



## Corey J. Goerdts

*Director of Pro Bono & Community  
Engagement*

Atlanta

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### ***Service Focus***

- Counseling and Advice
- Litigation and Trials

### ***Overview***

In 2022, Fisher Phillips became the first and only national management-side labor and employment firm to invest in a full-time attorney solely dedicated to leading pro bono and community engagement initiatives. As the firm's Director of Pro Bono & Community Engagement, Corey engages attorneys and staff in each Fisher Phillips office to realize the Firm's vision of making a positive difference in the communities where we live and work through pro bono legal representations, community engagement, and philanthropy.

Under Corey's leadership and in coordination with pro bono liaisons in each Fisher Phillips office, the firm's pro bono initiatives provide opportunities for attorneys in each of our offices to give back to our communities in a variety of ways, including:

- **Employment advice and counsel for non-profit organizations** that serve underrepresented and disadvantaged communities
- **Military veteran** legal clinics and representations referred by legal services organizations;
- **Representing asylum seekers** in immigration proceedings through partnerships with organizations including Kids in Need of Defense and the Georgia Asylum & Immigration Network;
- **Domestic violence restraining order** representations referred by local legal service organizations;

- **Court-appointed representations of minors** in family law and similar proceedings (i.e., adoptions, dependency actions and serving as guardian ad litem); and
- **Gender affirming name change representations** through local referral organizations.

Corey also leads the firm's FP Cares community engagement initiatives, through which staff and attorneys in our offices across the country give back to our communities through service projects and philanthropic initiatives. Fisher Phillips teams partner with local organizations every holiday season and throughout the year to organize donation drives and volunteer activities. A summary of our 2022 FP Cares holiday initiatives can be found [here](#).

Corey has spent his entire legal career at Fisher Phillips, starting as a summer associate and spending years as an employee defection and trade secrets litigator. As an associate, Corey led the firm's Atlanta office pro bono initiatives, forming partnerships with the Pro Bono Partnership of Atlanta, Georgia Asylum and Immigration Network, and the Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation's Domestic Violence Project. Additionally, Corey has worked in political campaign management roles across the country, most recently leading voter protection efforts in Georgia during the 2020 and 2021 elections.

## ***Recent Experience***

### **Experience**

- In departing employee case, successfully convinced Alabama court to apply Georgia law in dispute, thereby invalidating non-compete covenant and allowing client's new business to operate in Georgia. *DJR Assocs., LLC v. Hammonds*, 241 F. Supp. 3d 1208 (N.D. Ala. 2017).
- As a member of the University of Georgia School of Law's Appellate Litigation Clinic, Corey earned a victory for a pro bono client in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit. After full briefing and oral argument, the court reversed the district court, allowing Corey's client to proceed with his § 1983 8th Amendment claim in a published decision. *Brooks v. Warden*, 800 F.3d 1295 (11th Cir. 2015).

## ***Credentials***

### **Education**

- J.D., 2015, cum laude, University of Georgia School of Law
- B.A., 2009, Brown University

### **Bar Admissions**

- Georgia

### **Court Admissions**

- Georgia Court of Appeals

- Georgia Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia

## ***Recognitions***

- Recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America*, Ones to Watch (2022 - 2024)
- Selected for inclusion in the *Daily Report's* 2019 "On the Rise" class
- 2015 ABA Section of Labor and Employment Law Award for Excellence in the Study of Labor and Employment Law
- 2015 Donald P. Gilmore, Jr. Memorial Award for Excellence in the Study of Labor & Employment Law

## ***Affiliations***

- Member, American Bar Association
- Member, Association of Pro Bono Counsel
- SpringBoard Member, Pro Bono Partnership of Atlanta
- Advisory Committee Member, Atlanta Legal Aid Society

## ***Insights***

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NEWS

03/16/23

### **Fisher Phillips Named Law Firm of the Year by Pro Bono Partnership of Atlanta**

Andria Lure Ryan, Corey J. Goerdts

[Read more →](#)

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EVENT

9/23/21 and 9/28/21

### **"New Normal" Approaches to Employee Mobility, Information Safeguards and Competitive Advantage in the Post-Pandemic World**

Michael P. Elkon, Risa B. Boerner, Christopher P. Stief, David W. Erb, Robert Yonowitz, Brent A. Cossrow, Wendy Hughes, James Michael Honeycutt, Pavneet Singh Uppal, Michael R. Greco, Susan M. Guerette, Usama Kahf, Anthony Isola, John W. Stapleton, Corey J. Goerdts

[Read more →](#)

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NEWS

06/19/19

### **Corey Goerdts Selected to Daily Report's "On the Rise" Class of 2019**

Corey J. Goerdts

[Read more →](#)

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PUBLICATION

12/18/18

## **Fisher Phillips Attorney Shares Tips on Workplace Safety in the Restaurant Industry**

Corey J. Goerdts

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PUBLICATION

10/01/18

## **Atlanta Attorney Guides New Restaurant Owners Through Potential Labor and Employment Landmines**

Corey J. Goerdts

[Read more →](#)

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INSIGHTS

05/01/18

## **WEB EXCLUSIVE - April 2018: The Top 19 Labor And Employment Law Stories**

Steven M. Bernstein, Caroline J. Brown, Colin P. Calvert, Melissa (Osipoff) Camire, Benjamin M. Ebbink, Corey J. Goerdts, Karl R. Lindegren, Richard R. Meneghello, Ashton M. Riley, Todd B. Scherwin, Shanon R. Stevenson, Sarah Wieselthier, Megan C. Winter

[Read more →](#)

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INSIGHTS

04/26/18

## **Fear and Trade Secrets on the Campaign Trail**

Corey J. Goerdts

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PUBLICATION

02/19/18

## **Lessons From the WayMo v. Uber Trade Secrets Trial**

Corey J. Goerdts

[Read more →](#)

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INSIGHTS

02/13/18

## **Lessons From The Waymo v Uber Trade Secrets Trial**

Corey J. Goerdts

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EVENT

11/01/17

## **Fifth Annual Cartersville-Bartow Chamber of Commerce HR Academy**

Corey J. Goerdts, John W. Stapleton, Cynthia J. Yarbrough

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View All →