

John P. Dunnigan

Partner | Richmond

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John's practice focuses on representing individuals and businesses in commercial transportation, products, construction, and general liability matters in the state and federal courts throughout Virginia. John has tried over 40 cases to verdict and successfully resolved more through pretrial motions practice and various forms of alternative dispute resolution. Prior to joining Harman Claytor, John served as a judicial law clerk to the Honorable Beverly W. Snukals of the Circuit Court for the City of Richmond, Virginia.



Assistant: Monica Covington-Parker 804.762.8023, mcovington-parker@hccw.com

Paralegal: Melissa Westbrook 804.622.1142, mwestbrook@hccw.com

Professional Activities & Honors

- Richmond Bar Association
 - o Membership Committee member (2023 present)
 - Communications Committee member (2020 2023)
- Virginia Association of Defense Attorneys
 - o VADA Member Spotlight (April 2025)
 - Board of Directors (2024 2025)
 - ∘ Chair of Products & Toxic Torts Section (2023 2024)
 - o Vice-Chair of Products & Toxic Torts Section (2022 2023)
- Defense Research Institute
- Lewis F. Powell, Jr. Inn of Court (2019 present)
- Virginia Super Lawyers Rising Stars (2023 2025)
 - o Civil Litigation: Defense
 - o Personal Injury General: Defense
- Virginia Business Legal Elite (2024)
 - Young Lawyer

Publications

- Author, Res Ipsa Loquitur: Does It Really Speak for Itself? Journal of Civil Litigation, Vol. XXXV No. 4 (Winter 2024)
- Co-Editor, Virginia Civil Benchbook for Judges and Lawyers (2019-2020 ed.)
- Author, Bargaining Towards Equality: The Effects of Implicit Bias Training on Plea-Bargaining, 21 Rich. Pub. Int. L. Rev. 341 (2018)
- Co-Author, Personal Injury from A to Z: Damages Pt. 1 & 2, National Business Institute (September 2017)

Presentations

- Products Liability Essentials: Early Investigation, Expert Witnesses, and Updates in the Law, Virginia Association of Defense Attorneys Fall Seminar, Williamsburg, VA (October 2024)
- Navigating through the PFAS Landscape: Litigation Strategies and Complex Insurance Coverage Issues for the "Forever Chemical," Virginia Association of Defense Attorneys Spring Seminar, Lynchburg, VA (May 2024)
- Excessive Force, Hanover County Criminal Justice Academy, Hanover, VA (February 2020)

Education

- Virginia Commonwealth University, B.A., magna cum laude (2015)
- University of Richmond School of Law, J.D., cum laude (2018)
 - o Richmond Public Interest Law Review, Manuscripts Editor
 - o Moot Court Board, Member

Bar & Court Admissions

- Virginia State Bar
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia
- United States District Court for the Western District of Virginia
- United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit