



## JOSEPH P. SHELTON

Regional Managing Partner

Nashville

615.488.2901

### Service Focus

- Counseling and Advice
- Employee Defection and Trade Secrets
- Employment Discrimination and Harassment
- Litigation and Trials

### Industry Focus

- Energy

## OVERVIEW

Joe Shelton is a partner in the firm's Nashville office. His practice focuses on the defense of employment discrimination claims in trial and appellate courts, as well as litigation in the area of employee defection issues (e.g., trade secrets and restrictive covenants).

Joe also frequently advises employers on all aspects of state and federal employment laws, assists employers in drafting employment agreements, restrictive covenants, personnel policies, and separation agreements, and conducts interactive and engaging training on topics such as employment law compliance and avoidance of harassment claims.

He is also "AV" Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell and has been selected for inclusion in *Georgia Super Lawyer* since 2012 and in *Georgia Super Lawyers – Rising Star* in 2005 and 2009 for his work in employment and labor law.

Joe was a member of the 2011 and 2012 *Employment Law360* editorial advisory board.

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## Recent Experience

- Summary Judgment Dismissal of Discrimination and Breach of Contract Claims

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## Credentials

### Education

- University of Tennessee College of Law, J.D., magna cum laude, 1995
- Oglethorpe University, B.A., 1991

### Bar Admissions

- Georgia
- Tennessee

### Court Admissions

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

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## Recognitions

- Recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America* (2018 – 2026)
  - "AV" Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell
  - Selected for inclusion in *Georgia Super Lawyer* since 2012
  - Listed in *Georgia Super Lawyers – Rising Star* in 2005, 2009, and 2017
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## Affiliations

### Community Activities

Joe is active in a number of activities within the community. He served on the Board of Trustees at Oglethorpe University for over fifteen years, and he was the President of the National Alumni Association. Joe has also been active in his wife's non-profit prison ministry, HeartBound Ministries, having previously served on the Board of Directors and led a book club for juvenile offenders at Burress Correctional Prison.

## INSIGHTS

### Event

Jul 21, 2025

Hot Topics in Employee Defection and Trade Secrets: Spotlight on Tennessee

### Insights

Jul 10, 2025

Tennessee Has a Brand-New Framework for Employment Discrimination Enforcement: What Do Employers Need to Know?

### News

Jul 24, 2024

Fisher Phillips Continues Momentum in Nashville with the Addition of Two Partners

**Insights**

**May 24, 2022**

Tennessee Veterans Have New Employee Leave Rights

**News**

**Aug 20, 2020**

Fisher Phillips Attorneys Receive Top Honors in Best Lawyers in America©

**News**

**Jun 25, 2020**

Nashville Lawyers Share Employment Law Insights with SHRM