



Carrie L. Christie

Trial and appellate practice focusing on the restaurant/food service, retail/wholesale, construction, aviation, religious entity, and energy industries. Serves as trial counsel for national restaurant/food service companies, major domestic and international U.S. airlines, national construction contractors, as well as insurance carriers, both primary and excess.

Representative Experience:

- Serves as consulting and trial counsel to some of the world's leading and most-loved brands; handling catastrophic injury and death resulting from dram shop/premises/security/construction liability; false imprisonment; food borne illness; commercial contracts; employment and workers' compensation matters
- Defends major domestic and international U.S. airlines, handling Warsaw and Montreal Conventions; contractual indemnity; premises liability; product liability; property damage to aircraft and airport facilities; and subrogation and recovery litigation
- Litigates numerous complex and catastrophic injury cases including multiple deaths, quadriplegia, amputations, loss of organs and severe brain injury
- Represents national and regional construction and construction management companies in catastrophic injury, construction defect, and environmental claims
- Defends environmental and toxic tort litigation under both state and federal claims
- Represents power, mining/mineral processing, oil/gas/chemical, renewable energy, water and wastewater, and marine companies in claims for breach of contract
- Represents religious entities on a variety of issues ranging from First Amendment protection, misconduct by clergy and staff, premises liability and catastrophic injury
- Represents clients in federal court on UCC grounds for claims of defective and non-conforming products, breach of contract, breach of warranty, negligence, fraud and bad faith

Managing Partner
Atlanta Office
AV Rated

Practice Areas
ADA
Aviation
Premises Liability
Dram Shop
Employment
Church Liability
Construction
Construction Defect
Environmental
Toxic Tort
Workers' Compensation

Education
B.S.W., *cum laude*, University of Georgia, 1982

J.D., Georgia State University
College of Law, 1989

Law Review, Georgia State
University College of Law, 1987-
1989

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Publications and Presentations:

Ms. Christie is a frequent national speaker, training consultant and contributor to industry publications on the topics of industry best practices, trial practice, discovery, e-discovery, and industry emergency management of and response to catastrophic claims. Recent presentations include:

- *"Electronic Evidence and Social Media: Understanding Social Media and Its Impact on the Judiciary,"* Council of Superior Court Judges, Institute of Continuing Judicial Education, King & Prince Resort, St. Simons Island, Georgia, July 2017
- *"Defending Dram Shop Claims,"* Restaurant Risk Management Summit, Louisville, Kentucky, June 2017
- *"Franchisors-Navigating The Murky Waters of Franchisee Risks,"* RIMS National Conference, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, April 2017
- *"Best Practices for Managing Brand Killing Claims,"* Zaxby's/Liberty Mutual Insurance Team Conference, Duluth, Georgia, March 2017
- *"If You Build It, They Will Sue: Defending Construction Claims Presented as Personal Injury Suits,"* McDonald's Tort Litigation Practice Group Claims & Litigation Workshop, Chicago, Illinois, October 2016
- *Annie Get Your Gun...Employment and Corporate Responsibility Weapons Policies,"* Restaurant Risk Management Summit, Atlanta, August 2016
- *"Being An American Icon: Hooters' Responsible Alcohol Service,"* 2016 Hooters National Convention, Las Vegas, July 2016
- *"Bridging The Divide: Plaintiff And Defense Counsel, Ethics, Civility, and Mediation Summit,"* American Bar Association Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section, Atlanta, May 2016
- *"Phillips v. Harmon—The Tip Of The ESI Iceberg?"* 2016 Atlanta RIMS Educational Conference, February 2016
- *"Giving A Case Winning Closing,"* and *"How To Cross Examine an Expert,"* Georgia Defense Lawyers Association Trial Academy, Callaway Gardens, January, 2016
- *"Managing A National Practice: Don't Get Home-Cooked,"* Institute of Continuing Education in Georgia, Atlanta Bar Association, Atlanta, GA, July 2015
- *"What's On The Menu For Restaurant Risk Management Claims?"* Georgia Defense Lawyers' Association Annual Meeting, Hammock Beach, FL, June 2015
- *"Coffee Burns, Construction Claims, and Wet Floor Injuries—How To Prepare Against And Win The Most*

	<p><i>Common Claims In The Restaurant Industry,</i>” Chick-fil-A, Inc.’s Spring Risk Management Conference, Atlanta, April, 2015</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>“When Bad Stuff Happens: Best Practices For Managing Potentially Brand Killing Events,”</i> RIMS National Conference, New Orleans, LA, April, 2015 • <i>“Giving A Case Winning Closing,” and “How To Cross Examine an Expert,”</i> Georgia Defense Lawyers Association Trial Academy, Callaway Gardens, January, 2015 • <i>“When Bad Stuff Happens: Best Practices For Managing Potentially Brand Killing Events,”</i> Marsh & McLennan Marsh Madness, Louisville, KY, March, 2015 • <i>“Social Media: Investigations and Admissibility”</i> Atlanta Bar Association, December, 2014 • <i>“How Will the Affordable Care Act Affect Injured Elderly and Disabled Clients?”</i> National Business Institute, Atlanta, GA, November, 2014 • <i>“Ethical Considerations for Personal Injury Attorneys In Relation to the Affordable Care Act,”</i> National Business Institute, Atlanta, November, 2014 • <i>“Best Practices for Managing Brand Killing Claims,”</i> Marsh National Retail/Wholesale Roundtable, Dallas, TX, September, 2014 • <i>“When Bad Stuff Happens: Best Practices In Handling Brand Killing Claims,”</i> Restaurant Risk Management Summit, New Albany, OH, June 2014 • <i>“Maneuvering Through Big Water: A Guide’s Advice To Prepare For, And Survive, Litigation Rapids,”</i> Krispy Kreme Doughnut Corporation’s GM Summit, Charlotte, NC, May, 2014 • <i>“Eat, Pray, Love-- A Risk Manager’s Search for Best Practices Across the Food Industry,”</i> Foodservice Industry Risk Management Association East Coast Fall Conference, Atlanta, GA, September, 2013 • <i>“Risk Management Speed Dating: Interactive Insight into What Your Peers are Doing to Reduce Risk, Cut Cost and Increase Safety!,”</i> Foodservice Industry Risk Management Association East Coast Spring Conference, Louisville, KY, May, 2013 • <i>“Don’t be an (April) Fool: Handling Spoliation Issues Properly,”</i> Georgia Defense Lawyer Association (GDLA), Atlanta, GA, April, 2013 • <i>“Millennials & Social Media: The New ‘Water Cooler,’”</i> National Retail & Restaurant Defense Association Annual Conference, New Orleans, LA, February, 2013 • <i>“Food Allergies and Contamination Claims,”</i> Arby’s General Liability Training, Atlanta, GA, October, 2012 • <i>“Social Media: Employees Behaving Badly”</i>, Marsh USA’s Restaurant Roundtable, Louisville, KY, August, 2012 • <i>“In Store Surveillance: Benefits of Safety/Security/Theft Prevention v. Risk of Spoliation”</i>, Marsh USA’s Restaurant Roundtable, Louisville, LA, August, 2012
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>"Social Media II: Surfing the Web: Investigations and Admissibility"</i>, Marsh USA's Restaurant Roundtable, Louisville, KY, August, 2012 • <i>"Learning Corporate Culture and Team Building Strategies,"</i> Arby's General Liability Training, Atlanta, GA, June 2012 • <i>"Best Practices: Early Preservation of Evidence, E-Discovery and Avoiding Spoliation,"</i> Arby's General Liability Training, Atlanta, GA, April, 2012 • <i>"Premises Liability,"</i> Arby's General Liability Training, Atlanta, GA, March, 2012 • <i>"Fight Club or Love Triangle: Pros and Cons of Self-Administration v TPAs,"</i> National Retail & Restaurant Defense Association Annual Conference, San Diego, CA, February, 2012 • <i>"Don't Be Atwitter About Social Media in the Workplace,"</i> National Restaurant Association, Risk & Safety Managers Winter Conference, Las Vegas, NV, February, 2012 • <i>"Risk Management: Avoiding Crashes & Staying on Track,"</i> GM Summit, Krispy Kreme Doughnut Corporation, GM Summit, Charlotte, NC, September, 2011 • <i>"Reputational Crisis: Anticipating the Unexpected,"</i> Marsh USA's Restaurant Roundtable, Louisville, KY, August, 2011 • <i>"Best Practices: Early Preservation of Evidence, E-Discovery and Avoiding Spoliation"</i> and <i>"Chain of Custody Procedures,"</i> Marsh USA's Restaurant Roundtable, April, 2011 • <i>"Court of Appeals Enforces Protections in Favor of Owner and Project Management Company,"</i> <u>The Georgia Contractor</u>, January/February 2011 • <i>"Employers' Obligations Under the ADA and EEOC in the Hiring Process,"</i> <u>The Georgia Contractor</u>, November/December 2010 • <i>"Did the General Assembly Do Enough to Control Explosive Growth in Georgia,"</i> <u>The Georgia Contractor</u>, September/October 2010 • <i>"Team Strategies to Avoid or Reduce Litigation Costs,"</i> Marsh USA's Restaurant Roundtable, August, 2010 • <i>"Are You Owed Coverage by Your Insurer if it Undertakes Your Defense but Later Disclaims Coverage?"</i> <u>The Georgia Contractor</u>, July/August, 2010 • <i>"Food Allergies & Contamination Claims"</i> and <i>"Premises Liability Overview,"</i> Marsh USA's Restaurant Roundtable, March, 2010 • <i>"Spoliation: When the Loss of Evidence Can Cause Real Heartburn!"</i> National Retail & Restaurant Defense Association e-Newsletter, March, 2010 • <i>"The Scary New Medicare Reporting Requirements of 2009,"</i> Marsh Restaurant Roundtable, October, 2009 • <i>"Supreme Court Upholds Acceptance Doctrine, Impacts Contractors' Liability,"</i> <u>Commercial Building</u>
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Savvy, September/October, 2009

- "Supreme Court Narrowly Upholds Historic Acceptance Doctrine," Georgia Defense Lawyer, Summer, 2009
- "Legislature Overhauls Transportation Oversight: Strips DOT Power; Fails to Pass Funding Measure," The Georgia Contractor, July/August, 2009
- "Supreme Court Upholds Doctrine Favorably Impacting Contractors' Liability," The Georgia Contractor, March/April, 2009
- "Spoliation Claims," Marsh USA's Restaurant Roundtable, February, 2009

Admissions to Practice:

- Georgia State and Superior Courts
- Georgia Court of Appeals and Supreme Court
- U.S. District Court, Northern and Middle Districts
- Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals

Professional Memberships and Affiliations:

- Board of Visitors, Georgia State University College of Law
- 2017-2019 Chair, Faculty Member, Georgia Defense Lawyers Association Trial Academy
- Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) Certified
- National Association of Minority and Women Owned Law Firm (NAMWOLF)
- National Retail & Restaurant Defense Association (NRRDA) –Annual Conference Planning Committee
- Women's Foodservice Forum
- Global Alliance of Hospitality Lawyers
- Georgia Association For Women Lawyers (GAWL)
- Georgia Defense Lawyers Association
- Foodservice Industry Risk Management Association (FIRMA)
- Council on Litigation Management
- Defense Research Institute
- Lawyers Club of Atlanta
- Georgia Self Insurers Association, Inc. (GSIA)
- Georgia Highway Contractors Association

Representative Cases:

- *Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church v. Southern Mut. Church Ins. Co.*, USDC, Middle Dist., LEXIS 177627 (2013)
- *Kinzinger-Lignon v. Delta Airlines, Inc.*, USDC, Northern Dist, LEXIS 66803, (2012)
- *Bragg v. Oxford Construction Co.*, 285 Ga. 98, 674 S.E.2d 268 (2009); 289 Ga. App. 638, 658 S.E.2d 198 (2008)
- *Kitchen v. Humphrey*, USDC, Middle Dist., LEXIS

	<p>15128 (2006)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Keh v. Americus-Sumter County Hosp. Auth.</i>, 1:03-cv-68-2, USDC, Middle Dist., LEXIS 15668 (2006)• <i>Ogles v. E.A. Mann & Co., Inc.</i>, 277 Ga. App. 22, 625 S.E.2d 425 (2005)• <i>Gay v. Georgia Department of Corrections</i>, 270 Ga. App. 17, 606 S.E.2d 53 (2004)• <i>Cannon v. Wesley Plantation Apts.</i>, 256 Ga. App. 244; 568 S.E.2d 137 (2002)• <i>Saint Mary Of Egypt Orthodox Church of America v. Townsend</i>, 243 Ga. App. 188, 532 S.E.2d 731 (2000)• <i>Levine v. Choi</i>, 240 Ga. App. 384, 522 S.E.2d 673 (1999), Reconsideration Denied• <i>Champion Management Ass'n, Inc. v. McGahee</i>, 227 Ga. App. 895, 490 S.E.2d 215 (1997)• <i>McEver v. Worrell Enterprises</i>, 223 Ga. App. 627, 478 S.E.2d 445 (1996)• <i>Freeman v. Continental Baking Co.</i>, 212 Ga. App. 855, 443 S.E.2d 520 (1994)• <i>Cheeley v. Henderson</i>, 201 Ga. App. 786; 413 S.E.2d 266 (1991)
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