



ATTORNEY PROFILE

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AREAS OF PRACTICE

Litigation/Trial Law

BAR ADMISSIONS

Georgia

Federal District Courts

US Circuit Courts

US Supreme Court

Stephen M. Forte is the Managing Partner and Chairman of the Executive Committee of Smith, Gambrell & Russell, LLP.

Mr. Forte's trial practice and experience is broad based, having been lead counsel in over 200 major adversary proceedings, including jury and bench trials, arbitrations and appeals. Much of his work in recent years has been focused on class action defense and nationwide complex litigation in the representation of financial institutions and clients in the telecommunications and transportation industries. Mr. Forte regularly litigates in state and federal courts throughout the country, and represents major airlines in litigation worldwide.

He has authored several articles including "What the Attorney-Client Privilege Really Means," "The Uses and Forms of ADR in the U.S.," and "The Warsaw Convention in the Electronic Age."

Mr. Forte has maintained a full-time practice in addition to his leadership responsibilities as Managing Partner and Chairman. He has been recognized five consecutive years in *Chambers USA* as one of the outstanding commercial litigators in the country and as a "dynamic trial attorney." He has been named to *Georgia Super Lawyers* and noted in *The Best Lawyers in America*® several years running for Commercial Litigation.

Mr. Forte is a member of Board of Directors of Metropolitan Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, Atlanta Legal Aid Society, Lawyers Foundation of Georgia, National Diocesan Attorneys Association, Emory University Board of Visitors, Leadership Atlanta Class of 2004 and the International Bar Association.

Mr. Forte is a native of New York City. Prior to joining Smith, Gambrell & Russell, he was a Special Assistant to the Attorney General of Georgia for civil litigation matters.

Mr. Forte received his B.A. from the City University of New York (Phi Beta Kappa) in 1977 and his J.D. from the Emory University School of Law in 1980. He is a frequent lecturer on complex litigation and trends in the legal industry to the American and International Bar Associations.