

FormanWatkins

Forman Watkins & Krutz LLP



Alison O'Neal McMinn

Partner

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Alison doesn't remember a time when she didn't want to be a lawyer, and, since becoming one, doesn't remember a time when she hasn't loved every second of it. Alison believes it is her responsibility as an attorney to practice civility. She makes a point to bring out the humanity in every case because people are deeply important to her. In addition to her compassion and her extremely goal-oriented brain, Alison brings a vast and diverse array of experiences to the table. From prosecution work to civil defense to appellate courts to federal and supreme court cases, Alison has seen and done it all, making her an invaluable asset to every client that walks through the door. While other lawyers are getting lost in details, Alison keeps her eye on the big picture bringing passion and integrity to her clients' cases. For Alison, the facts are what they are, and as long as you work hard, prepare well, and remember civility, a client's success and peace are right around the corner.

Education

- University of Mississippi School of Law, J.D.
- Mississippi State University, B.A., *summa cum laude*

Bar Admissions

- Mississippi, 2003
- U.S. District Courts for the Northern and Southern Districts of Mississippi
- U.S. Court of Appeals for Fourth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

Clerkship

- Judicial Clerk to Judge Leslie D. King, Mississippi Court of Appeals

Important Litigation Involvement

- A member of the trial team for six asbestos product liability trials which lasted between 2 and 5 weeks and went to jury verdict. Specific responsibility for legal research, motion practice, courtroom appearances, selection of trial plaintiffs, conducting trial depositions, preparing fact and expert witnesses, juror analysis, juror selection, and preparation of direct and cross-examination outlines.

Reported Decisions as Trial Counsel

- *Patrick Higgins v. State of Mississippi*, 2016 WL 3153994 (Miss. Ct. App. 2016) (Oral Argument January 7, 2016)
- *Aundray Isaac v. State of Mississippi*, 187 So. 3d 1009 (Miss. 2016)
- *Fred Howard v. Mississippi Secretary of State*, 184 So.3d 295 (Miss. Ct. App. 2015)
- *In re Rogers*, 177 So. 3d 193 (Miss. Ct. App. 2014)
- *Harrington v. Secretary of State*, 129 So.3d 153 (Miss. 2013)

Professional Recognition

- Selected to Mid-South Super Lawyers (2019-2023), Top 50 Mississippi Super Lawyers
- FormanWatkins Pro Bono Star (2020, 2022)
- *The Best Lawyers in America*® (2019-2024): Product Liability Litigation - Defendants, Mass Tort Litigation/Class Actions - Defendants
- Selected to Mid-South Rising Stars (2011-2012, 2017-2018)
- Selected as a PORTICO 10 Attorney by *Portico Jackson Magazine* (2018)
- Selected as one of *Mississippi Business Journal's* Leaders in Law (2018)
- Top 50 Under 40 Business Leader, *Mississippi Business Journal* (2017)



aw Rating





Organization/Committee Memberships

- The Mississippi Bar
- Fifth Circuit Bar Association
- Mississippi Women Lawyers Association
- Hinds County Bar Association
- Jackson Young Lawyer's Division
 - Co-Chair of Diversity Committee
 - Co-Chair of Membership Committee
- The Trial Network
- Mississippi Bar Child Welfare and Child Advocacy Committee (2019-2021)
- Capitol Area Bar Association, Women's Initiative Committee, co-chair (2020-2021)
- Mississippi Commission on Children's Justice, Opportunities for Treatment, committee member (2020-2021)
- Federal Bar Association, Mississippi Chapter, SOLACE liaison (2020-2021)
- Mississippi Bar Women in the Profession Committee (2020-2021)

Speaking Engagements

- "What's Hot and What's Not in Administrative Agency Practice," Bulldog Lawyer CLE, Starkville, Mississippi (October 2014)
- "The Mississippi Wrongful Conviction Act - The Prosecutor and Monetary Compensation," Mississippi Prosecutor's Conference, Tunica, Mississippi (October 2015)
- "Thriving in the Middle," 27th Annual Evelyn Gandy Lecture Series (February 2020)

Publications

- "Bring Your Own Device: Navigating the Rough Seas of E-Discovery With a Strong BYOD Policy at Your Back," *The Mississippi Lawyer*, Spring 2022

Pro Bono & Community Service

- FormanWatkins Pro Bono Committee Chairwoman
- Post-Katrina Disaster Legal Assistance Committee (2005)

- Mississippi Children's Home Services Auxiliary (2004-2007)
- Central Mississippi MSU Alumni Board, Member (2004-2007)
- International mission work with The Hard Places Community, Phnom Penh, Cambodia (2011)
- Leadership Greater Jackson, Class of 2013-2014
- Jackson Area Delta Gamma Alumnae, President (2013-2015)
- The Junior League of Jackson
 - Co-chair Provisional Project (2009-2010)
 - Co-chair Touch A Truck® Jackson (2014-2015)
 - Leadership Institute (2014)
 - Communications Vice President (2015-2016)
 - Fund Development Vice President (2016-2017)

Law School Honors & Awards

- Moot Court Board, Director of Trial Competitions
- Recipient of Congressman Will M. Whittington Scholarship

Previous Experience

- Special Assistant Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General, Jackson, Mississippi
 - Civil Litigation Division - Lead defense attorney in numerous suits against the State of Mississippi, its agencies, political subdivisions and officials, with full responsibility for legal research, motions practice, trial strategy, courtroom appearances, and all appellate briefing. Managed a caseload of 20-25 state and federal court civil actions.
 - Consumer Protection Division - Prosecuted cases involving fraud, and investigated violations of the Mississippi Consumer Protection Act. Additional prosecution involved various criminal cases including: homicide, fraudulent use of identity, and embezzlement.
- Judicial Clerk to Judge Leslie D. King, Mississippi Court of Appeals

Practice Areas

- Asbestos
- Appellate
- Environmental Litigation
- Personal Injury
- Product Liability
- Premises Liability