

J. Randolph Evans

Partner

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About J. Randolph

J. Randolph (Randy) Evans is a partner in the firm's Litigation Practice, resident in the firm's Atlanta and Washington DC offices. He is the former US Ambassador to Luxembourg and renowned jury trial lawyer with over 30 years of experience trying cases throughout the US and around the world.

As the 23rd US Ambassador to the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, Randy worked to build stronger bonds of friendship and collaboration between the two nations and other international partners, resulting in significant achievements.

Notably, during his tenure as Ambassador, the Luxembourg government signed a historic agreement with the World Jewish Restitution Organization to pay reparations and to restitute dormant bank accounts and insurance policies, as well as looted art, to Holocaust survivors. Announced on International Holocaust Remembrance Day, the agreement also provides financial resources to promote remembrance, education and research of the Holocaust in Luxembourg.

Also of note, AmCham, the chamber of commerce organization for American businesses in Luxembourg, has named former US Ambassador Randy Evans as its "US Representative."

Randy currently serves as a member of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. Prior to serving as US Ambassador, he served as Co-Chair of the Georgia Judicial Nominating Commission, Chair of the Republican National Lawyers Association, and the Georgia Committeeman for the Republican National Committee.

Over his career, he also served as outside Counsel to the Speakers of the 104th-109th Congresses of the US; on the Georgia Bar Association Board of Governors; on the Georgia State Election Board (2001-2011); as Chairman of the Georgia Bar Association Torts and Insurance Section, Chairman of the Georgia Bar Association Suicide Prevention Task Force and Chairman of the Georgia Indigent Services Task Force; as a Special Master (Georgia Supreme Court – 1999-2004); and as a Special Attorney General, State of Georgia (Executive Order – July 3, 2007).

Experience

Randy has handled litigation involving billions of dollars throughout the US and around the world. Here are some of the more recent cases from just before he became a US Ambassador:

- Global infrastructure firm: multibillion-dollar claims by institutional investors in a major infrastructure project (toll road) in Australia, asserting that they invested in reliance on traffic forecaster/insured's faulty traffic forecast.
- Energy company: professional negligence (design defect, etc.) and fraud claims relating to a massive oil refinery expansion project in Texas for billions in Texas arbitration.
- Property company: seven-week jury trial followed by appeals to Tennessee Supreme Court for claims involving remediation, restoration and business loss resulting from the largest shopping mall flood loss claiming approximately US\$600 million.
- Large law firm: claims by investor clients alleging hundreds of millions of dollars against an international law firm arising out of legal opinions it issued on tax shelters deemed non-allowable by the IRS (Numerous US states).
- Healthcare company: bench trial in Fulton Superior Court over application of Georgia Open Records Act requests, including appeal to Georgia Supreme Court.
- Automobile manufacturer: jury trial in Gwinnett State Court arising out of product liability claims against an automobile manufacturer for multiple deaths seeking punitive damages.
- Travel company: coverage/bad faith action (Washington DC) arising out of denial of coverage for hotel occupancy tax-related claims under Travel Agent Professional Liability policies seeking more than US\$100 million (King County Superior Court; Washington Court of Appeals and Supreme Court of Washington).
- Hazardous waste collection company: plant explosion claim (approximately US\$20 million claim) of a facility in Tennessee owned by a Spanish Company under an International Programme Agreement issued in Spain (Tennessee/Spain).
- Trucking company: retained after a US\$284 million jury verdict in Texas (D. Ct. for Dimmit County Texas).
- Geosynthetic company: breach of warranty claims relating to complex artificial grass turf systems installed all over the world in sports facilities and stadiums. (U.S.D.C. Georgia).
- Oil and gas company: Delaware coverage action arising out of losses due to oil refinery explosion. (Delaware Superior Court – New Castle).
- Insurance company: bench trial in Florida based on a US\$20 million claim arising out of storm damage to shopping mall. (S.D.Fla.).
- State government department: retained post-verdict in a claim alleging that defects in road design caused an accident that rendered the plaintiff a quadriplegic resulting in personal injury verdict in King County, WA (US\$30 million).
- Insurance company: US\$1 billion losses asserted in multidistrict litigation for multiple consolidated class actions alleging a myriad of claims arising out of the use and installation of Chinese Drywall (E.D.La.).
- Law firm: successfully litigated and resolved US\$100 million legal malpractice claims pending in the Eastern District of Virginia (Fairfax County Circuit Court, VA).
- US city: US\$27 million claim arising out of an architect's conceptual and schematic designs of a city's US\$560 million convention center in Arizona (U.S.D.C. Arizona).
- Plastics company: a New Jersey US\$197 million claim arising out of an explosion at a PVC manufacturing plant located in Illinois in which key issues included scope of damage, proper valuation method, allowed site prep costs for a rebuild at a different location, and betterments in technology (U.S.D.C. N.J.).

- Steel company: insurance coverage/bad faith lawsuit in West Virginia seeking more than US\$40 million, arising out of property damage from mine fires and resulting business interruption; this resulted in a favorable settlement (N.D. WVA).
- Automotive company: class action lawsuit against the insured auto dealers based upon claims for violations of the Florida Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act, the Florida Motor Vehicle Retail Sales Finance Act, Unjust Enrichment, violations in connection with the sale of an add-on car identification system, and rescission of auto purchase contracts (U.S.D.C. Florida).
- Community college: claims involving remediation, restoration and business loss in Illinois, in which key issues included scope of damage, proper valuation method, allowed site prep costs for a rebuild at a different location, and betterments with approximately US\$40 million in alleged damages in Mississippi (S.D.Miss).
- Law firm: legal malpractice action arising out of errors in documentation of an M&A transaction leading to unintended ownership of US\$1 billion in stock following a put right of merged telecommunication companies (California).
- International law firm: claims by investor clients alleging hundreds of millions of dollars against an international law firm arising out of legal opinions it issued on tax shelters deemed non-allowable by the IRS (Numerous US states).
- Automobile dealership: Insured sued for alleged failure to defend Bill Heard in an underlying arbitration that evolved into a purported class action alleging claims for rescission, fraud, breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing, violation of Florida's Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act and, violation of the Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act (U.S.D.C. Florida).
- National football team: Pennsylvania US\$79 million action relating to coverage for construction defect claims against various insureds arising out of the planning, design and construction of an NFL football stadium (Pennsylvania).
- Beverage company: More than US\$20 million of claims arising out of the collapse of a parking deck in Atlantic City, NJ (OCIP policy); this resulted in a favorable settlement (Atlantic County Superior Court, NJ).
- International law firm: claims by investor clients alleging hundreds of millions of dollars against an international law firm arising out of legal opinions it issued on tax shelters deemed non-allowable by the IRS (Texas).

Credentials

Education

- University of Georgia J.D., *Magna Cum Laude*, 1983
- University of West Georgia B.A., *Summa Cum Laude*, 1980

Admissions

- District of Columbia, 2002
- Georgia, 1983

Courts

- U.S. Supreme Court
- United States Court of Appeals for the First, Second, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Ninth and Eleventh Circuits

- United States District Courts for the Northern District of Georgia, Middle District of Georgia, Eastern District of Michigan, and District of Columbia
- Georgia Superior and State Courts, Georgia Court of Appeals, Georgia Supreme Court
- District of Columbia Court of Appeals

Recognitions

Randy has had the honor of receiving numerous awards and recognitions, including:

- *Best Lawyers in America*
- Super Lawyers
- *Who's Who* in America
- Corporate International Complex Litigator of the Year
- Legal Legend (Georgia)
- Top Lawyers in Georgia, Top Lawyers in Washington DC and Baltimore
- Republican National Lawyer of the Year
- Georgia's Most Influential Attorneys
- Georgia's Top Lawyers for Legal Leader
- Martindale-Hubbell's Highest Possible Rating, both Legal Ability and Ethical Standards
- Legal Elite – Most Innovative Litigator – Georgia
- *Marquis Who's Who*®
- American's Registry – America's Most Honored Professionals
- Who's Who in America® 70th Platinum Anniversary Edition
- ALM Legal Leaders
- AV Top Rated Lawyers Baltimore and Washington DC
- M&A Award Winner "Best for Complex Litigation – Georgia"
- Corporate America: Legal Elite Awards
- Benchmark Judges: TOP US Litigators
- Who's Who in Science and Engineering® 2016-2017 (12th Edition), and Leadership Atlanta (1994-1995)

Expertise

Services

- Public Policy
- Litigation
- Government Investigations & White Collar

Publications & Speaking Engagements

Randy has lectured extensively across the US on topics ranging from attorney malpractice prevention to climate change and insurance. To date, he has given over 100 seminars to over 100,000 lawyers. — This includes seminars for the ABA, various bar associations, Fortune 500 companies, insurers and individual law firms.

Randy has written numerous articles for a variety of legal and business publications. He has also written the following books:

- Winning Political Debates, J. Evans & M. Hester (Bold Publishing 2020)
- Practical Guide To Legal Malpractice Prevention (ICLE 8th Ed. 2000), J. Evans
- Insurance Coverage for Intellectual Property, Personal and Advertising Injury, Media and Cyber Claims (LexisNexis 1st Ed. 2016), S. Berry, J. Evans, C. Lyle, T. Trotta & K. Guinn
- The Lawyer's Handbook (ALM Media 2nd Ed. 2014), S. Klevens, J. Evans, & A. Clair
- Appraisal in Property Damage Insurance Disputes, Process, Law, and Strategy (West 1st Ed. 2014), J. Evans, J. Berry & R. Besaw
- Georgia Legal Malpractice Law (ALM Media 1st Ed. 2011, 2nd Ed. 2013, 3rd Ed. 2014), J. Evans & S. Klevens
- Badawi, California Legal Malpractice Law (ALM Media 1st Ed. 2014); J. Evans, S. Klevens
- Georgia Property and Liability Insurance Law (West 2nd Ed. 2013), J. Evans & J. Berry
- Climate Change and Insurance (American Bar Association 1st Ed. 2012), C. Carroll, J. Evans, L. Patton, J. Zimolzak
- Georgia General Liability Insurance (Bold Publishing 1st Ed. 2010), J. Evans & J. Berry
- Practical Guide to Purchasing Legal Malpractice Insurance (ICLE 5th Ed. 1999), J. Evans & A. Morris

About our firm

One of the world's strongest integrated law firms, providing insight at the point where law, business and government meet. We deliver commercially focused business solutions by combining our legal, lobbying and political capabilities and invaluable connections on the ground to a diverse mix of clients, from long-established leading corporations to emerging businesses, startup visionaries and sovereign nations. More than 1,500 lawyers in over 40 offices across four continents provide unrivaled access to expertise.