



LUKE A. LANTTA

Partner
Atlanta

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BIOGRAPHY

Luke Lantta helps companies and individuals resolve private wealth, business, and reputational disputes inside and outside the courtroom. Luke advocates for clients in a wide-range of industries and professions both in the trial courts and in the appellate courts.

TRUST, ESTATE & FIDUCIARY LITIGATION

Luke is a trusted fiduciary litigator and advisor. He helps financial institutions and individuals navigate a wide range of fiduciary disputes, including trust, estate, and probate disputes. Luke has helped corporate and individual fiduciaries resolve breach of fiduciary duty claims, matters of will and trust construction, will caveats, actions for removal of trustees and executors, competency claims, and actions for trust modification and termination. When assets held in trust become involved in divorces, he has helped parties and non-parties pulled into these family disputes. In

addition, Luke regularly counsels corporate fiduciaries with respect to the exercise of their duties, including administration of client relationships, the exercise of discretionary powers, and management of litigation risks.

Luke is a frequent author and speaker on matters of trust, estate, and fiduciary disputes.

COMPLEX BUSINESS LITIGATION

While Luke's practice has an emphasis on fiduciary disputes, he also represents individuals and businesses in traditional complex commercial disputes. Here, he helps clients navigate high value, complex disputes, including those that arise out of mergers, acquisitions, and other transactions, particularly breaches of representations and warranties and indemnification obligations. In cases where continuing a business relationship may no longer work, Luke has helped businesses, their members, and their contractual partners end the relationship either amicably or through litigation.

REPUTATION PROTECTION

Luke also helps clients protect their brands and manage their reputations online and in traditional media. When clients' brands are under attack, he has unmasked anonymous Internet posters and held them to account for their postings, obtained retractions, and obtained significant monetary judgments and settlements. When clients are accused of damaging another individual or company's brand, Luke has helped aggressively defend against a wide range of claims, including libel, slander, assault, invasion of privacy and media law claims. He also provides brand protection counseling, such as advising clients on risk management in establishing, expanding, or modifying their online presences.

PRO BONO FAMILY VIOLENCE WORK

Luke has a considerable pro bono practice. In addition to representing high net worth individuals and companies, he also represents indigent individuals. He administers and participates in a project between BCLP and the Cobb Justice Foundation where nearly every month lawyers in the Firm's Atlanta office represent survivors of family violence in temporary protective order hearings. This project – which Luke established – has protected hundreds of women and children and helped obtain thousands of dollars in financial resources for the survivors.

APPEALS

Luke regularly appears in Georgia's appellate courts and also has handled appeals outside of Georgia. His appellate practice has shaped Georgia fiduciary law on in terrorem clauses and trustees' duties.

CIVIC INVOLVEMENT & HONORS

- Atlanta Legal Aid Society – Immediate Past President of the Board of Directors
- Catherine Vandenberg Advocate for Victims of Domestic Violence Award, 2021
- Cobb Chamber of Commerce, Leadership Cobb “Legacy of Leadership” Award, 2016
- Atlanta Legal Aid Society “Extraordinary Pro Bono Service” Award, 2016
- Leadership Cobb, Class of 2016
- Fulton County Daily Report, “On the Rise” Award, 2014
- Georgia Rising Star (2011-2018)
- Cobb Justice Foundation

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Atlanta Bar Association – Estate Planning & Probate Section
- Cobb County Bar Association - Probate, Estate Planning, and Elder Law Section
- State Bar of Georgia – Fiduciary Law Section
- Atlanta Estate Planning Council

COMMITTEE CONTENT

- Pro Bono Committee

ADMISSIONS

- Georgia, 2004
- United States Supreme Court
 Supreme Court, Georgia
 United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh and Eleventh Circuit
 Court of Appeals of Georgia
 United States District Courts for the Middle, Northern and Southern Districts of Georgia
 United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

EDUCATION

Duke University, J.D., *cum laude*, 2004

Michigan State University, B.A., high honors, 2001

RELATED PRACTICE AREAS

- Business & Commercial Disputes
- Private Client
- Real Estate
- Tax & Private Client
- Fiduciary Disputes
- Higher Education Team
- Real Estate Disputes
- Media & First Amendment
- Litigation & Dispute Resolution
- Campus Free Expression
- Data Center & Digital Infrastructure Team
- Business Speech
- Appellate

RESOURCES

PUBLICATIONS

- "The Post-Zelman Voucher Battleground: Where to Turn after Federal Challenges to Blaine Amendments Fail," *67 Law & Contemp. Probs.* 213, 2004

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- "Motion Practice in Trust & Estate Disputes," Cobb County Bar Association Probate, Estate Planning, & Elder Law Section CLE, 2024
- "Setting Your Record Outside & Inside the Courtroom," Cobb County Bar Association Probate, Estate Planning, & Elder Law Section CLE, 2023
- "Trustee Conflicts of Interest and Attorney-Client Privilege Issues," BCLP Annual Trust and Estates Disputes Symposium, St. Louis, November 15, 2022

- "Discovery in Probate Courts," Cobb County Bar Association Probate, Estate Planning, & Elder Law Section CLE, 2021
- "Rules of Engagement: How Trusts & Estates Lawyers Can Avoid Turning a Client into an Adversary," Cobb County Bar Association Probate, Estate Planning, & Elder Law Section CLE, 2019
- "In Terrorem Clauses: Further Into Fear We Go?," Trusts & Estate Symposium, 2019
- "Fiduciary Litigation for Business Litigators: The Engagement, The Case, & The Resolution," State Bar of Georgia Business Litigation CLE, 2018; Cobb County Bar Association Business & Litigation Section CLE, 2018
- "The Intersection of T&E and ADR," 60th Annual Estate Planning Institute, 2015
- "Developments in Planning and Administration for Couples of Same Sex," Estate Planning Council of North Georgia, 2015
- "Web 2.5: Managing Your Company's Brand Across Evolving Digital Platforms," In-House Counsel Institute Seminar, 2012
- "Protecting Your Content & Brand In The Digital Age," In-House Counsel Institute Seminar, 2010
- "Steps to Stripping Anonymity & Cleansing the Internet," A General Counsel's Litigation Toolkit, 2007
- "Dynamics of Litigating Multi-Plaintiff Cases," Labor & Employment Seminar, 2006

RELATED INSIGHTS

Awards

Aug 17, 2023

The Best Lawyers in America® 2024

Awards

Aug 18, 2022

The Best Lawyers in America© 2023

Awards

Nov 01, 2021

Partner Receives 2021 Catherine Vandenberg Advocate for Victims of Domestic Violence Award