FormanWatkins
Forman Watkins & Krutz LLP

Joel Fyke

Partner

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Having lived in three different countries, Joel Fyke enjoys the nuance of seeing the world through different lenses, and his experiences living abroad among different cultures and working several unique jobs before pursuing law school instilled in him an understanding of the satisfaction that comes with working through difficult issues. Joel draws on these experiences in confronting the problems of complex civil litigation, working with others on his team to attack new problems from a variety of angles and reexamine old issues from a fresh perspective.

Joel also supports the growth and development of FormanWatkins through his involvement with the Technology Committee, strengthening both the firm's internal processes and its outreach to clients. The father of two young girls, Joel is driven to work hard for others, and as an attorney he is compelled by the intellectual challenge of his work to always go a step further. For him, it's all about the patient process of untangling intricate problems, bouncing ideas off of colleagues, and taking that extra step to get the best solution possible for his clients. When those pursuits leave time for leisure, Joel enjoys reading, plucking the banjo, and spending time with his wife and little girls.

Education

- Stanford University, J.D.
- Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, M.A. Fundamental Rights
- University of Mississippi, B.A. International Studies

Bar Admissions

- California, 2014
- Mississippi, 2015
- U.S. District Courts for Northern and Southern Districts of Mississippi
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

Clerkship

- Law Clerk to the Honorable Rhesa H. Barksdale, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

Important Litigation Involvement

- Conducted oral argument and drafted briefing as lead appellate counsel for Fortune 500 client before Pennsylvania Superior Court in defense of summary judgment in products liability action. *Lamson v. Georgia-Pacific, LLC, et al.*, No. 1459-EDA-2018 (opinion forthcoming)
- Currently serves as national coordinating counsel for asbestos claims of two Fortune 500 companies, litigating product and premises liability claims, developing national and jurisdictional defense strategy, and negotiating settlements
- Drafted summary judgment briefing, resulting in grant of summary judgment for alleged environmental exposure claims; *Boyer v. Weyerhaeuser Co.*, 2016 WL 705233 (W.D. Wis. Feb. 19, 2016)
- Served on team representing coaches in factual development and investigation, preparation for NCAA interviews, and drafted individual response to notices of allegation; NCAA Committee on Infractions

Professional Recognition

- *The Best Lawyers in America®:* Ones to Watch, 2021: Appellate Practice, Mass Tort Litigation/Class Actions – Defendants, Product Liability Litigation – Defendants
- FormanWatkins Pro Bono Star, 2021
- Selected to Mid-South Rising Stars (2017-2022)
- Selected to Mid-South Super Lawyers (2023)

Organization/Committee Memberships

- American Bar Association

Publications

- "Direct-to-Consumer 3D Printing Protection: Searching for a Predictable Liability Regime," *For the Defense*, DRI, Vol. 58, No. 11 (November 2016).

Law School Honors & Awards

- Truman Scholar
- Pro Bono Distinction
- Teaching Assistant to Suzanne McKechnie Klahr
- Assistant to Dr. Joan Petersilia
- Stanford Law & Policy Review, Associate Editor

Previous Experience

- Federal Appellate Clerkship

Practice Areas

- Asbestos
- Negotiation/Resolution Counsel
- Sports Management
- NCAA Compliance
- Appellate
- Product Liability
- Personal Injury
- Trademark