



# R. Bryan Barnes

## Member

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Columbia, SC

Direct 803.744.1273

## EDUCATION

University of South Carolina School of Law,  
J.D., 1986

Furman University, B.A., Phi Beta Kappa, 1982

## ADMISSIONS

South Carolina, 1986

United States District Court, District of South  
Carolina, 1986

United States Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit,  
1987

## MEMBERSHIPS

South Carolina Bar  
-Construction Law Section

Richland County Bar Association

American Bar Association  
-Forum Committee on the Construction Industry

South Carolina Defense Trial Attorneys'  
Association

DRI – Association for Lawyers Defending  
Business

The Council on Litigation Management

## AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Best Lawyers in the Midlands, Columbia  
Metropolitan (2011- Present)

Martindale Hubbell rating – AV

South Carolina Legal Elite – Construction,  
Columbia Business Monthly (2021)

## PRACTICE AREAS

**Construction, Construction Defect Litigation, Product Liability and Toxic Tort, Bid Protests, Surety Work, Commercial Explosives**

Bryan Barnes is a member at Rogers Townsend LLC's Columbia office. Bryan's practice focuses on construction and environmental litigation although during his 37 years of practice he has handled a wide variety of business litigation.

Since the mid-1990s Bryan has handled over 400 products liability cases arising from construction products including five types of exterior cladding. Bryan's litigation experience in this area is far reaching, from cases with excessively large claims (exceeding \$3 billion) to those involving millions of pages of documents to more ordinary sized cases involving mediations, trials, appellate practice and class actions. Example of his experience include:

Serving as national counsel for a large insurer's EIFS manufacturer insureds defending cases in 26 states, successfully resisting class certification and taking cases to trial in SC, NJ, MS and PA.

Representing a tech company in protecting \$22,000,000 government contract from bid protests.

Obtaining a nuisance value settlement for a cladding manufacturer in the second week of trial in PA immediately after cross examining plaintiff's expert.

Persuading the Second Department in New York to grant summary judgment after the trial court had refused on economic loss rule grounds in a cladding case involving new apartments in Long Island where the claimed damages exceeded \$100,000,000. The opinion is published.

Two other areas where Bryan has significant experience are general products liability and blasting. Among the products he has defended are coal combustion residuals, coatings, MEKP, Benzene, one coat stucco, windows, batteries, manufactured stone veneer, septic tanks, roofing products, flexcrete, tanks, paint, acid, shutters, vents, and Chinese drywall. Bryan has defended numerous blasting cases in Alabama, Kentucky, Virginia, Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

Bryan also regularly handles bid protests in the context of public procurement as well as having handled personal injury defense across his career beginning from the earliest days.

Bryan has spoken to insurers and others on construction damages, experts, Daubert, and technology assisted review, among other topics.

Bryan served as a law clerk to the Honorable Joseph F. Anderson, Jr. of the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina and the Honorable James E. Moore, South Carolina Circuit Judge now retired Senior Associate Justice of the South Carolina Supreme Court.