

ROBERT PATTERSON WATKINS, III

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- EDUCATION:** Harvard College, A.B., 1959
Columbia University Law School, LLB, 1965
Ford Foundation Fellowship to
Cambridge University (England), Diploma in Criminology, 1970
- MILITARY STATUS:** Veteran, U.S. Army, Active Duty, Oct. 1960 – July 1962
Reserve Duty, July 1962 – Oct. 1966
Honorable Discharge, Oct. 1966

Williams & Connolly LLP, Washington, DC

October 1972 – November 2016; Partner 1977- 2016

For over 30 years at Williams & Connolly LLP, one of the nation's leading trial law firms. I have represented individuals, business organizations, and universities in civil matters including libel, contract disputes, discrimination, antitrust and labor, medical malpractice and general civil litigation. Have represented both individuals and organizations in a wide variety of criminal matters involving both street and white-collar crime.

My areas of specialty are civil and criminal litigation. My practice has been quite varied. The following is a description of the types of cases and clients.

Civil and Criminal Litigation Case Summaries

CASES – CIVIL

- Defended a railroad corporation in two class action suits; the first was involved a \$25,000,000 case tried in Jacksonville, Florida involving hundreds of foreign employees. The second involved race discrimination in Birmingham, Alabama.
- Represented an auto dealership in a complex race discrimination case and against claims of sex and age discrimination in Northern Virginia.
- Represented a major supermarket chain in two class action race discrimination cases; one in Washington, D.C., and the other in Baltimore, Maryland.
- Represented the owner of a shopping center in a wrongful death action.
- Represented a D.C. area hotel in a sexual harassment case.
- Defended a D.C. area hospital corporation in a complex medical malpractice case involving surgical procedures.

CASES – CIVIL (cont'd)

- Represented a major real estate broker in antitrust suits and in various real estate licensing proceedings.
- Represented a German beer company in a contract dispute with U.S. beer company.
- Represented Black employees of the Library of Congress in labor disputes with the Library administration.
- Prepared and argued pre-trial motions to dismiss in civil securities fraud suit involving over ten million dollars.
- Represented the South Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) against a lobbying arm of the Namibian Government in a dispute about SWAPO's status in United States (U.S.).
- Represented company in litigation against the Federal Government for Federal agency's breach of contract in connection with its purchase of computer hardware and software.
- Represent minority union members in action against a union for discriminatory practices.
- Defended national newspaper in action for libel.
- Defended major manufacturer of asbestos products in series of Wrongful Death and Survivors Act cases.
- Defended major natural gas transmission company in a contract suit by an electric utility.
- Represented plaintiffs in an air pollution suite against a major coal company in West Virginia.
- Defended major pesticide producer in cancellation proceedings before the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- Represented national food distributor as creditor in commercial loan action.
- Defended international oil exploration company in civil securities action.
- Represented major auto manufacturer in products liability litigation.
- Represented a major university in a variety of litigated cases:
 - Libel actions and advising the newspaper on potentially libelous articles.
 - Contract matters, claims of race and sex discrimination, and claims of wrongful denial of tenure.
 - Hospital medical malpractice actions.
- Represented another university in the negotiation and administration of the following:
 - lective bargaining agreements.
 - Claims of discrimination before the D.C. Human Rights Commission.
 - Regulatory matters before the local transit commission.

Litigated real estate matter.

CASES - CRIMINAL

- Defended U.S. Congressman charged with mail fraud and making false statements.
- Represented public official charged with bribery, willful failure to pay income taxes, filing fraudulent claims against the government, making false statements to the government, and obstruction of justice.
- Defended complicated securities, criminal mail fraud, and securities fraud prosecution.
- Represented local official charges with bribery and fraud.
- Defended a number of clients (in federal and local courts) charged with offenses of murder, burglary, grand larceny, embezzlement, kidnapping, bribery, obstruction of justice, maintaining an interstate gambling operation, and violation of the federal narcotic laws.

OTHER EXPERIENCE

August 1971 – September 1972

Chief, Misdemeanor Section, U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia

Trained all new employees entering the U.S. Attorney's Office in law, procedure, and trial tactics for criminal cases. Supervised, controlled, and had responsibility for 20 to 25 Assistant U.S. Attorneys and for supporting personnel, including the training and evaluation of personnel performance. Made policy decisions about how certain classes of cases, such as narcotics and weapons cases, were to be disposed of. Personally made tactical decisions on how a case would best be tried; tried major felony cases.

August 1970 – 1971

Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia, Appellate Division

Wrote briefs and argued criminal and civil cases in both the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit Court and in the D.C. Court of Appeals.

September 1968 – August 1969

Law Clerk to the Honorable William B. Bryant, U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia

Researched various criminal and civil matters coming before the Court; advised the Court in their disposition.

OTHER EXPERIENCE (cont'd)

December 1966 – January 1968

Trial Attorney, Office of Hearing Counsel, Federal Maritime Commission, Washington, DC

Wrote the briefs and argued cases before Hearing Examiners, now Administrative Law Judges, and the full Maritime Commission.

September 1965 – December 1966

Attorney, Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

Investigated various civil rights complaints in various counties of Mississippi and Alabama and assisted in the preparation of trials of more senior attorneys.

MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATIONS

Bar Association and Professional Organizations

Advisory Committee on Procedure, U.S. Court of Appeals (D.C. Circuit) 1984 -1985

American Bar Association, 1967- Present

American Bar Association Standing Committee on Federal Judiciary, member 1990 -1993;

Chairman 1993 - 1994

Bar Association of the District of Columbia 1964 - Present

American College of Trial Lawyers, 1992 - Present

Thurgood Marshall American Inn of Court, January 1990-1993

Charles Fahy American Inn of Court, September 1982-1985; 1989-1990

American Trial Lawyers Association, 1988-Present

Assistant U.S. Attorneys Association, 1975-Present

Black Assistant U.S. Attorneys, 1982-2016

Board of Governors of the D.C. Bar, June 1980-June 1983

Columbia Law School Alumni Association, 1980s-Present

District of Columbia Bar Disciplinary Board, 1974-1977

Board of Trustees, D.C. Public Defender Service. Member 1976-1982; Chairman 1979-1981

District of Columbia Bar Association, Sections on Criminal Law, General Practice and Litigation,

Young Lawyers Section, 1968-1972

Federal Judicial Nominating Commission for the District of Columbia, 1976-1980

Fellows of the American Bar Foundation, 1993-Present

Flannery Lecture Committee 2005-Present

Lawyer's Club of Washington, 1997-Present

Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs, 1983-Present

Lawyers Guild, 1964-1992

NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, 1970s-Present

National Bar Association, 1975-1996

National Conference of Black Lawyers, 1971-1994

Bar Association and Professional Organizations (cont'd)

The American Law Institute 1995-Present

The Defense Research Institute, 1980s

Phi Delta Phi, 1962-1965

Washington Bar Association, 1967-Present

Educational Organizations

Boston Latin School Association, 1985-Present; Board of Directors, 1992-1995

Director, Associated Harvard Alumni, 1979-1981

Columbia Law School Association, Board 1997-1980

Harvard Club of Washington, 1968-Present; Vice President for Administration, 1983-1984

Board of Directors, 1975-1978; 1984-1988;

Harvard Schools and Scholarship Committee, 1986-1994

Williams College Parents' Council, 1994-2001

Civic and Charitable Organizations

Environmental Defense Fund, 1970s-Present

Friends of Drayton Hall, 1980s-Present

Friends of the Folger Shakespeare Library, 1972-Present

Friends of the National Zoo, 1980-Present

Museum of African American History and Culture

Charter Member, 2016-Present

NAACP, 1970s-Present

National Trust for Historic Preservation 1980s-Present

Neighbors, Inc., Member, 1973-Present

Schomburg Society for the Preservation of Black Culture of the New York Public Library, 2003-2010

Smithsonian Associate, 1980-Present

The English Speaking Union, 1988-2005

The Phillips Collection, 1980-Present

Religious Organizations

St. Columba's Episcopal Church, 1979-Present; Usher, 1984-1986; Sunday School Teacher, 1982-1990

Space Allocation Committee, February 1985-1986

Vestry Member, Finance Committee, 1990-1995

Search Committee, 1994-1995

Religious Organizations (cont'd)

National Cathedral Chapter, Board 1997-2005

Vice Chancellor, Episcopal Diocese of Washington, 1996-2004

Social and Fraternal Organizations

Aspen Hill Racquet Club, 1987-2004

Capitol PC Users Group, 1984-1990

DePriest Fifteen, 2009-Present

Metropolitan Club, 1983-Present

Omega Phi Psi Fraternity, 1957-Present

Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, Epsilon Boulē, 1995-Present