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Attorneys

Charles B. Zirkle, Jr.

Areas of Expertise: Workers' Compensation / Personal Injury

- Named by *Atlanta* magazine as one of Atlanta's best lawyers for both defense and claimant's work in 2000
- Designated one of Georgia's Super Lawyers in the field of Workers' Compensation in 2004
- Practicing Attorney for over 26 years

Charles B. Zirkle, Jr., is licensed to practice law both in Georgia and Kentucky and has practiced law in Atlanta for over 26 years. A seasoned litigator, he has tried more than 70 jury trials for both plaintiffs and defendants and more than 250 Workers' Compensation cases. He and Scott Hoffman formed Zirkle & Hoffman LLP in 1994.

Named one of the best lawyers in Atlanta by *Atlanta* magazine in 2000--the only attorney mentioned for both defense and claimant work--Mr. Zirkle was also one of only six lawyers listed as Atlanta's best in Workers' Compensation in 2002. In 2004 he was recognized by *Law & Politics* and *Atlanta* magazine as one of Georgia's Super Lawyers in the field of Workers' Compensation.

Mr. Zirkle is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* publication and is a frequent speaker at labor and employment law seminars at the request of national labor law firms and the EEOC. He has conducted seminars statewide, nationally and internationally on topics including heart attack cases, cumulative and psychic trauma injuries and sports and entertainment law issues. At the request of the NBA, he was part of a panel of experts presenting information to the NBA Team Doctors during the 2003 All-Star Game. Along with liability and Workers' Compensation expertise, he also specializes in claims for the professional sports and entertainment industries.

Mr. Zirkle is a member of: the Atlanta, Kentucky and American Bar Associations, the State Bar of Georgia, the Georgia Workers' Compensation Defense Attorneys Association, the Sports and Entertainment Law section and the Alternative Dispute Resolution section of the State Bar, the Association for Conflict Resolution, the Defense Research Institute and the American Trial Lawyers Association (associate member). He received his B.A. degree from Hampden-Sydney College in 1974 and his J.D. degree from Emory University School of Law in 1978.

Mr. Zirkle is known for his tough but fair negotiations, along with his ability to reach the heart of the matter quickly.

G. Scott Hoffman

Areas of Expertise: Workers' Compensation / Litigation / Premises Liability

- Chair-Elect, Workers' Compensation section, Atlanta Bar
- Has participated in or conducted over 150 mediations
- Practicing Litigation Attorney for over 26 years

G. Scott Hoffman has practiced law in Atlanta for over 26 years, primarily in the area of Workers' Compensation. He has tried over 350 Workers' Compensation cases for both plaintiffs and defendants and has participated in or conducted over 150 mediations. He and Chuck Zirkle formed Zirkle & Hoffman LLP in 1994.

Mr. Hoffman has been a speaker at many seminars for clients and professional organizations on numerous topics relating to Workers' Compensation and insurance law.

Mr. Hoffman is currently the Chair of the Workers' Compensation Section of the Atlanta Bar Association. He is also a member of: the Alternative Dispute Resolution and Workers' Compensation Sections of the State Bar of Georgia, the Association for Conflict Resolution, the Atlanta Claims Association, the Georgia Self Insurers Association, the Defense Research Institute and the Trial Lawyers of America (associate member). He is registered with the Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution. He received his B.A. degree from Emory University in 1976 and his J.D. degree from the University of Georgia School of Law in 1979.

A veteran of numerous mediations, Mr. Hoffman has a calm and balanced approach to negotiation and possesses a particularly thorough understanding of the issues and dynamics involved in Workers' Compensation cases.

Karen B. Hubbard

Areas of Expertise: General Litigation

- Honor graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (Phi Beta Kappa) and Georgetown University Law Center
- Practicing litigation attorney for 20 years
- Experienced legal writer with additional background in class actions, agency-related litigation, medical malpractice defense, and commercial and personal injury case

Karen Hubbard is the newest member of the Zirkle & Hoffman legal team. An experienced litigator, she has practiced law in Atlanta for her entire career, beginning at Alston & Bird after law school. She spent eight years with Delta Air Lines handling matters that arose in their Marketing Division: managing class action and antitrust lawsuits and governmental investigations, overseeing Delta's relationships with travel agents and other distributors, negotiating and preparing code-share agreements and reviewing contracts.

Ms. Hubbard received her J.D. degree *cum laude* from Georgetown University in 1980. She was a member of the Law Review there, writing *Law and Policy in International Business*, and graduating *cum laude* in 1986. Ms. Hubbard received her B.A. degree in 1983 from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where she was admitted to Phi Beta Kappa.

She is a member of the Atlanta Bar Association and the State Bar of Georgia.

Ms. Hubbard's experience managing a wide range of legal matters and her sensitivity to the human aspects of litigation enable her to bring a professional, yet concerned, perspective to the art of mediation.