

## **Dana M. Richens**

Partner | Atlanta

Dana M. Richens is a Partner and the Head of the Atlanta Litigation Section of Smith, Gambrell & Russell, LLP.

Ms. Richens's practice is concentrated in commercial litigation. She represents the Firm's domestic and international clients in civil matters in federal and state trial and appellate courts throughout the United States, prosecuting and defending business-related claims for breach of contract, fraud, misappropriation of trade secrets and tortious interference. She also has extensive experience in alternative dispute resolution (ADR) procedures such as arbitration and mediation.

Ms. Richens's practice encompasses a particular emphasis in the field of health care litigation. In addition to representing health care clients in general commercial litigation matters, she has represented health care clients who were targets of qui tam actions brought under the federal False Claims Act and in litigation arising from alleged violations of the anti-kickback and Stark self-referral statutes. Ms. Richens has represented physician clients in litigation arising from peer review activities and also in investigative proceedings before the Georgia Composite State Board of Medical Examiners. She has also represented clients in licensing proceedings before the Georgia Board of Pharmacy and the Georgia Board of Optometry.

### **Representative experience includes the following:**

- Representation of sellers of a national hospitality staffing company in state-court action defending against claims for fraud and breach of representations and warranties arising from the sale
- Representation of a chemical engineering company in federal-court action against a national bank arising from the embezzlement of funds from the company's bank account
- Representation of an international prepaid transaction card company in arbitration of dispute with client over cost-sharing agreement
- Representation of a Hong Kong company in voidable transfer action in federal court against the principals of a U.S. customer



### **Contact Information**

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### **Areas of Practice**

Litigation/Trial Practice

Health Care

Arbitration

Mediation

Appellate Practice

### **Bar Admissions**

Georgia

- Ms. Richens is the editor of the Firm's quarterly magazine, Trust the Leaders.

Ms. Richens also has a particular interest in the representation of manufacturers, distributors, dealers and service providers in the hearth, patio and barbecue (HPB) industry. She is a member of the Board of Governors of the HPB Education Foundation, which oversees education and certification programs affecting the industry. She is a regular speaker on liability avoidance and related topics at the Hearth, Patio & Barbecue Association national and regional conferences. She is also a tennis enthusiast and the Membership Director for the Atlanta Team Tennis Association.

A native of Memphis, Tennessee, Ms. Richens received her B.A. degree, summa cum laude, in Psychology in 1985 from Vanderbilt University, where she was a member of Phi Beta Kappa. She received her J.D. degree in 1991 from the University of Virginia School of Law. Ms. Richens is admitted to practice in Georgia.