

Our Philosophy

We are committed to the pursuit of excellence in the legal services we provide. Our goal is to provide quality service at every level of the firm. To the best of our ability, we will pursue the delivery of these services with diligence, skill, and efficiency. We will do so in a spirit of cooperation and adherence to the highest ethical standards. We are committed to continuing legal education and will not accept employment for which we cannot provide quality service.

We are committed to providing the best possible representation of our clients in the pursuit of their legitimate goals. We will provide this quality in the most cost-effective way consistent with the client's needs. Our relationship with our clients will be honest, open and fair. We are dedicated to the best client service consistent with the highest ethical standards. We are committed to client satisfaction.

We are committed to providing a nurturing atmosphere in which collegiality, mutual respect, and strong interpersonal relationships can flourish. Cooperation and selflessness are essential to succeed in our goal of providing quality service. We are committed to strong families and positive interpersonal relationships. We encourage professional, community, religious and family activities. We believe that work should be fairly rewarded, but we believe in a balanced lifestyle of work, community and family activities, and recreation. We are dedicated to a safe and healthy work place. We shall seek to deliver our services in a cooperative and caring environment.

"We have known and been associated with the partners since the firm's inception. They have represented insured's of the Cincinnati Insurance Company in a variety of litigation, including complex and class action matters. Their philosophy concerning the resolution of lawsuits is to achieve fair and equitable results for all parties."

—Robert W. Wallace,
Assistant Vice President,
Cincinnati Insurance Company

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Our Practice Areas

Read more about any of our services at www.swblaw.com.

By limiting our practice to a few select areas, we can respond quickly, work efficiently, and maintain our high standard of quality. We take the time to do things right.

Product Liability

Bill Sweeny, Rett Kendall and Mark Gende

We assist national and international manufacturing companies and distributors facing product liability claims, including personal injury and warranty claims. We provide experienced tort litigation and breach of contract attorneys to assist you in defending against product liability claims.

Construction Defect Litigation

Rett Kendall, Christy Mahon and Mark Gende

Our construction litigation attorneys represent contractors, subcontractors, and developers who are involved in construction defects claims. We handle cases involving synthetic stucco, or EIFS, mold, and countless other defects in residential and commercial buildings, school construction projects, and utilities.

Estate Planning

Ken Wingate, Martin Driggers and Paul Kent

It is important to have a plan in place for your estate. Without a plan, disputes, unne-

cessary tax payments, and confusion may cause your family further pain. We draft wills and trusts, powers of attorney, health care powers of attorney, living wills, and other estate planning documents to help you take control of your future.

Insurance Coverage

Bill Sweeny, Bill Calhoun and Christy Mahon

We compose opinion letters concerning the extent of coverage our insurance company clients owe in particular situations. We also defend insurance companies in coverage disputes and bad faith litigation. Our business litigation lawyers help insurance companies assess their liability and defend against breach of contract claims.

Medical Malpractice

Bill Sweeny, Mark Barrow and Martin Driggers

Defending hospitals, doctors, nurses, and other medical professionals and associations in professional liability and medical malpractice cases requires attention to details and extensive preparation. We represent these clients against claims for medical malpractice liability.

Transportation & Trucking Litigation

Mark Barrow, Wayne Ridgeway and Mark Gende

We represent regional and national carriers in cases involving accident claims, freight

claims, and other legal matters. We have assembled an emergency response team of engineers, investigators, and attorneys to respond quickly after an accident to gather and protect important evidence, survey the site, and work on accident reconstruction matters in order to provide the proper defense in these cases.

Business Planning

Ken Wingate and Paul Kent

Our lawyers handle all business matters from formation to sale. We can negotiate employment contracts, non-compete agreements, and buy/sell agreements. Whatever legal issues your business faces, we will be there to help.

Probate Administration & Litigation

Ken Wingate and Paul Kent

We handle the probate court filings, estate tax returns, accountings, asset valuations, and sales that probate may entail. We have extensive experience in probate and can help manage this process quickly and easily.

When disputes arise over the proper distribution of an estate, you need a knowledgeable probate litigation lawyer to help you resolve these issues. We assist clients in will contests, will construction, beneficiary and trustee disputes, elective share claims, and other related matters.



William O. Sweeney, III

Bill has been a defense trial attorney for twenty-seven years.

He is a former senior

partner at a large, national firm where he served on the firm's management committee and, among other things, was responsible for the training and development of most of its current trial attorneys. He has actively participated in hundreds of trials involving such diverse fields as insurance coverage, product liability, trucking and transportation torts, personal injury, premises liability, contract disputes, medical malpractice, employment law, and patent infringement.



Kenneth B. Wingate

Ken is a former Certified Public Accountant and is a Certified Specialist in

Estate Planning and Probate Law. He is a Fellow in the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel (ACTEC), a member of the American Bar Association, the Columbia Estate Planning Council, the South Carolina Association of Certified Public Accountants and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and is enrolled to practice before the United States Tax Court. Ken served as Articles Editor and Senior Articles Editor for *Probate & Property*, a magazine published nationally by the Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section of the American Bar Association.



Mark S. Barrow

Mark is an experienced litigator who has tried numerous cases in such areas as medical

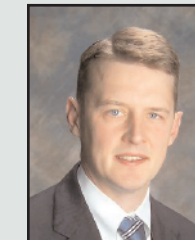
malpractice, product liability, toxic torts, truck and transportation litigation, insurance coverage, and others. His practice also includes appellate proceedings before the South Carolina Supreme Court and the United States Court of Appeals. He is national chairman of the Transportation Committee of USLAW.



Everett A. Kendall, II

Rett's practice areas include general commercial and business litigation, construction

litigation, and product liability. He is a member of the South Carolina Bar Association, American Bar Association, South Carolina Defense Trial Attorneys Association, Defense Research Institute and the Christian Legal Society. Rett serves on the national Construction Committee of USLAW. In law school, Rett served as the Associate Editor-in-Chief of the South Carolina Review and authored The South Carolina Limited Liability Act of 1994, 47 S.C.L. Rev.181 (1995).



Martin S. Driggers, Jr.

Martin is the managing shareholder of Sweeny, Wingate & Barrow's Pee Dee Region office in

Hartsville, South Carolina. While working towards his law degree, Martin served as the Managing Editor of the SOUTH CAROLINA LAW REVIEW and authored two published notes: *Constitutional Law: Minister's Pension Contract is an Ecclesiastical Matter — Not Reviewable by Court*, 48 S.C.L.REV. 27 (1996) and

South Carolina's Experiment: Legislative Control of Judicial Merit Selection, 49 S.C.L.REV. 1217 (1998). Martin's practice focuses on civil litigation, with an emphasis on defending clients involved in medical malpractice, trucking/transportation, and E.R.I.S.A claims, and he has lectured to attorneys and other legal professionals on these areas. His practice also involves premises liability, products liability, estate planning and probate litigation.

See the full biographies of our partners and associates at www.swblaw.com.