



Jeffrey J. Hines
Partner

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Jeff Hines is a partner with Goodell DeVries. Prior to joining the firm in 2003, he was the managing principal of a regional law firm's District of Columbia and Virginia offices. Jeff is licensed in Maryland, the District of Columbia, and Virginia, and has represented clients in trials and appeals in all three jurisdictions. His areas of practice include professional malpractice, toxic tort and environmental litigation, pharmaceutical litigation, product liability, and commercial, securities, and employment litigation. Most recently, he defended a baby powder manufacturer in a jury trial in San Francisco in 2024. The case settled after opening statements. In 2023, he successfully defended a food manufacturer in a two-week jury trial in Baltimore City.

Jeff is the firm's General Counsel and serves on the three-person Executive Committee.

Practice Areas

- Product Liability
 - Pharmaceutical and Medical Device Litigation
- Toxic Tort and Environmental Litigation
- Professional Liability
- Employment Litigation
- FINRA and Securities
- Accounting Malpractice

Court Admissions

- District of Columbia
- Maryland
- Virginia
- United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia
- United States District Court for the District of Columbia
- United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit
- United States District Court for the District of Maryland

- United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia

Education

- University of Maryland, School of Law (J.D., with Honors, 1985)
- University of Maryland (B.S., 1981)

Professional Experience

- Goodell DeVries – Partner (2003-Present)
- Eccleston & Wolf, P.C., District of Columbia Office – Managing Principal (1997-2003)
- Eccleston & Wolf, P.C. – Principal (1990-1997)
- Eccleston & Wolf, P.C. – Associate (1985-1990)

Professional Associations

- The Trial Network

Representative Matters

PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY

Jeff defends attorneys, healthcare providers, realtors, clergy, social workers, and other professionals in malpractice claims brought in Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia. In 2014, Jeff tried a five-day legal malpractice case involving the sale of a restaurant. In 2013, Jeff successfully tried a six-week medical malpractice jury trial in the Circuit Court for Baltimore County. And in 2011, Jeff successfully tried a legal malpractice claim before a jury in the Circuit Court for Montgomery County. That same year, Jeff also tried a will caveat case in the Orphans' Court for Prince George's County, Maryland. In 2008, Jeff successfully tried a will construction case in the Circuit Court for Montgomery County. In 2005, he convinced a federal judge in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia to apply Virginia law regarding the non-assignability of legal malpractice claims, substantially reducing an insurance company's claims against its panel counsel. In 2004, Jeff obtained a defense verdict in Maryland for an accountant who

allegedly provided improper tax advice. In December 2003, Jeff successfully tried a wrongful adoption matter involving allegations of child trafficking and brain damage in the Circuit Court for Montgomery County. Jeff was able to strike plaintiff's expert neuropsychologist for basing his opinion on unreliable data.

At his prior firm, Jeff obtained a defense verdict after a three-week jury trial in a sexual abuse case brought against a psychologist in the Circuit Court for Fairfax County. In addition, Jeff obtained a defense verdict in a multi-million dollar case against an attorney brought in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. Jeff has also defended attorneys and healthcare providers in matters before disciplinary boards. As a service to his clients, Jeff provides in-house educational seminars to professionals to assist them in avoiding claims.

PHARMACEUTICAL AND MEDICAL DEVICE LITIGATION

Jeff currently represents an industry client in various litigations, including defense of consumer product claims. Jeff represented AstraZeneca in the Seroquel and the pain pump litigations. He was part of the national team representing Wyeth in fen-phen litigation. At his prior firm, Jeff handled a variety of product liability claims involving products ranging from contact lenses to light industrial lifts. Jeff was also Scottsdale Insurance Company's national coverage counsel for claims arising out of the national firearms product liability litigation.

TOXIC TORT AND ENVIRONMENTAL LITIGATION

Jeff represents an industry client in defending asbestos and talc claims. He assists in developing global defense strategies and serves on the national trial team. Jeff formally served as the national counsel coordinating a major sand supplier's national defense of silicosis claims. In that capacity, he oversaw expert development, conducted training seminars for defense counsel, coordinated discovery, directed settlement negotiations, and participated on trial teams.

FINRA

Jeff defends broker-dealers and individual financial services professionals in customer dispute cases filed with FINRA, as well as in investigations undertaken by FINRA. To that end, he has prepared responses to FINRA's Enforcement Department and has defended respondents in Rule 8210 examinations. Jeff also frequently lectures on FINRA issues, including the potential impact on the securities industry of various new rules proposed by FINRA and the Securities and Exchange Commission.

COMMERCIAL AND BUSINESS TORT LITIGATION

In 2010, Jeff tried a multi-million dollar case in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware. In 2009, Jeff tried a three-week case in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia arising out of the sale of an Alabama radio station. For over 10 years, Jeff was national counsel for Parents Without Partners, Inc., the largest single-parent organization in the world whose members at one time exceeded 250,000. In his capacity as national counsel, Jeff attended all Board of Director meetings and served on the executive committee. Jeff handled employment claims, prepared all corporate filings, dealt directly with the Internal Revenue Service on 501(c)(3) issues, advised the Board as to its duties and responsibilities, and prepared or reviewed all contracts. Jeff also lectured throughout the United States at local chapters regarding their legal and ethical obligations, and assisted local counsel in the defense of claims filed against the corporation. Jeff also represents corporations regarding compliance with ethical obligations.

Publications and Seminars

- Presenter, "A [Plaintiff's] World of Pure Imagination," Top Gun Litigation: Courtroom Mavericks, The Trial Network (October 24-27, 2024)
- Presenter, "[Panel Discussion: 21st Century MDLs – The New Wild West](#)," The Trial Network (April 27-30, 2023)
- Jeffrey J. Hines, Esq. and Michael A. Pichini, Esq., "[Silica Tort Reform - A National Overview](#)," Harris Martin Publishing, Columns - Silica, Sept. 2005, Vol. 3, No. 12, at 2.

Honors and Awards

- Best Lawyers in America
 - "Lawyer of the Year" Award for Baltimore Legal Malpractice Law — Defendants (2012, 2014)
 - "Lawyer of the Year" Award for Baltimore Mass Tort Litigation/Class Actions — Defendants (2013)
 - Legal Malpractice Law — Defendants (2006-Present)
 - Legal Malpractice Law — Defendants — Legal Ethics (2011-2014)
 - Professional Malpractice Law — Defendants (2020-Present)
 - Litigation - Labor and Employment (2019-Present)

- Mass Tort Litigation/Class Actions — Defendants (2013-Present)
- Product Liability Litigation — Defendants (2012-Present)
- Maryland Super Lawyers
 - Product Liability Defense (2009-2011, 2014-2025)
- AV Preeminent Rated, Martindale Hubbell