

# **Robert E. Tyson Jr.**

MEMBER

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# ROB IS A MEMBER OF THE FIRM AND PRACTICES IN THE AREAS OF BUSINESS LITIGATION, ADMINISTRATIVE AND REGULATORY LAW, AND ELECTION LAW.

Rob has represented clients before the South Carolina Supreme Court and other levels of state and federal courts and has appeared before many local and state government entities.

He has litigated complex constitutional issues, election law issues, and numerous business disputes. Rob provides counsel on ethics matters including representation before the South Carolina Ethics Commission and the Legislature's Ethics Committees. He has litigated numerous election disputes, with clients including incumbents, challengers, county election commissions and other interested stakeholders. He often appears before local government councils, boards and commissions on issues ranging from procurement to annexation matters. During the 2010 Census cycle, Rob represented local government entities in redistricting challenges. Also, as co-counsel for the South Carolina House of Representatives, he defended the House redistricting plans at the trial court level and through the appeal to the United States Supreme Court. After the 2020 Census was released, Rob again represented local government entities and the legislature in redistricting matters.

Rob also has extensive experience in government law ranging from handling regulatory complaints before state agencies to being counsel for a South Carolina State agency.

Rob also is a South Carolina Certified Mediator. As part of his service to the community, Rob regularly volunteers for groups that provide mediators for small claim matters in magistrate court

# AREAS OF FOCUS

- Administrative & Regulatory
- Business Litigation
- Election Law

# **MERITAS**<sup>®</sup> LAW FIRMS WORLDWIDE

 Probate and Estate Litigation Robinson Gray Stepp & Laffitte, LLC • 2151 Pickens Street • Suite 500 • Columbia, SC, 29201 • 803.929.1400 • robinsongray.com

## **REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS**

- Represented local governments in developing and implementing their redistricting of council districts.
- Represented governmental entities in litigation involving their redistricting plans.
- Represented candidates in election disputes, including litigation stemming from elections.
- Represented candidates and party committees in campaign finance related issues.
- Represented state agency as counsel on all aspects of the agency's responsibilities.

#### RANKINGS AND RECOGNITION

- South Carolina Lawyers Weekly Leadership in Law Awards Lawyer of the Year (2018)
- South Carolina Lawyers Weekly Leadership in Law Honoree (2018)
- Best Lawyers in America
  - Commercial Litigation (2019-2025)
  - Administrative/Regulatory Law (2021-2025)
  - Litigation-Trusts and Estates (2021-2025)
  - Lawyer of the Year, Litigation-Trusts and Estates (2023)
- South Carolina Super Lawyers
  - Government Relations (2024, 2025)
  - Civil Litigation Defense (2022-2023)
- Columbia Business Monthly Legal Elite of the Midlands
  - Government Relations (2023)

## PUBLICATIONS AND SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Panelist, "AI and Local Elections," University of South Carolina Joseph F. Rice School of Law's AI And Elections Symposium (2024)
- Moderator, 'Hot Button Evidentiary Issues in South Carolina's Courts,' South Carolina Defense Trial Attorneys' Association Annual Meeting (2022)
- ELECT Blog: Election Law Essays on Current Topics
- "Qualifications for Coroners," S.C. Association of Coroners (March 2018)
- "Legal Challenges to State Redistricting Practices," Rotary Club of Five Points (February 2018)
- "The Election Process" SC Lawyer (September 2016)
- "Redistricting should I stay or should I go?" MASC Uptown (October 2011)
- "Tweeting and Friending and Following....Oh My!" SCDTAA The Defense Line (Vol 38 Number 2 Summer, 2010)

# PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

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#### Professional

- American Bar Association
  - Member, Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice Section (2009-2015)
- Richland County Bar Association
- South Carolina Insurance Review and Study Committee
- University of South Carolina School of Law
  - Professor, Election Law (2020-present)
- South Carolina Bar
  - House of Delegates (2008-present)
  - Chair, Government Law Section (2008-2010)
  - Former Member, Professional Responsibility Committee
  - Former Member, Practice & Procedure Committee
  - Former Member, Administrative & Regulatory Committee
- Federal Bar Association
  - Member, Litigation Committee
- South Carolina Defense Trial Attorneys' Association
  - Board of Directors (2013-present)
  - Chair, Legislative Committee
  - · Speaker/Breakout Leader, Trial Academy
  - Presenter, Annual Meeting
- South Carolina Administrative and Regulatory Law Association
- Supreme Court of South Carolina Certified Mediator

#### Community

- Leukemia Society, Light the Night Walk
  - Recognized as Outstanding Volunteer (2014, 2015)
- Richland County School District One
  - Former Commissioner (2006-2012)
- Shandon United Methodist Church
  - · Youth Sunday School teacher
  - Confirmation Mentor
  - Former Committee Chair, Council on Ministries
- South Carolina Chamber of Commerce
  - Member, Education & Workforce Committee

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# CREDENTIALS

### **Bar Admissions**

- South Carolina Bar
- Mississippi Bar

#### **Court Admissions**

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

## Education

- University of Mississippi School of Law, J.D. (1987)
- University of Tennessee, B.A. (1983)

## **RELATED INDUSTRIES**

- <u>Corporate and Business</u>
- Energy and Public Utilities
- Government and Public Sector
- Wealth Transfer Planning

