

W. Preston Martin

Principal

Birmingham

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Preston Martin's practice focuses primarily on the defense of financial institutions (brokerage firms and banks) against claims asserted by their customers and former employees in court and arbitration proceedings across the United States. In addition, Preston has an estate planning practice, which includes the preparation of wills, trusts, and other estate planning documents.

Here are a few types of matters common to Preston's legal practice:

- Defend brokerage firms in securities arbitrations before FINRA (the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority)
- Pursue expungement of customer complaints on behalf of financial advisors
- Defend brokerage firms in expungement arbitrations
- Prepare estate planning documents, such as wills, trusts, and powers of attorney
- Defend brokerage firms in probate litigation

Admitted to practice law in both Alabama and Georgia, Preston's recent achievements include obtaining summary judgment in the Northern District of Alabama on behalf of one of the nation's largest mortgage lenders and servicers. Preston also successfully arbitrated a matter for a global financial services firm, resulting in a \$0 award for the claimant.

Preston is also a member of Bressler's Senior and Vulnerable Investor Group. The lawyers in this group have a shared interest in providing counsel to corporate clients who confront issues affecting seniors.

Preston is committed to providing pro bono legal services as part of his regular practice. Preston serves on the Board of Directors for Volunteer Lawyers Birmingham (VLB), a nationally-recognized organization that provides free legal services to low-income Birmingham citizens. Preston volunteers monthly through the VLB's legal help desks, and he regularly

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AREAS OF PRACTICE

Estate Planning and
Administration

Expungements

Financial Institutions

Financial Institutions Litigation
and Arbitration

Trust and Estate Litigation

EDUCATION

- University of Georgia School of Law, J.D., *cum laude*, 2009
- University of Georgia, B.B.A., *cum laude*, 2006

ADMISSIONS

Alabama

Georgia

U.S. District Court, Northern,
Middle and Southern Districts
of Alabama

U.S. District Court, Northern,
Middle, and Southern Districts
of Georgia

accepts pro bono representations. In the last year, Preston has helped pro bono clients probate wills, fight unlawful evictions, divorce an abusive spouse, and sue for the return of a security deposit. In 2016, Bressler's Birmingham office was selected by the VLB as the Pro Bono Midsize Firm of the Year.

Preston received his J.D. from the University of Georgia School of Law and his B.B.A. from the University of Georgia. While at the University of Georgia School of Law, Preston served as the articles editor for the *Journal of Intellectual Property Law*.

Awards & Accolades

- Recognized in The Best Lawyers in America®, 2021
- Recognized on the *Mid-South Super Lawyers* "Rising Stars" List, 2016 - 2018
- Recognized on the *Birmingham Business Journal's* "Rising Star Lawyers" List, 2017

News & Alerts

44 Bressler Attorneys Recognized By Best Lawyers in America 2021, Including 2 "Lawyers of the Year"
Firm News, 08.20.2020

Civic Involvement

- Board Member, Volunteer Lawyers Birmingham

Professional Affiliations

- American Bar Association
- Alabama Bar Association
- Birmingham Bar Association
- Georgia Bar Association
- Estate Planning Council of Birmingham