

MELVIN J. MALONE

Practice Group Leader, Regulatory and Government Group

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As Practice Group Leader of the firm's Regulatory and Government Group, Mr. Malone focuses on telecommunications, public utilities, governmental relations, commercial litigation and administrative law.

PRACTICE AREAS AND INDUSTRY TEAMS

- Commercial Litigation
- Government Relations
- Administrative Law
- Public Utilities
- Public Facilities and Public-Private Partnerships

EXPERIENCE

- Melvin was one of the first practitioners before the Tennessee Public Utility Commission to obtain approval of capital recovery riders under Tennessee's newly passed legislative initiative authorizing alternative regulatory mechanisms for public utilities.
- Served a special appointment by Governor Bill Haslam to the Tennessee Supreme Court to hear a case from which four Supreme Court Justices recused themselves (Hooker et al v. Lt. Governor Ramsey et al.).
- Successfully litigated on behalf of Tennessee's only publicly held water provider, a regional financial institution, a global wireless communications company, the nation's largest three-service utility, a national automotive finance company, and a coalition of Tennessee telephone cooperatives.
- Recently, Melvin successfully litigated on behalf of a coalition of over 200 retail fuel providers in an alternative fuel anti-competition case.
- Commissioner, Tennessee Public Utility Commission (Formerly Tennessee Regulatory Authority), 1996-2002.
- Deputy Legal Counsel to Tennessee Governor Don Sundquist, 1995-1996.

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Tennessee, 1989
- U.S. District Court
 - Tennessee: Eastern, Middle and Western Districts
- U.S. Court of Appeals
 - 6th Circuit

DISTINCTIONS

- AV-rated, Martindale-Hubbell
- Fellow, America Bar Foundation
- Fellow, Tennessee Bar Foundation
- Fellow, Napier-Looby Bar Foundation
- Fellow, Nashville Bar Foundation
- Appointed by Gov. Lee to the *Board of Directors*, TPAC Management Corporation, 2019-Present
- Appointed by Gov. Haslam to the *Board of Directors*, TPAC Management Corporation, 2013-2019
- R.B.J. Campbelle Award, the University of Tennessee College of Law, 2012
- “Nashville’s Top 101 Lawyers”, *Nashville Post Magazine*, 2011
- *Best Lawyers in America*®
 - Energy Law, 2011-2020
 - Government Relations, 2016-2020
 - Administrative/Regulatory Law, 2020
 - Communications Law, 2020
 - Lawyer of the Year, Energy Law (Nashville, TN), 2018, 2020
- *Mid-South Super Lawyers*®, Civil Litigation Defense, 2013-2014
- J.C. Napier Trailblazer Award, Napier-Looby Bar Foundation, 2010
- “In Charge,” Legal Category, *Nashville Post*, 2010
- Best of the Bar, Nashville Business Journal, 2003 and 2009
- Board of Delegates, Tennessee Alliance for Black Lawyers, 2009-2013
- Commissioner, Tennessee Public Utility Commission (Formerly Tennessee Regulatory Authority), 1996-2002
- Deputy Legal Counsel to Tennessee Governor Don Sundquist, 1995-1996
- Chair Emeritus, Tennessee State University Foundation Board
- Chair Emeritus, 100 Black Men of Middle Tennessee
- Dr. Calvin Calhoun Distinguished Member of the Year Award, 100 Black Men of Middle Tennessee, 2006, 2014 & 2015.
- Special Appointment by Gov. Haslam, *Tennessee Supreme Court*, 2013

ASSOCIATIONS

- Tennessee Bar Association
 - Committee on Racial & Ethnic Diversity, 2013-Present
- Nashville Bar Association
- American Bar Association
- Knoxville Bar Association
- Napier-Looby Bar Association

EDUCATION & HONORS

- University of Tennessee, J.D., 1989
 - Member, *Tennessee Law Review*
 - Awarded Patricia Roberts Harris Fellowship
 - Advocate's Prize Moot Court Competition
 - Member, American Inns of Court Foundation
- University of Tennessee, B.S., Finance, *with honors*, 1985
- Clerkship, The Honorable Nathaniel R. Jones, U.S. Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals, Aug. 1990 – Aug. 1991
- Clerkship, The Honorable Julia S. Gibbons, U.S. District Judge for the Western District of Tennessee, Aug. 1989 – Aug. 1990

PAPERS, PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

- Author, "At the Crossroads of Pessimism and Opportunity – Lessons Learned from the Legal Recession," DRI Annual Meeting.
- Author, "Alternative Fee Arrangements – Fad or Future," Tennessee Bar Association's Law Firm Management Conference.
- Author, "Executive Leadership Symposium," Urban League of Greater Chattanooga Young Professionals Association.
- Testifying before State Utility/Regulatory Commissions.
- Author, "Career Paths and Partnership Structures," Tennessee Bar Association's Law Firm Management Conference.
- Author, "Beyond the Next Step: A Career Road Map for Lawyers," National Asian Pacific American Bar Association's Southeast Regional Conference.
- Author, "Current Regulatory & FCC Issues," The Telecommunications Education Committee Organization.
- Author, "Regulatory Concerns for the VoIP Provider," Tennessee Telecommunications Association, Annual Convention.
- Author, "VoIP: Assessing the Opportunities and Threats," Associated Network Partners, Inc., Symposium.
- Tennessee Gas Association's Best Practices Roundtable.
- Utility Finance & Accounting Conference of the Tennessee Gas Association.
- Author, "Responding to Competition in Your Backyard," Multi-State Rural Long Distance Coalition.
- Author, "The Battle for the Book: First-in-the-nation ruling gives competitors access to cover of Bellsouth directory," *Tennessee Bar Journal*, Vol.39, No.7.
- Author, "Keeping the Peace: Conflict in the Court of Appeals and Violence as a Determinant Factor in the Propriety of Self-Help Repossessions," *Tennessee Bar Journal*, November/December Issue.