



**Senior Associate  
Atlanta Office**

**Practice Areas**

Employment  
Employee Benefits Litigation  
Complex Insurance Defense  
Wrongful Death  
Motor Carrier Liability  
Dram Shop  
Premises Liability  
Church Liability  
Medical Malpractice

**Education**

B.S. summa cum laude,  
Georgia Institute of  
Technology, 2000

J.D., magna cum laude,  
Georgia State University  
College of Law, 2004

Associate Lead Articles Editor,  
Georgia State University Law  
Review

Finalist, Georgia State  
University Law 2002 Moot  
Court Competition

Academic honors in Research,  
Writing, & Advocacy, Criminal  
Law, and Professional  
Responsibility

Pupil, Bleckley Inn Court

**Atlanta**

**Courtney Marcelo Norton**

Litigates cases in both state and federal court, representing clients on a nationwide basis, handling a wide range of employment cases – from Title VII defense to claims for employee benefits. Experience in complex insurance defense litigation, focusing on life, health and disability litigation, particularly under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) and state and federal Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization (RICO) laws.

**Representative Experience:**

- Defends nationwide insurance companies in cases involving denial of employee benefits under ERISA
- Appears before the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals in defense of a plan administrator's denials of employee benefits under ERISA
- Defends government clients in sexual harassment employment cases
- Represents one of the nation's largest church insurance companies in a premises liability action
- Represents worldwide restaurant company in a case involving racial discrimination, false arrest, false imprisonment, intentional infliction of emotional distress and negligence
- Defends employers in claims of bad faith and denial of employee benefits in the United States District Court, Northern District of Georgia
- Defends clients before the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals, Georgia Court of Appeals and Georgia Supreme Court

**Publications:**

- Coauthored the Georgia Chapter on Rescission published by the American Bar Association, Fall 2007. Published several papers on current topics in employee benefits and disability law, including *Hot Topics in Disability Law*, 2004, ALI-ABA, and *ERISA Update*, Defense Research Institute, 2005.
- Research Assistant to Professor Mark J. Kadish, 2004, assisting in research and writing law review article published by Georgetown University's Journal

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of International Law, and later cited by the United States Supreme Court: *Article 36 of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations: the International Court of Justice in Mexico v. United States (Avena) Speaks Emphatically to the Supreme Court of the United States about the Fundamental Nature of the Right to Consul*

Admission to Practice

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