



Stephen A. Youngblood

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Areas of Practice

Litigation/Trial Practice | Antitrust and Trade Regulation | Health Care

Stephen A. Youngblood is a Senior Associate in the Litigation Practice of Smith, Gambrell & Russell, LLP.

Mr. Youngblood represents clients in litigation matters. His practice focuses on civil and criminal antitrust.

Mr. Youngblood received his B.A., with Honors, in Philosophy with the minor in Astronomy from Swarthmore College in 2012. He earned his J.D. from Duke University School of Law, *Magna Cum Laude*, in 2016. After law school, Mr. Youngblood served two years as a Law Clerk to the Honorable Louise W. Flanagan in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina.

The bulk of Mr. Youngblood's practice consists of defending complex, multi-billion dollar antitrust class actions and criminal investigations or prosecutions conducted by the Department of Justice, Antitrust Division. Additionally, Mr. Youngblood has represented or advised clients in matters involving contract, dealer-termination issues, and suspension and debarment. Mr. Youngblood has represented clients, *pro bono*, in landlord-tenant disputes.

Experience

- Representing Mar-Jac Poultry, Inc., and its affiliates defending three class actions and over 80 opt-out direct actions alleging supply-reduction, market-manipulation, and bid-rigging conspiracies in the market for broiler chicken. *In re Broiler Chicken Antitrust Litigation*, Case No. 1:16-cv-8637 (N.D. Ill.). The plaintiffs in *Broiler Chicken* seek billions of dollars in damages for alleged violations of the Sherman Act, state and federal RICO, and related state laws. Victories to date include obtaining dismissal against three sovereign plaintiffs and settling all three class actions for a small fraction of damages alleged.

Continued

- In a series of related wage-fixing class actions, SGR and Mr. Youngblood successfully obtained dismissal before any discovery commenced. *Jien, et al. v. Perdue Farms, Inc., et al.*, Case No. 1:19-cv-2521-ELH (D. Md.).
- Representing a startup medical device manufacturer in administrative appeals and litigation seeking key approval from relevant state medical agency.
- Representing *pro bono* a former Motown singer in connection with royalty and catalogue-sale disputes.
- Representing an international manufacturer of smart industrial technologies in connection with a distributor-termination dispute.
- Represented a nationwide construction materials manufacturer in a bid-rigging, fraud, and conspiracy investigation and prosecution conducted by the Department of Justice, Antitrust Division.
- Represented physicians in peer-review proceedings before state medical authorities and hospital ad hoc committees.
- Representing a non-profit “pass-through entity” charged with distributing funds under a federal grant for treatment of rare blood diseases in connection with disputes involving a sub-grantee.
- Advised a heavy-equipment dealer regarding its rights under the Georgia Multiline Heavy Equipment Dealer Act in connection with winding up its relationship with a supplier. As part of that wind up, the supplier ultimately agreed to repurchase unsold equipment remaining in the client’s inventory.
- Represented a major food manufacturer in litigation and mediation seeking damages against a supplier for breach of contract based on delivery of contaminated product.

Admissions

Georgia

Memberships

State Bar of Georgia, Antitrust Section

Cooper Inn of Court

Recognitions

Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in America, Commercial Litigation, Atlanta (2023, 2024)