

Carter F. Thurman

Partner

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With an undergraduate degree in Natural Resources and a master's degree in Environmental Science and Engineering, Carter enjoys diving deep into the science behind each case. Driven by a strong work ethic and his attention to detail, Carter focuses on defending large corporations in products liability cases often having a scientific bent.

As a trial team member, Carter's experience includes prosecuting commercial contract claims against a large company that formerly co-owned and operated a chemical plant under both breach of contract and contractual indemnification causes of action with hundreds of millions of dollars at stake. His experience also includes representing large pharmaceutical companies in products liability litigation, where he has authored a wide variety of motions and briefs, including summary judgment. Carter also relies on his prior work as a groundwater hydrologist to represent clients in toxic tort and groundwater contamination matters involving various chemicals, including PFAS.

Prior to joining the firm, Carter was a trial attorney through the honors program at the U.S. Department of Justice, Environment and Natural Resources Division. In that role, he litigated complex cases involving NEPA, CAA, Federal Aid Highway Act, Mineral Leasing Act, FLPMA, and the Fifth Amendment takings clause. He gained significant experience in motions practice, taking and defending fact and expert depositions, and leading E-Discovery efforts involving document collection from multiple federal agencies. Carter gained significant oral argument and trial experience, including directing and crossing witnesses, and presenting opening and closing arguments. His work at the Justice Department also included defending agency actions under the APA and defending against challenges to rulemakings.

Following law school, Carter clerked at the Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. While there, he assisted empaneled three-judge boards hearing suits under the Atomic Energy Act and the National Environmental Policy Act, regarding nuclear safety, security, and the environment.

Having played baseball in college, Carter has high hopes of reviving the firm's softball team post-pandemic. He is a member of the firm's Recruitment Committee.

Services

Business Interruption & Commercial Disputes
Complex Litigation
Pharmaceutical & Medical Device
Risk Mitigation & Management
Toxic Torts & Products Liability

Education

Emory University School of Law (J.D., 2012, *with honors*)
Colorado School of Mines (M.S., 2009)
The University of the South (B.S., 2006)

Admissions

District of Columbia and Georgia
United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan
United States District Court for the District of Nebraska

Memberships

American Bar Association, Section of Litigation
American Bar Association, Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources
American Bar Association, Section of Tort Trial & Insurance Practice
District of Columbia Bar, Section of Litigation
District of Columbia Bar, Section of Environment, Energy and Natural Resource