



Erin Palmer Polly

Partner

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OVERVIEW

Erin Palmer Polly is a partner and a trusted advisor who provides clients with balanced and practical advice, strategically guiding them through complex matters. A respected trial lawyer, Erin is a member of the firm's Commercial Disputes practice group and focuses her practice in the areas of business and commercial disputes, including provider-payor disputes. She has tried cases in federal and state courts, as well as before arbitration panels. Erin regularly represents health care providers in commercial disputes, including representation in provider-payor disputes ranging from US\$17 million to US\$240 million before state and federal courts and arbitration panels, and including in an appeal to the Tennessee Supreme Court.

ACHIEVEMENTS

National

- Recognized by *Chambers USA* for Litigation: General Commercial in Tennessee, 2024-2025
- Benchmark Litigation, Future Star, 2018, 2022-2023, 2026
- Recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America*®
 - Commercial Litigation, 2018-2026
 - Personal Injury Litigation - Defendants, 2018-2026
- *Lawdragon* 500 Leading Litigators in America, 2022, 2024-2026
- Recognized by *The Legal 500 United States* as a Recommended Lawyer for General Commercial Disputes, 2023, 2025
- The National Law Journal, Top Verdicts of 2016, \$22,200,000
- Super Lawyers®
 - Named to Mid-South Super Lawyers list, Civil Litigation: Defense, 2018-2025
 - Named to the Mid-South Super Lawyers list, Top 100 Lawyers in Tennessee, 2022-2025

- Named to the Mid-South Super Lawyers list, Top 50 Women Lawyers in the Southeast, 2022-2025
- Named to Mid-South Rising Stars List, Civil Litigation: Defense, 2010-2017

Local

- Best of the Bar, *Nashville Business Journal*, 2016-2024
- Women of Influence, *Nashville Business Journal*, 2023
- Top 40 Under 40, *Nashville Business Journal*, 2017
- Fellow, Tennessee Bar Foundation, 2019
- Fellow, Nashville Bar Foundation, 2015
- President's Award, Nashville Bar Association, 2015, 2024
- Impact Award, Nashville Bar Association Young Lawyers Division, 2025
- President's Award, Lawyers' Association for Women, Marion Griffin Chapter, 2024
- Legal Aid Society, Volunteer Lawyers Program Pro Bono Leadership Award, 2014
- Enterprise Award, Nashville Bar Association Young Lawyers Division, 2007
- Maryville College Kin Takahashi Award for Young Alumni, 2006

PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Tennessee Bar Association
 - Leadership Law Program, Class of 2014
- Nashville Bar Association
 - Past President, 2018
 - Young Lawyers Division Past President, 2014
- Nashville Bar Foundation
 - Past President, 2024
- Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberlandands
 - Board of Directors
 - 2019 Campaign for Equal Justice Chair
- Tennessee Lawyer's Fund for Client Protection
 - Past Chair, 2020-2021

- Harry Phillips American Inn of Court
- Belmont University College of Law Dean's Advisory Council
- Lawyers' Association for Women, Marion Griffin Chapter
- Maryville College Board of Directors
- Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel
- Young Leaders Council, Class 45

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Presenter, "Federal Courts," Nashville Bar Foundation Leadership Forum, 11 January 2023
- Presenter, "How to Break-Up with Your Worst Client," Lawyers' Association for Women, Marion Griffin Chapter, 15 February 2022
- Presenter, "Litigation Alternatives," International Trademark Association Roundtable, 21 June 2017
- Presenter, "Making the Most of Discovery: What You Don't Know Can Come Back to Haunt You," Tennessee Bar Association, 7 April 2016
- Presenter, "Making the Most of Discovery: What You Don't Know Can Come Back to Haunt You," Tennessee Bar Association, 2 April 2015

EDUCATION

- J.D., University of Tennessee College of Law, 2002 (*cum laude*)
- B.A., Maryville University, 1999 (*summa cum laude*)

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of Tennessee
- United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee
- United States District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee
- United States District Court for the Western District of Tennessee

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP *POWERED BY HUB*

- 25 January 2023, Litigation Minute: New Year's (Dispute) Resolutions
- 13 December 2022, Litigation Minute: Year in Review—Trending Topics Across the 2022 Litigation Spectrum
- September 2022, September 2022 Accolades
- May 2022, May 2022 Accolades
- May 2021, May 2021 Accolades

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- "The World Trade Organization Slips Up: A Critique of the World Trade Organization's Dispute Settlement Understanding Through the European Union Banana Dispute," *Tennessee Law Review*, Vol. 69, 2002

NEWS & EVENTS

- 5 June 2025, K&L Gates Receives More Than 240 Firm, Individual Rankings in 2025 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 6 June 2024, K&L Gates Receives More Than 200 Firm, Individual Rankings in 2024 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 18 August 2022, More Than 350 K&L Gates Lawyers Named Among 2023 Best Lawyers in America, Ones to Watch
- 19 August 2021, Nearly 300 K&L Gates Lawyers Named Among 2022 Best Lawyers in America, Ones to Watch
- 3 February 2021, K&L Gates Launches Nashville Office With Hire of 25+ Lawyers

OTHER MEDIA MENTIONS

- A *Nashville Business Journal* article notes Erin Palmer Polly was recognized among the publication's 2023 "Women of Influence" winners.
- A *Nashville Business Journal (online)* article notes Nashville partners Kim Looney and Erin Palmer Polly were recognized among the publication's 2022 Best of the Bar honorees.
- Mentioned, "In Charge 2022: Legal," *Nashville Post*, 23 April 2022
- "Announcing the 2021 Best of the Bar honorees," *Nashville Business Journal*, 21 May 2021

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Commercial Disputes
- Class Action Defense

- Employment Investigations
- Healthcare Payor-Provider Disputes (US)
- Internal Investigations
- Professional Liability
- Trade Secrets Litigation

INDUSTRIES

- Life Sciences

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Defended a North Carolina hospital system against breach of contract, unjust enrichment, and Unfair and Deceptive Trade Practices Act class action claims, and secured a complete dismissal of all claims asserted against the client at the motion to dismiss stage.
- Represented the nation's largest private corrections company and local governments with respect to civil rights litigation, class action matters, commercial disputes, internal investigations, and professional liability defense.
- Represented providers and payors in provider/payor disputes ranging from US\$17 million to US\$240 million before state and federal courts and arbitration panels and including in an appeal to the Tennessee Supreme Court.
- Represented national retail companies in intellectual property matters and specifically in matters involving claims of trade dress and trademark infringement.
- Represented a multinational consumer credit reporting company in Fair Credit Reporting Act matters.
- Obtained a US\$22.2 million jury verdict in federal court on behalf of the largest dental practice in Middle Tennessee against a national dental insurance company related to violations of the First Amendment.
- Represented national hospital companies and physician practice groups in professional liability matters as well as with respect to contract negotiations and internal investigations.
- Represented companies and individuals in a variety of business and commercial matters involving claims of breach of contract, interference with business relationships, misappropriation of trade secrets, procurement of breach of contract, product liability, and unfair competition.
- Represented a national retail company in a commercial dispute alleging breach of contract and business torts with respect to a US\$400 million program for extended warranties on consumer electronics in the Delaware Chancery Court and in a subsequent arbitration.

- Represented a healthcare company in a 15-year False Claims Act case seeking damages of hundreds of millions of dollars based on alleged claims of false billing practices.