

Katie Waites **OF COUNSEL**



EDUCATION

University of South Carolina School of Law, *cum laude*, JD, 2009

Washington & Lee University, *cum laude*, BA, 2006

CONTACT

803.722.7881

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Katie returns to private practice after serving for four years as the senior law clerk to the Chief Bankruptcy Judges of the District of South Carolina, Northern District of California (San Francisco) and Eastern District of Kentucky (Lexington). In those roles, she honed her research, writing, analytic and case management skills, provided counsel to the bankruptcy judges in a variety of complex Chapter 11 and 7 cases, as well as adversary litigation, and developed proficiency in bankruptcy and restructuring law.

Prior to her service with the courts, Katie was in private practice with the Motley Rice mass torts law firm in Charleston SC where she gained significant litigation experience working on cases in various practice areas including securities class actions, consumer fraud protection, and personal and catastrophic injury. Among other work, she managed and negotiated claims for individuals and businesses recovering over \$170 million dollars for her clients injured as a result of the BP oil spill.

With her broad experience, Katie adds an excellent perspective and expertise in handling complex bankruptcy and litigation matters to Beal LLC.

Representative Experience

- » Served as the principal law clerk in high-stakes litigation involving the theft of self-driving technology and intellectual property rights between industry giants Google and Uber, asserting \$245 million in damages.
- » Acted as the principal law clerk in litigation involving over \$300 million in 40 related involuntary and voluntary Chapter 11 and Chapter 7 cases, all connected to a Ponzi real estate investment scheme in California.
- » Served as principal law clerk in the involuntary case filing of a major hospital and health care provider chain in Kentucky, including allegations of Medicare fraud.
- » Served as the principal law clerk in the Chapter 11 case of the largest hemp farm and distributor in Kentucky (between \$100 million and \$500 million in assets and liabilities).
- » Gained substantial experience in preference and fraudulent transfer litigation through involvement in dozens of significant cases.
- » Worked in dozens of cases involving bankruptcy court approved sales of substantially all of debtor's business assets for large businesses, including establishing bidding procedures and preparing sale orders.
- » Coordinated with dozens of co-counsel throughout the southeastern states in filing and negotiating claims against BP oil claim trust.

Professional and Community Involvement

- » Member, State of South Carolina Bar, admitted 2009
- » Member, Advisory Committee on South Carolina Local Bankruptcy Rules and Practice (2022-2023)
- » Member, South Carolina Bankruptcy Law Association (2020-present)
- » Member, American Bankruptcy Institute (2020-present)
- » Member, J Bratton Davis Inn of Court (2022-present)
- » Speaker, South Carolina Bankruptcy Law Association Annual Conference (March 2022)
- » Member, Executive Committee, South Carolina Young Lawyers Division (2017-2019)
- » Chair, Young Lawyers Division Project Service Committee (2017-2019)
- » Volunteer Instructor, Charleston MadPark Community (2023)
- » Volunteer, Charleston Parks Conservancy Party for the Parks Committee (2022)
- » Volunteer, Charleston Empowered Minds (2019)
- » Mentor, Charleston County Bar Mentorship Program (2014)
- » Member, Charleston County Bar Association

Awards and Honors

- » University of South Carolina 3-year Merit Scholarship Recipient
- » American Bar Association Real Property, Probate & Trust Journal Student Editor
- » Student Bar Association Representative (SBA), Legislative Council (2009)
- » University of South Carolina School of Law Pro Bono Award 2008 Recipient
- » University of South Carolina Moot Court Bar Competition Team Member (2008)
- » University of South Carolina Phi Delta Phi Service Fraternity Member
- » South Carolina Bar Young Lawyers Division Star of the Quarter (2017)

Court Admissions

- » U.S. Supreme Court
- » U.S. District Court, District of South Carolina
- » U.S. Bankruptcy Court, District of South Carolina
- » South Carolina State Courts