



## Rick Claxton

### Principal

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Rick Claxton, a member of the firm's Litigation, Appellate and ADR practice groups, has over 30 years of courtroom experience representing clients ranging from individuals to Fortune 50 corporations. A veteran of dozens of jury and bench trials, Rick focuses his practice on complex business cases, such as corporate and partnership disputes, construction litigation, business torts, and employment litigation. However, Rick has always maintained a diverse practice, including cases ranging from copyright and trademark litigation to representation of individuals with major personal injury claims.

In addition to his trial work, Rick has substantial appellate court experience, having briefed and argued cases before the highest courts of the District of Columbia and Maryland, as well as before various federal circuit courts.

Rick graduated with honors from Boston University School of Law where he served as executive editor of the *American Journal of Law and Medicine*.

#### **PRACTICE AREAS**

Litigation: Business

Litigation: Individual

Appellate Practice

Alternative Dispute Resolution

#### **BAR ADMISSIONS**

Maryland

District of Columbia

Virginia

United States District Court for the District of Columbia

United States District Court for the District of Maryland

United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia

United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit

United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit

## EDUCATION

J.D., *cum laude*, Boston University School of Law

B.J., University of Missouri, School of Journalism

## ACCOLADES & AWARDS

Best Lawyers in America - *Best Lawyers* (2013-2021)  
- Commercial Litigation

Maryland *Super Lawyers* (2007-2020)

Washington D.C. *Super Lawyers* (2007-2020)

AV Preeminent® Peer Review Rated

## IN THE NEWS

Twenty Paley Rothman Attorneys Selected to 2021 Best Lawyers in America

Glenn Cooper Top 10, 14 Paley Rothman Attorneys Named to the 2020 Washington D.C. Super Lawyers and Rising Stars Lists

14 Paley Rothman Attorneys Named to the 2020 Maryland Super Lawyers and Rising Stars Lists

Seventeen Paley Rothman Attorneys Selected to 2020 Best Lawyers in America

Rick Claxton Joins as a Principal in Paley Rothman's Litigation, Appellate and ADR Practices

## CIVIC & COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

American Bar Association, Litigation Section

Maryland State Bar Association

Bar Association of Montgomery County

Maryland Trial Lawyers Association

## REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

**Representation of a provider of "back office" support to financial services firms in AAA arbitration** against a customer. Rick's client and the customer each asserted the other had breached their contract. Following a three-day arbitration, Rick's client was awarded \$647,000 and the customer's claims were denied entirely.

**Representation of major defense contractors** in cases involving trade secret misappropriation, business tort, contract, real property and leasing claims.

**Representation of a developer and owner of regional shopping centers** in tenant and ADA litigation.

**Representation of the seller of a business** wrongfully fired from his job as an executive with the company by the new owner. The case resulted in a seven-figure jury verdict for Rick's client.

**Representation of a large builder of multi-family housing projects** in construction disputes and litigation.

**Successful defense of a corporate officer** sued for more than \$10 million by a joint venturer of his former corporate employer. Following a two-month trial, the jury took less than five hours to return a favorable verdict for Rick's client.

**Representation of one of the nation's larger commercial brokerages** in commercial leasing disputes and litigation.

**Representation of a Utah natural gas producer** in an antitrust and contract action against a major pipeline company. The case resulted in a multi-million dollar settlement for the natural gas producer.

**Representation of a small business** against an employee who started a competing business. A federal court jury awarded Rick's client \$385,000, including punitive damages.

**Representation of persons injured by defective consumer products** or medical negligence. Rick has obtained numerous six- and seven-figure settlements on behalf of his clients who were injured by defective products or medical malpractice.

**Representation of heirs and beneficiaries** in will contests and other cases involving estates and trusts, including cases involving questions of undue influence, questionable testator competence, and estate administration.

## REPRESENTATIVE REPORTED CASES

*United States v. Coleman*, 203 U.S. App. D.C. 326, 631 F.2d 9081 (1980); *Bledsoe v. Crowley*, 270 U.S. App. D.C. 308, 849 F.2d 639 (1988); *American Directory Serv. Agency v. Beam*, 131 F.R.D. 15 (D.D.C. 1990); *Wright v. Neale*, 79 Md. App. 20, 555 A.2d 518 (1989); 322 Md. 8, 585 A.2d 196 (1991); *Bank of New York v. Amoco Oil Co.*, 35 F.3d 643 (2d Cir. 1994); *Hill v. Scartascini*, 134 Md. App. 1, 758 A.2d 1087 (2000); *Parker v. Bureau of Land Management*, 141 F. Supp. 2d 71 (D.D.C. 2001); *Mastercraft Interiors, Ltd. v. ABF Freight Sys.*, 284 F. Supp. 2d 284 (D. Md. 2003); *Mastercraft Interiors, Ltd. v. ABF Freight Sys.*, 350 F. Supp. 2d 686 (D. Md. 2004); *Hildebrant v. Educ. Testing Serv.*, 171 Md. App. 23, 908 A.2d 657 (2006); *Norment Sec. Group, Inc. v. Travelers Cas. & Ins. Co.*, 505 F. Supp. 2d 97 (D.D.C. 2007); *Schlossberg v. Bell Builders Remodeling, Inc.*, 109 A. 3d 1146, 441 Md. 671 (Md. 2015).