



Edward J. "Trip" Coyne, III

E: ejcoyne@wardandsmith.com

P: 910.794.4887
Post Office Box 7068
Wilmington, NC 28406-7068

Professional Experience

Trip has recently returned to Ward and Smith after serving as the Chief Executive Officer of an international consumer products company. He also currently serves as the Executive in Residence for UCONN's Werth Institute for Entrepreneurship and Innovation.

Trip has significant experience in complex and high stakes litigation matters and regularly appears as lead or local counsel in courts throughout the country. He also provides general business counsel to domestic and international clients with a focus on consumer product and multi-national companies.

Prior to joining the firm, Trip practiced in the Wilmington office of a large law firm and served two terms as a law clerk to the Honorable John R. Jolly, Jr., then of the North Carolina Business Court. He is licensed in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida and has been rated by his peers as being "preeminent" in his field of law.

Practice Concentrations

Appeals
Business, Civil and Commercial Litigation
Construction Litigation
Maritime and Admiralty
Mergers and Acquisitions
Contract Negotiation and Drafting

Education

J.D., Wake Forest University School of Law, 2005; Editor in Chief, *Wake Forest Intellectual Property Law Journal*; Full Academic Scholarship Recipient
B.S., Appalachian State University, 2002; Omicron Delta Kappa

Admitted to Practice

North Carolina, 2005
Florida, 2008
Georgia, 2007
South Carolina, 2008
United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina
United States District Court for the Eastern, Middle, and Western Districts of North Carolina
United States District Court for the District of South Carolina

Honors and Distinctions*

"Legal Elite," *Business North Carolina*, Business, 2024

The Best Lawyers in America, Best Lawyers[®], 2016-2024

"Lawyer of the Year," *Best Lawyers in America*[®], 2023

"40 and Under Hot List," Benchmark Litigation, 2018-2020

"Rising Star," North Carolina Super Lawyers, 2013-2019



Representative Experience

Experienced in a wide-variety of complex litigation matters

Litigated and/or resolved a significant number of closely-held company and partnership disputes

Appointed by the Northern District of Illinois as co-lead counsel in a certified class action against a Fortune 500 company

Experienced in all aspects of product development and regulation, including significant practical experience serving on ASTM committees and interfacing directly with the Consumer Product Safety Commission and other regulatory bodies

Served as coordinating counsel in complex regulatory matters spanning multiple countries

Advised numerous founders, boards, and c-suite executives on domestic and international business issues and strategic matters

Litigated numerous construction contracts, site-related claims, and claims of defective workmanship before arbitrators and courts

Litigated government contracts related to technology, construction, and dredging matters

Represented diverse interests in a variety of commercial and personal injury maritime matters, including allisions, collisions, and ship fires

Coordinated global tax strategy for high-growth, multinational holding company in conjunction with leading tax firms

Led sell-side M&A process in partnership with leading investment bank

Litigated a wide variety of commercial, securities, real property, estate, and creditor's rights matters

Served as local counsel throughout the Carolinas in a variety of state and federal court litigation matters

Regularly provides co-counsel and supporting counsel to other law firms on complex matters

Professional and Community Affiliations

Young President's Organization (YPO), Southern 7 Chapter (member)

Wake Forest Journal of Business and Intellectual Property Law (Board of Advisors)

Cameron Art Museum (past Chairman, Board of Trustees)

City of Wilmington Municipal Services District Task Force (past member)

GLOW Leadership Academy Foundation (past board member)

Greater Wilmington Chamber of Commerce (Leadership Wilmington Alumnus, Class of 2012)

North Carolina Bar Association

North Carolina Business Court Rules Advisory Committee (past member)

Southeastern Admiralty Law Institute (past member, Port Captain, past presenter)

Wilmington Downtown, Inc. (past officer and director)

** Please see the following websites for an explanation of the membership standards for the following recognitions: www.bestlawyers.com; businessnc.com/special-sections/legal-elite/; and www.superlawyers.com/north-carolina.*