Problem Solving for Better Health: A Global Perspective*. Ed. Barry H. Smith, Joyce J. Fitzpatrick, and Pamela Hoyt-Hudson. New York: Springer, 2011. 205-206.
- Miller, Julian D. "A Personal View." *Problem Solving for Better Health: A Global Perspective*. Ed. Barry H. Smith, Joyce J. Fitzpatrick, and Pamela Hoyt-Hudson. New York: Springer, 2011. 206-215.
- Co-author, "The Economic Revitalization of the American City and Countryside," Harvard Institute of Politics, (2006).
- Co-author, "Mapping Democracy: A Blueprint for Redistricting Reform," Harvard Institute of Politics, (2005).

## Speaking Engagements

- "Ethics Hour: The Role of and Limits of Non-Lawyer Advocates for Children and Families and Non-Lawyer Consultants for School Districts & Using FERPA and IDEA Confidentiality to Support and Protect All Children," Fifth Annual Special Education Conference and CLE, Coalition for Citizens with Disabilities. MS College School of Law, Jackson, MS. July 2019.
- "Attorney Fees Changing the Paradigm: In Depth Review of Attorney Fee Provisions and Using Fees in Settlement Negotiations," Fifth Annual Special Education Conference and CLE, Coalition for Citizens with Disabilities. MS College School of Law, Jackson, MS. July 2019.
- "All Over the Board: FAPE/LRE/Mainstreaming/Inclusion and their Effect on a Child's Education and Well-being Under IDEA," Fifth Annual Special Education Conference and CLE, Coalition for Citizens with Disabilities, MS College School of Law, Jackson, MS. July 2019.
- "Malpractice is Not Your Friend: Introduction to Practical Litigation Skills for Newbie Lawyers," Bridge the GAP CLE – Rule 3 New Lawyer Program, Oxford, MS. November 2018.
- "The Real Resistance: Grassroots Efforts to Address Economic Inequality and Universal Justice in Mississippi," 2018 Ron Brown Scholars Triennial Conference, Charlottesville, VA. August 2018.
- "Planning for the Future and Protecting Your Assets," Magnolia Bar Association, Thirty-fourth Annual Convention, Biloxi, MS. April 2016.
- "Community & Economic Development: Revitalizing the Mississippi Delta," High Purpose Academy at Coahoma Community College, Clarksdale, MS. February 2016.
- "Protecting the Business and Your Intellectual Property," Delta State University FastTrac Program, Cleveland,

MS. October 2015.

## Pro Bono & Community Service

- Mississippi Center for Justice, Educational Opportunities Campaign, Pro Bono Counsel, 2015-present
- Mississippi College of Law, Education Law and Policy Clinic, Adjunct Professor
- Clutter 2 Compost Initiative, Co-founder and Co-Director, 2008-present
- Delta Fresh Foods Initiative, Co-Founder, Vice-Chairman, Board of Directors, Grants Coordinator, 2011-present
- Friends of the Environment, Board of Directors, 2008-present
- Region One Mental Health Center, Advisory Committee, 2008-present
- Mississippi Food Policy Council, Board of Directors, 2015-present
- Greater Jackson Arts Council, Board of Directors, 2016-Present
- 100 Black Men of Jackson, Members, Community Partnership Initiative Committee, 2019-Present

## Practice Areas

- Appellate
- Commercial Litigation
- Labor & Employment
- Product Liability