



## Joseph S. Dowdy

### Partner

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### Services

Appellate Litigation  
Class Action Defense  
Complex Commercial Litigation  
Lease Disputes & Restructuring  
Litigation

### Industries

Energy  
Financial Services  
Lease Disputes & Restructuring  
Media & Entertainment

Joe Dowdy has been a go-to litigation, trial practice, and appellate practice lawyer at two AmLaw 100 law firms. As part of a national practice, he has helped clients with sophisticated problems, both inside and outside of the courtroom, for over a decade.

Mr. Dowdy's experience includes a broad, general litigation practice involving class actions, commercial disputes and business torts, defense of consumer claims, financial services litigation, real property disputes, challenges to governmental action, and utilities litigation, including matters involving alternative energy providers and interconnection issues. His experience includes pretrial and trial work, as well as appellate advocacy, in state and federal court and in arbitrations.

Financial services companies frequently look to Mr. Dowdy to represent their interests in consumer and commercial litigation, in class action cases, and in responding to regulatory inquiries. He has extensive experience with litigation arising under the federal and state laws that govern the financial services industry, including laws concerning advertising, banking, lending disclosures, consumer protection (such as the TCPA) and loan origination, servicing, and collection.

Clients also ask Mr. Dowdy for risk mitigation and legal counseling outside of the litigation context. He advises executives and business owners regarding compliance issues, transactional matters, and negotiation strategy.

Mr. Dowdy is actively involved in the firm's pro bono work. His contributions include filing petitions for certiorari in the United States Supreme Court on behalf of a whistleblower who uncovered Medicare fraud and homeless citizens being denied access to municipal services. He also submitted an influential amicus brief in the Massachusetts crime lab scandal case and has contributed briefing on other matters of public interest.



Mr. Dowdy holds an AV Preeminent Peer Review Rating™ from Martindale-Hubbell®, a listing for Commercial Litigation in *The Best Lawyers in America*® in 2022 and the four years immediately preceding, and a designation as a North Carolina "Super Lawyer" in 2021 and 2022 and a North Carolina "Rising Star" from 2012 to 2018 by *Super Lawyers* magazine. He was a featured speaker at the fiftieth anniversary of the North Carolina Court of Appeals and the class speaker of thirtieth class of Leadership Raleigh. In 2014, Kilpatrick Townsend awarded him its "Embracing Our Values Award" for extraordinary pro bono and community service efforts. His prior firm awarded him its Renaissance Associate Award for extraordinary achievement in client service, training, pro bono, marketing, recruiting, and mentoring. He is a 2010 graduate of the prestigious Trial Academy of the International Association of Defense Counsel.

## **Experience**

Served as lead trial and appellate counsel for defendants in a class actions alleging, inter alia, violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, the West Virginia Consumer Credit and Protection Act, and other federal and state laws.

Assumed leadership, from another firm, of a large class action case and handled the case through verdict.

Resolved, on favorable terms, a significant class action case following judgment in favor of the class while the matter was pending on appeal.

Secured injunctive relief in multimillion-dollar renewable energy contract dispute.

Negotiated and litigated commercial disputes on behalf of the firm's real estate and energy clients.

Coordinated effective regional litigation strategy in sophisticated jurisdictions for large regional and national financial services companies.

Obtained favorable ruling enforcing arbitration clause and rejecting an opposing party's contention that the Bankruptcy Code preempts the Federal Arbitration Act.

Tried Fifth Amendment case for national telecommunications company following the forced relocation of telecommunications facilities by a large municipality.

Obtained favorable decisions from federal and state appellate courts in cases involving complex jurisdictional issues, discovery, and substantive law.

Led representation of a special committee of a board of directors in a large interested party merger.

## **Education**



University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Law J.D. (2003) *with honors*

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill B.A. (2000) Political Science, *with distinction*

### **Admissions**

North Carolina (2003)

West Virginia (2016)

### **Court Admissions**

North Carolina State, Federal, and Bankruptcy Courts

Supreme Court of the United States

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit

West Virginia State Courts and U.S. District and Bankruptcy Courts for the Southern District of West Virginia

### **Clerkships**

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### **Professional & Community Activities**

North Carolina Association of Defense Attorneys

DRI, Member, Class Action Steering Committee

North Carolina Bar Association, Member

West Virginia Bar Association, Member

American Bar Association, Member

### **Insights**

#### [Events](#)

Small Legal Department Client Summit

March 3, 2022

#### [News Releases](#)

Kilpatrick Townsend Attorneys Honored in the 2022 Edition of The Best Lawyers in America

August 19, 2021

#### [News Releases](#)

32 Kilpatrick Townsend Attorneys Named to the 2020 North Carolina Pro Bono Honor Society



May 18, 2021

[News Releases](#)

Record-Breaking Recognition for Kilpatrick Townsend in The Best Lawyers in America© 2021

August 20, 2020

[News Releases](#)

36 Kilpatrick Townsend Attorneys Named to the 2019 North Carolina Pro Bono Honor Society

May 28, 2020