



John R. Branson

Shareholder

Memphis | 901.577.2323 | jbranson@bakerdonelson.com

John R. Branson represents clients in the resolution of disputes through litigation and alternative means as appropriate.

Mr. Branson is a member of the Firm's Litigation and Intellectual Property Groups and is a shareholder based in the Firm's Downtown Memphis office; he also operates from the Firm's East Memphis office as needed.

Mr. Branson enjoys handling disputes in a wide variety of substantive areas, rather than specializing in a narrow area of substantive law. He has extensive experience with litigation, arbitration and mediation in a variety of areas, including:

- Complex family law matters
- Class actions
- Commercial and business litigation
- Medical and legal malpractice defense
- Copyright, trademark, patent, and trade secret cases
- Bankruptcy adversary proceedings
- Corporate governance and stockholder disputes
- Banking
- Securities
- Health care
- Construction
- Fraud and RICO matters
- Personal injury cases for both plaintiffs and defendants
- Libel/slander
- Will contests, trust litigation, conservatorships and other probate litigation
- Investigations of public corruption
- SEC investigations of public companies

Mr. Branson has tried numerous jury and non-jury cases, including acting as lead counsel in a class-action jury trial that lasted for about a month. He was co-lead counsel for a plaintiff, resulting in a settlement of \$5.91 million. He also has participated in many arbitrations before the AAA, NASD and MSRB, and numerous judicial and non-judicial mediations, and has handled over a dozen appeals in the Tennessee Court of Appeals, the Supreme Court of Tennessee, and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. He is licensed to practice law in Tennessee and Mississippi.



Case Studies

- [Minimal Damages in \\$1.2 Billion Class Action Trial - Class Action Litigation](#)



Representative Matters

- Initiated a will contest and successfully defended an appellate procedural challenge to the contest, obtaining a favorable ruling from the Court of Appeals on every issue raised.
- Successfully defended a cross-appeal to the Tennessee Court of Appeals of a Suggestion of Remittitur on behalf of the appellee in a case arising from a fatal dog attack.

- Successfully represented the ex-spouse of a CPA with regard to very complex issues arising from his preparation of their tax returns and conduct of their business matters
- Obtained a very favorable settlement of a claim that our client, a funeral home, had failed to conduct a proper embalming of deceased human remains, causing emotional distress to the decedent's survivors.



Professional Honors & Activities

- AV® Preeminent™ Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell
- Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® in Health Care Litigation, 2021, 2022; Intellectual Property Litigation, 2022
- Listed in *Mid-South Super Lawyers* in General Litigation, 2020
- Chairman – General, Solo & Small Firm Section of Tennessee Bar Association, 1997 – 1998
- Chairman – Continuing Legal Education Committee of Memphis Bar Association, 1997
- Volunteer Litigator – Community Legal Services
- Memphis Bar Foundation
- *Lawyers' Journal Club*



Publications

- "Parties Draft Own Pre-nup, Waiver of Alimony Held Invalid" (February 2019)
- "How a Billion-Dollar Dispute Became an \$18K Verdict," *Trial Spotlight Newsletter* (February 2019)
- "What a Trial Looks Like from a Juror's Point of View," ABA Section of Litigation (October 2018)



Speaking Engagements

- Presenter – "Using Financial Experts in Family Law Litigation," Memphis Bar Association (September 2020)
- Presenter/Moderator – "The Cares Act: Update," client presentation (April 2020)
- Presenter/Moderator – "Do's and Don'ts of a Successful Mediation," Memphis Bar Association, Family Law Section (July 2018)



Education

- University of Mississippi Law School, J.D., 1984
 - Research Editor & Managing Editor, *Mississippi Law Journal*
 - Chairman – Law School Election Commission
 - Student Senator, University Senate
- University of Mississippi, B.B.A. in Marketing, 1981



Admissions

- Tennessee, 1984
- Mississippi, 1984