



Chris Barrett

Associate

Nashville | 615.726.5646 | cbarrett@bakerdonelson.com

Chris Barrett concentrates his practice in employment litigation on the state and federal levels.

Chris Barrett is an associate in Baker Donelson's Nashville office and a member of the Advocacy Department.

Chris is a labor and employment attorney with significant experience in state and federal court employment litigation involving FLSA, ADA, Title VII, FMLA, THRA, and TDA claims. In addition, he has a background in administrative agency proceedings before the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the United States Department of Labor, and the Tennessee Human Rights Commission including mediations and the drafting of position statements. Chris also has significant experience in matters involving restrictive covenants and trade secrets. Chris is a frequent author and presenter on employment law topics.

Prior to joining Baker Donelson, Chris worked for a Nashville law firm where he practiced labor and employment law. Prior to entering private practice, Chris served as a law clerk at the Connecticut Appellate Court and the Connecticut Superior Court. During law school, he served as a law clerk for the United States Air Force Judge Advocate General in Washington, D.C. and as an extern at the United States Federal District Court in Hartford, Connecticut.

Representative Matters

- Supported trial team that achieved \$7.4 million verdict in copyright infringement lawsuit.
- Blocked service of summons in action on judgment in California where client faced \$600,000 in liability.
- Successfully argued motion to dismiss case in state court matter leading to dismissal of case and nonsuit in related case.

Professional Honors & Activities

- Named a *Best Lawyers in America*® "Ones to Watch" in Litigation - Labor and Employment (2022)
- Member – MT SHRM Young Professionals Committee
- Martha O'Bryan Center Ambassador – NextUp

Publications

- "No Chill: The Future of Employee Handbook Standards at the NLRB," republished in *New Orleans CityBusiness* (August 2021)
- "Recent Union Organizing Efforts and What Employers Can Do," republished in *Corporate Counsel* (August 2021)
- "Texas Federal Court Rules in Employer's Favor on Groundbreaking Mandatory Vaccine Lawsuit" (June 14, 2021)
- "Out of Juice? Identifying and Addressing 'Burnout'," *Litigation News*, American Bar Association (May 2021)
- "Round One Goes to the Company: Lessons Learned from Amazon's Union Organizing Drive" (April 2021)
- "Are Your Mandatory Arbitration Agreements Still Enforceable?" (April 2021)

- "Biden Administration Rollback: Are Collegiate Students Employees?," republished in *New Orleans CityBusiness* (March 2021)
- "Best Practices for Voir Dire," *Trial Evidence*, ABA's Section of Litigation Newsletter (Winter 2021)
- Co-author – "Return to Work Analysis for Vulnerable Employees During COVID-19," republished in *Westlaw* (May 14, 2020)



Speaking Engagements

- Coordinator/Moderator – "Effective Closing Arguments," ABA Section of Litigation Trial Practice Committee and Trial Evidence Committee (June 2021)
- "How to Manage ADA- and FMLA-Related Leave," National Business Institute (April 2021)
- "Using Handbooks to Protect Against Legal Liabilities: With Example Policies," National Business Institute (November 2020)
- "Hiring and Firing: Legal Do's and Don'ts for Crucial HR Functions," National Business Institute (November 2020)
- "Human Resource Law Boot Camp," National Business Institute (November 2018)
- "Application of the FMLA Beyond the 50/75 Rule," Nashville Bar Association Employment Law Institute (October 2018)
- "Human Resource Law: What You Need to Know Now," National Business Institute (November 2017)
- "Human Resource Law from A to Z," National Business Institute (November 2016)



Webinars

- Best Practices for Staying Union-Free in Today's Pro-Employee Environment (August 2021)
- The National Labor Relations Act: Risks for the Unwary Employer (May 2021)
- Job Descriptions and Separation Agreements: Having Your Critical Documents Together for 2021 (January 2021)



Education

- University of Connecticut School of Law, J.D., 2010
 - Note and Comment Editor – *Connecticut Public Interest Law Journal*
- Saint Anselm College, B.A., 2006



Admissions

- Tennessee, 2014
- Connecticut, 2010
- California, 2020
- Federal District of Connecticut, 2011
- Federal Middle District of Tennessee, 2015