ROBINSON GRAY
Litigation + Business

# Benjamin Gooding

**MEMBER**

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**BEN'S PRACTICE IS FOCUSED ON APPELLATE ADVOCACY, PROFESSIONAL NEGLIGENCE, AND COMMERCIAL LITIGATION.**

Ben represents lawyers and law firms in legal malpractice suits in both state and federal court arising from estate planning, business, family law, corporate, and litigation matters. He also maintains a broad business litigation practice, handling disputes involving banking litigation, legal actions between members of LLCs, commercial landlord/tenant matters, securities arbitration, and other complex commercial issues.

At Robinson Gray, Ben has written numerous appellate briefs on a variety of legal issues at both the state and federal levels. A former appellate law clerk, he brings valuable perspective to briefing and arguing issues before appellate courts. Ben’s undergraduate studies in business and finance provide him with a strong foundation for understanding the functions, operations, and complexities of the businesses he represents.

**AREAS OF FOCUS**

- Appellate
- Business Litigation
- Legal Liability and Ethics
- Securities and FINRA

## REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Represented lawyers and law firms in numerous legal malpractice suits in both state and federal court arising from estate planning, business, family law, corporate, and litigation matters.
- Represented lawyers before the Office of Disciplinary Counsel for alleged violations of South Carolina Rules of Professional Conduct.
- Represented financial advisors and broker dealers in customer disputes in both state court and the FINRA arbitration forum.
- Represented financial advisors and broker dealers through investigations by FINRA and the South Carolina Attorney General's Securities Division.
- Represented banks in lawsuits brought by customers involving claims of breach of fiduciary duty, negligent misrepresentation, and aiding and abetting a breach of fiduciary duty.
- Represented local business in a zoning appeal from decisions from the zoning administrator and zoning appeal board.
- Represented local business in negotiations with LLR regarding application of South Carolina regulations to business model.
- Represented officers and directors of a failed company in claims of breach of fiduciary duty, negligence, and self-dealing.
- Represented home owners associations in lawsuits brought by disgruntled homeowners.
- Represented business owner in litigated dispute with other owners.
- Represented various parties in appeals from circuit court, family court, and administrative law court.

## RANKINGS AND RECOGNITION

- South Carolina Super Lawyer Rising Star
  - Business Litigation (2019-2020, 2022-2024, 2026)
  - Appellate (2018)
- *Columbia Business Monthly* Legal Elite of the Midlands
  - Business Litigation (2019-2020, 2024)
  - Professional Liability (2023, 2026)
- *Columbia Business Monthly* Best and Brightest 35 and Under (2019)
- Best Lawyers in America
  - Appellate Practice (2027)
  - Commercial Litigation (2022-2027)
  - Professional Malpractice Law – Defendants (2025-2027)
  - Legal Malpractice Law – Defendants (2026, 2027)
  - Utilities Law (2027)

## PUBLICATIONS AND SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Presenter, “Avoiding Legal Malpractice Claims: The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly,” South Carolina Defense Trial Attorneys’ Association Summer Meeting (July 2026)
- CLE Presenter, South Carolina Legal Ethics and Practice Program Trust School (2025)
- Panelist, “Unanswered Questions in SC Legal Malpractice Law,” South Carolina Bar CLE (2025)
- Moderator, “National Trends in Legal Malpractice Claims,” South Carolina Bar CLE (2025)
- Co-Author, *The Law of Legal Malpractice in South Carolina* *Second Edition*, South Carolina Bar CLE Division (2021)
- “Notice of Appeal: Now What? Tips for Your First Time in a South Carolina Appellate Court,” South Carolina Lawyer (May 2017)
- Five Tips on Appellate Writing from a Former Law Clerk, The Advocate’s Journal (2014)

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Judicial Clerk, The Honorable H. Bruce Williams, South Carolina Court of Appeals (2012-2014)

## PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

### Professional

- American Bar Association
- John Belton O’Neall Inn of Court
- South Carolina Bar
  - Chair, Trial and Appellate Advocacy Section (2023)
  - Backpack Drive Committee, Young Lawyers Division (2015-2019)
- Richland County Bar Association
- South Carolina Defense Trial Attorneys’ Association

### Community

- Robinson Gray 20 Years Strong Service Project
- Ezekiel Ministries (formerly Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Columbia)
  - Board of Directors (2016-2023)
- South Carolina Wildlife Federation
  - Chair, Board of Directors (2024-2026)
  - First Vice Chair, Board of Directors (2022)
  - Board of Directors (2017-present)

## CREDENTIALS

### Bar Admissions

- South Carolina Bar

**Court Admissions**

- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the District of South Carolina

**Education**

- University of South Carolina School of Law, J.D., *cum laude* (2012)
  - South Carolina Law Review, Research Editor
  - Order of Wig and Robe
  - Order of the Coif
  - CALI Award for Advanced Legal Writing
- University of Georgia, Terry College of Business, B.B.A. in Finance, *magna cum laude* (2009)
  - UGA Honors Program
  - Leadership (L.E.A.D.) Fellow, Institute for Leadership Advancement

## RELATED INDUSTRIES

- Banking and Financial Services
- Corporate and Business
- Healthcare and Professional Services
- Lawyers and the Legal Profession
- Wealth Transfer Planning