

WILLIAM MELL GRIFFIN III

PRODUCT LIABILITY

PARTNER

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— BIOGRAPHY

William Mell Griffin III is a Partner in the Litigation Practice Group. With a reputation that precedes him, Griffin has over 40 years of experience and has represented clients in areas of businesses, non-profits, healthcare organizations, corporations, and individual clients in Arkansas and across the United States. Griffin serves as Vice-Chairman of the firm's Management Committee and heads the Litigation practice group.

Griffin represents major manufacturers nationally in product liability and other litigation. His work also includes the defense of medical malpractice and general liability cases. He has handled cases in nearly every state in the United States, having tried 90 jury trials. He has been a lead counsel in the defense of manufacturers in lawsuits brought by dozens of municipalities. He handled one of the most significant matters litigated before the Consumer Product Safety Commission in recent years.

Griffin is respected by judges and his peers for his extensive jury trial experience in both State and Federal Courts. He has often lectured on various aspects of litigation practice. He is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and an Advocate in the American Board of Trial Advocates. He is recognized as a Litigation Star in Benchmark Litigation. He has been ranked by Chambers USA, Best Lawyers in America, and Mid-South Super Lawyers in multiple areas of law.

— EDUCATION

- Southern Methodist University School of Law, J.D., 1982
- University of Virginia, B.A., 1979

— NOTEWORTHY

- Named 2025 Outstanding Lawyer of the Year by the Arkansas Bar Foundation and the Arkansas Bar Association
- Awarded Litigation Star by *Benchmark Litigation*
- American College of Trial Lawyers, Fellow
- Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*, since 1997
 - Personal Injury Litigation
 - Commercial Litigation
 - Bet-the-Company Litigation

Practice Areas

- Product Liability
- Medical Malpractice
- Litigation
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Commercial Litigation & Regulatory
- Covenants Not to Compete
- Insurance Defense
- Pharmaceutical & Medical Device Litigation
- Torts & Insurance
- Health Law

Industries

- Agriculture & Agribusiness
- Banking & Finance
- Construction & Real Estate
- Education
- Energy, Natural Resources & Utilities
- Gaming & Horse Racing
- Healthcare, Medical & Pharmaceutical
- Insurance
- Manufacturing & Industrial
- Professional Services
- Transportation & Logistics
- Technology, Media & Telecommunications (TMT)
- Retail, Franchise & Consumer Products

- Insurance and Medical Malpractice – Defendants, since 2019
- Named “Lawyer of the Year” by *Best Lawyers in America*, Little Rock – Litigation Insurance
- Named Local Litigation Star by *Benchmark Litigation*, 2017
- Ranked in *Chambers USA: America’s Leading Lawyers for Business*, General Litigation, 2020
- Rated AV Preeminent by Martindale–Hubbell
- Selected to the *Mid-South Super Lawyers* List, 2012 to present;
 - Top 50: Arkansas

— ASSOCIATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

- American Bar Foundation, Fellow
- American Bar Association, Tort and Insurance Practice Section
- American Board of Trial Advocates, Advocate
- American College of Trial Lawyers, Fellow
- Arkansas Association of Defense Counsel
- Arkansas Bar Association
- Arkansas Easter Seals Society, VIP Chairman, 1988–1999
- DRI (formerly Defense Research Institute)
- Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel
- Phi Delta Phi
- Pulaski County Bar Association, 1982–present; President, 2006–2007
- Trial Attorneys of America, Product Liability Defense
- VOCALS, (Volunteers for Center for Arkansas Legal Services) Board of Directors and Chairman, 1997–2005
- William R. Overton American Inn of Court Master of the Bench, 1991–2020; Counselor, President, 2006–2007

— ADMISSIONS

- Arkansas, 1982
- Numerous Admissions Pro Hac Vice throughout the United States
- United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit
- United States District Court for the Eastern and Western Districts of Arkansas

— RECOGNITION



— REPRESENTATIVE CLIENTS

National Product Liability Counsel for:

- Browning Arms Company
- Daisy Manufacturing Company

- JT Sports
- U.S. Repeating Arms Company, Inc.

Insurance Company Clients:

- The Doctors Company
- XL Insurance Companies
- CNA Insurance Companies