



Hannah D. Kays (Choe)

ASSOCIATE

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AREAS OF PRACTICE

- Creditors' Rights & Collections
- Commercial Creditor Bankruptcy

GET IN TOUCH

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MY PROFILE

As the daughter of small business owners, Hannah learned at an early age the value of hard work and self-discipline. Growing up, she often helped her parents navigate the sea of legal paperwork that comes with managing a small business. It was that experience that inspired Hannah to pursue a career in law. Today, she is an associate in the firm's [Creditors' Rights and Collections](#) practice group, representing a broad range of businesses in North and South Carolina through all stages of the collection litigation process, including pre-suit collection efforts, lawsuits, judgments, and executions.

With a passion for pursuing her clients' best interests and protecting their rights, Hannah is never afraid to burn the midnight oil for justice. With unflappable creativity and diligence, she has a knack for complex litigation, working with her clients, opposing counsel, and the other parties, to achieve an equitable resolution. Her persistence in resolving disputes that advance her clients' rightful remedy is unmistakable. A big believer in never procrastinating, Hannah values completing tasks and deadlines well in advance to provide her clients with ample time for their internal review and analysis. She puts the needs of her clients first, and doing so is never an afterthought for this young, yet wise, attorney. It's a philosophy she's ingrained from a lifetime of helping others. It's this level of care and attention that she brings to every client relationship.

Before joining Smith Debnam, Hannah represented clients in the areas of personal injury workers' compensation, social security disability, and mass torts. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and her law degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She received a master's degree in International Business Law from Radboud University in the Netherlands.

When asked about her approach to resolving disputes, she replies, "I think it's easiest to resolve contested issues when all parties are professional and work through the problems together. With that being said, sometimes it's difficult to find common ground. When that happens, I pride myself in applying pressure through creativity and strategy while still maintaining a high degree of professionalism."

MY CREDENTIALS

Admissions

- North Carolina State Bar
- South Carolina State Bar

Education

- LLM, International Business Law, Radboud University, Nijmegen, the Netherlands, 2016
- JD, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2014
- BA, Political Science, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2009

ARTICLES & INSIGHTS

January 15, 2019

[Government Shutdown Leaves Consumers Vulnerable](#)

April 9, 2018

[District Court Rules Debt Collector's Letter Not A FDCPA Violation](#)

NEWS

September 7, 2018

[Smith Debnam Laces Up for Backpack Buddies at 2018 North Hills 5k](#)

May 3, 2018

[Smith Debnam Releases its Spring 2018 Consumer Financial Services Update](#)

September 5, 2017

[Smith Debnam Welcomes New Creditors' Rights Attorney](#)

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