

# HATCHER · STUBBS

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

## WILLIAM B. HARDEGREE

PARTNER

Bill Hardegree was admitted to the Alabama State Bar in 1957 and practiced briefly in his hometown of Talladega, Alabama, before he entered the United States Army Judge Advocate General's Corps as a First Lieutenant and was discharged in 1960 in the grade of Captain. He was admitted to the State Bar of Georgia in 1960 and was Assistant Secretary and Associate General Counsel for Royal Crown Cola Company before he joined Hatcher Stubbs in 1961.

For forty years, Bill has practiced exclusively in the area of civil litigation. He has litigated more than 200 jury trials and handled over 100 appeals as lead counsel. Bill's litigation and appellate practice is concentrated in the areas of commercial and business, insurance and personal injury, and employment. He is listed in *Best Lawyers in America* in Commercial and Personal Injury litigation. He also serves as a mediator in all of those practice areas as a registered mediator with the Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution.

### Areas of Practice

- Employment Law
- Personal Injury and Insurance Litigation
- Commercial and Business Litigation
- Mediation and Alternate Dispute Resolution

### Education

- Talladega, Alabama, Public Schools
- Baylor School, Chattanooga, Tennessee, 1951
- Vanderbilt University, 1954
- L.L.B., University of Alabama Law School, 1957

### Admitted to Practice

- Alabama, 1957
- Georgia, 1960
- Supreme Court of Alabama, 1957
- Supreme Court of Georgia and Georgia Court of Appeals, 1961
- U. S. District Court, Middle District of Georgia (Member of Rules Advisory Committee, 1992-1998), Northern District of Georgia, Middle and Northern Districts of Alabama

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- U. S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit

## Memberships, Affiliations and Activities

### Current:

- Alabama Bar Association (1957-present)
- State Bar of Georgia (1960-present; President, Columbus Younger Lawyers Section, 1962; Board of Governors, 1971-1977; Chairman, Judicial Procedure and Administration Committee, 1975-1976; Disciplinary Board, 1985-1988)
- Chattahoochee (Georgia) Circuit Bar Association (President, 1970)
- Muscogee County Law Library (Trustee, 1970-present)
- ICLE Faculty Member (1982, 1985, 1990, 1993)
- Georgia Defense Lawyers Association (1971-2000; Trial Academy Faculty, 1985-1987; Chairman, 1995-1996)
- House of TIME, Inc. (Founding Director and former Chairman)
- Pickett & Hatcher Educational Fund, Inc. (Board of Directors)

### Past:

- American Red Cross
- Salvation Army
- Columbus Girls Club (Girls, Inc.)
- Anne Elizabeth Shepherd Home
- Cerebral Palsy Foundation
- Columbus YMCA

## Illustrative Appellate Decisions

- *Gibson v. McWhirter*, 230 Ga. 545, 198 S.E.2d 205 (1973) (will construction)
- *Southern Guaranty Ins. Co. v. Pearce, et al.*, 625 F. Supp. 646, 5th Cir. (GA) (1980); 607 F.2d 146, 5th Cir. (GA) (1979); 246 Ga. 33, 268 S.E.2d 623 (1980) (construction of insurance policy and statutory construction)
- *Southern Stone Co. Inc. v. Singer*, 665 F.2d 698, 11 Cir. (1982) (commercial fraud, contract)
- *Evans v. Bibb Co.*, 178 Ga. App. 139; 342 S.E.2d 484 (1986) (wrongful discharge)
- *Bradford v. Xerox Corporation*, 216 Ga. App. 83, 453 S.E.2d 98 (1994) (punitive damages, sufficiency of evidence)
- *Herring v. Condit*, 218 Ga. App. 855, 463 S.E.2d 532 (1995) (negligence proximate/intervening cause)
- *Webster v. Boyette*, 224 Ga. App. 843, 482 S.E.2d 377; 232 Ga. App. 458, 502 S.E.2d 561; 269 Ga. 191, 496 S.E.2d 459 (1998) (punitive damages and bifurcation/trifurcation)
- *Brown v. Kent*, 238 Ga. App. 607, 518 S.E.2d 737; 248 Ga. App. 447, 545 S.E.2d 598 (2001) (contract, attorney fees, trial procedure)

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- *Smith & Pierce v. Association Services, Inc.*, 249 Ga. App. 629, 549 S.E.2d 454 (2001) (invasion of privacy, civil conspiracy)
- *Curtis Anne Sims v. Carmen Evans and Chattahoochee Anesthesia Associates, Inc.*, 66 Fed. Appx. 845 (2001) (sex discrimination, wrongful termination)
- *White v. Kent*, 249 Ga. App. 893, 553 S.E.2d 1; 253 Ga. App. 492, 559 S.E.2d 731 (2002) (contracts, fraud, punitive damages)