



## Jami Jackson Farris

Partner

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t 704.335.9008



Jami Farris handles diverse business disputes. She tries cases and handles appeals for plaintiffs and defendants in state and federal courts, and she arbitrates before the American Arbitration Association, the National Arbitration Forum, and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority.

Jami regularly advises and represents clients on a wide range of issues that include:

- Breach of contract claims
- Tort actions arising out of business relationships
- Internet domain name disputes
- Social media issues
- License terminations
- Intellectual property disputes
- Consumer claims
- Motor Vehicle Act
- Real estate development
- Construction
- Securities
- Medical malpractice

She is admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court, the U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Federal, Fourth, and Seventh Circuits, the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, and the U.S. Courts for the Western, Middle, and Eastern Districts of North Carolina.

### REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- *Excel Trade, Ltd. v. Snack Company*, American Arbitration Association – Portland, OR (2017). Represented an international snack food company defending against claims related to the termination of its international sales broker of more than 10 years. Negotiated a confidential settlement.
- *Speedway Motorsports, International, Ltd. v. Bronwen Energy Trading, Ltd, et al.*, 707 S.E.2d 385 (N.C. Ct. App. 2011), 706 S.E.2d 262 (N.C. Ct.



#### CHARLOTTE OFFICE



#### PRACTICE AREAS

Retail Automotive Dealers  
 Construction  
 Litigation  
 Professional Negligence  
 Defense  
 Intellectual Property  
 Litigation



#### EDUCATION

College of William and Mary  
 BA, 1993  
 University of North Carolina  
 at Chapel Hill  
 JD, with honors, 1999



#### ADMISSIONS

North Carolina, 1999



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App. 2011), Mecklenburg County, North Carolina Superior Court, Business Court, case no. 08-CVS-9450. Obtained confidential settlements and \$36 million judgment in 2015 against parties to petroleum financing support agreement. Our clients sued British and Dominican contracting parties, Arizona principal and French and Swiss banks in North Carolina to recover funds debited from SMIL's bank account in Switzerland related to first demand guarantees issued to support purchase price of oil in petroleum transactions.

- *The Tire Hanger Corp. v. My Guy Concierge Service, et al.*, United States District Court for the Central District of California, case no. 5:14-cv-00549 (2014). Represented a national chain of car dealers defending against claims of alleged infringement of two patents for tire hanging devices used with automotive lifts. Negotiated a confidential settlement.
- *Usher v. Hospital* (2014). Plaintiff was a 40-year-old who was paralyzed in a single car accident. He alleged the intensive care nurses' failure to reposition him resulted in a deep tissue injury and osteomyelitis. The injury had not healed at the time of trial – four years after the hospitalization. Plaintiff had incurred almost \$700,000 in medical expenses and alleged damages for pain and suffering. Plaintiff's counsel asked the jury to award their client \$3 million. The jury returned a verdict of no negligence after two weeks of trial. The judgment was affirmed by the North Carolina Court of Appeals in 2016.
- *CK Southern Associates v. Charlotte N.C. Hotel Corp.*, 725 S.E.2d 922, 2012 WL 1995195 (N.C. App. 2012). Obtained a \$1,326,392.30 jury verdict after a weeklong trial for our client in August 2010, which was every penny requested. The judgment was affirmed by the North Carolina Court of Appeals in 2012. Our client sued to enforce the reimbursement provisions of a cross easement agreement in an office tower/hotel complex to recover its share of expenses for the major repairs of an outdoor plaza.
- *Prima Tek II, LLC. v. Klerk's Plastic Products Manufacturing, Inc.* (S.D.Ill. 2005), 525 F.3d 533 (7th Cir. 2008). Obtained no liability judgment in favor of our client which was affirmed on appeal by the Seventh Circuit in 2008 in an action for contempt of court and alleged breach of patent and intellectual property license agreements.



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- *Dudley v. R. James, G. James, and MHC Industrial, Inc.*, Haywood County, North Carolina Superior Court, case no. 11 CVS 00422 (2012). Obtained summary judgment on all claims in favor of defendants in an action for breach of implied warranty of habitability, negligence, and unfair and deceptive trade practices based on the construction of a home.
- *Keffer Management Co., LLC v. Domain Administrator*, FA1312001534568 (National Arbitration Forum, January 14, 2014). Obtained transfer of domain name incorporating client's trademark.
- *Baker-Jacobsen Nissan North v. Domain Administrator*, FA1258907 (National Arbitration Forum, June 9, 2009). Obtained transfer of domain name incorporating client's trade name.
- *Landrover Houston North v. Texas International Property Assocs.*, FA1128338 (National Arbitration Forum, January 17, 2008). Obtained transfer of domain name incorporating client's trade name.
- *McLeod Addictive Disease Center, Inc. v. WilData Systems Group, Inc.*, 2008 WL 2397614 (W.D.N.C. June 10, 2008). Obtained enforcement of forum selection clause selecting Ohio as forum.
- *Jim Myers & Son, Inc. v. Motion Industries, Inc.*, 140 F.Supp.2d 595 (W.D.N.C. 2001). Obtained dismissal for lack of personal jurisdiction of Michigan engineering firm that supervised construction of sewage treatment plant.
- *Cowell v. D.C. Boyle, Inc.*, American Arbitration Association – Gastonia (2005). Obtained a complete defense verdict in an action for breach of home construction contract, even though there were admitted code violations, because of homeowner's unreasonable refusal to accept warranty work.
- *Harper v. Town and Country Ford, Inc.*, American Arbitration Association – Charlotte (2001). Obtained a complete defense verdict in an action for breach of a motor vehicle purchase contract and unfair and deceptive trade practices.



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### PUBLICATIONS

- ".Auto, .Car, and .Cars - Dot Boom or Dot Bust? ," Defender, National Association of Dealer Counsel Newsletter, February 2017
- "10 Must-Haves in a Social Media Policy: Implementing a Policy that Dealerships Will Like," Defender, National Association of Dealer Counsel Newsletter, November 2015
- "The Legality of Assassination of Independent Terrorist Leaders," 24 North Carolina Journal of International Law and Commercial Regulation Reg. 669, January 1999

### SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- "Dealers and DMS: Can't Live With Them, Can't Live Without Them," National Association of Dealer Counsel, Annual Meeting, December 2017
- "DMV and the Attorney General: Cracking Down," N.C. Automobile Dealers Association Legal Seminar, October 2017
- "Legal Trends & Best Practices for Nursing Homes and Long Term Care Facilities ," Long Term Care Facility Conference , February 2014
- "Under the Hood – Service Department Legal Issues: Loaner Contracts and Repair Orders," National Association of Dealer Counsel, Fall Conference, October 2013
- "Social Media and the Law," National Association of Dealer Counsel, 8th Annual Member Conference, April 2012
- "Domain Disputes and Social Media: Protection Required," National Association of Dealer Counsel, 7th Annual Member Conference, April 2011

### HONORS

- *The Best Lawyers in America* in Commercial Litigation, 2013-2020
- *North Carolina Lawyers Weekly*, Leaders in the Law Honoree, 2017



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- N.C. Pro Bono Honor Society, 2017
- Martindale-Hubbell AV® Preeminent™ in Litigation; Commercial Law; Construction Law; Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Outstanding Pro Bono Service Award, Legal Services of Southern Piedmont, 2012
- *Charlotte Business Journal's* 40 Under 40, 2010
- *Business North Carolina* magazine's "Legal Elite" Young Guns, 2009
- *North Carolina Super Lawyers* Rising Star, 2009
- James E. and Carolyn B. Davis Society, University of North Carolina School of Law
- North Carolina State Bar Pro Bono Public Service Award, 1999

### MEMBERSHIPS

- National Association of Dealer Counsel, Board of Directors, 2010-present, Vice President, 2019-present, Treasurer, 2017-2019; Member, 2006-present; Editor of Monthly Newsletter, 2014-present
- Carolina Law Alumni Association, Board of Directors, 2011-present
- Children's Theatre of Charlotte, Immediate Past Chair, 2016-2017; Board Chair, 2013-2016; Human Resources Committee Chair, 2011-2012; Board of Directors, 2006-2017
- The Schiele Museum of Natural History & Planetarium, Board of Trustees, Jan. 2017-present
- Charlotte - Mecklenburg Public Art Commission, Counsel, 2004-present
- Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden, Board of Visitors, 2010-present
- Girl Scouts of America, Carolinas Peaks to Piedmont Council, Leader, 2016-present
- Mint Museum Auxiliary, Member, 2015-present
- First Presbyterian Church Gastonia, Deacon, 2015-present; Personnel Committee, 2015-present



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- Leadership Gaston, Class of 2012
- Top of the Week Rotary Club, President, 2007-2008, Membership Chair, 2008-2009
- Chief Justice William H. Bobbitt American Inn of Court, President, 2006-2007
- Mecklenburg County Bar, Local Rules Committee, 2007-2008
- Arts & Science Council, Cultural Leadership Training (CLT) Program Participant, 2005-2006
- North Carolina Journal of International Law and Commercial Regulation, Articles Editor, 1998-1999