

Craig T. Merritt



Trials/Appeals/Alternative Dispute Resolution
Communications and Media
Antitrust and Trade Regulation
Intellectual Property Litigation
Legislative Advocacy

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Craig Merritt represents a wide variety of clients in complex business litigation, including antitrust, contract, business tort, legal malpractice and intellectual property disputes. Mr. Merritt spends a significant part of his practice representing media clients on defamation defense, freedom of information and court access, prepublication review, newsgathering, and reporters' privilege matters.

Mr. Merritt is active in bar leadership and is a former president of the Bar Association of the City of Richmond. He has been appointed a special master by the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia in business and regulatory litigation and has served on the faculty of the Virginia State Bar's Mandatory Professionalism Course. He has lectured on numerous business litigation and communications law topics.

Representative Business Litigation

- Representation of Class I railway company in contract and antitrust disputes with shippers and competitors.
- Representation of companies in patent litigation involving microelectronics, medical devices, business software and communication devices.
- Representation of attorneys in defense of legal malpractice and insurance coverage claims.
- Defense of limited partnership in dispute over ownership interests in power generating facilities.
- Service as AAA arbitrator and as court-appointed special master in trade secret, antitrust, and insurance coverage matters.

Representative Media Law Litigation

- Defense of print, broadcast, and online publishers in defamation actions (public officials against newspapers; criminal defendants against publishers and broadcasters; real estate developer against newspaper; schoolteacher against television station; business owner against television station).
- Litigation of cases under Virginia Freedom of Information Act.
- Protection of journalists served with subpoenas.

- Defense of journalists in contempt proceedings.
- Intervention to open court proceedings and obtain sealed records.
- Appellate advocacy on behalf of media organizations.

EDUCATION

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, J.D.
Duke University, B.A.

ADMISSIONS

Virginia

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia
U.S. District Court for the Western District of Virginia
U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia
U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Virginia
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit
U.S. Supreme Court

RECOGNITIONS

- ***The Best Lawyers in America***®

Bet-the-Company Litigation, Commercial Litigation, First Amendment Law, Litigation-First Amendment, Litigation-Patent, Media Law, 2003-2022

- **Chambers USA**

Litigation: General Commercial, 2008-2021

- **Virginia Super Lawyers**

Business Litigation, 2006-2022

- **George Mason Award**, Society of Professional Journalists Virginia Pro Chapter, 2011

- **Virginia Communications Hall of Fame**, 2009

- **Leaders in the Law (*Virginia Lawyers' Weekly*)**, 2006

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- **American College of Trial Lawyers**

Fellow, Former Virginia State Chair

- **American Bar Association**

Litigation Section

Antitrust Law Section

Communications Law Forum

- **American Bar Foundation**

Fellow

- **Virginia State Bar**

Antitrust Section

Litigation Section

- **Federal Bar Association**

- **The Bar Association of the City of Richmond**

President, 2012-2013