

John M. Kalas
Partner

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John M. Kalas practices in the Firm's Complex Litigation, Environmental, Pharmaceutical Products, and Toxic Torts & Products Liability groups. His practice is focused on deconstructing the opposition's core corporate liability and scientific theories. To that end, he has taken and defended dozens of successful depositions of expert and fact witnesses. He has participated in several multi-day *Daubert* hearings and has significant trial experience as a member of multiple trial teams in jurisdictions nationwide.

Mr. Kalas has litigated personal injury and property damage claims following alleged exposure to perchlorate and other volatile organic compounds ("VOCs") from groundwater contamination, and defended wrongful death claims associated with alleged exposure to airborne toxins in international litigation spanning three continents. He has litigated birth defect claims allegedly associated with occupational and residential chemical exposure, and has represented employers seeking to enforce choice-of-law and arbitration agreements contained within employees' employment contracts. He played a substantial role in the defense of Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation in bisphosphonate litigation centralized in Tennessee and New Jersey. He contributed significantly to motions practice in that litigation, researching and drafting scores of successful dispositive and *Daubert* motions.

Currently, Mr. Kalas is part of the defense team representing an agricultural company in litigation involving claims of cancer from exposure to pesticides, centralized before the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, and in California, Delaware, and Missouri state courts. As part of that litigation, he has led a team focused on developing experts to evaluate exposure and dose issues and on deconstructing the theories of plaintiffs' exposure, dose, and toxicology experts.

Before joining the Firm, Mr. Kalas interned in the General Counsel's office at General Electric Capital Solutions in London and for U.S. Congressman Roscoe Bartlett (MD-6). At Georgetown Law, he wrote for *The Tax Lawyer* and competed on the mock trial team.

Mr. Kalas is a member of the Atlantic Legal Foundation Advisory Committee and a member of the Defense Research Institute. He is on the Firm's Recruitment Committee, and his Firm pro bono practice includes representing clients in administrative court disputes and tutoring students at The SEED School and Garrison Elementary School in Washington, D.C. Mr. Kalas was a member of the Firm's 2009 Summer Associate class.

Litigation

Complex Litigation
Environmental
Pharmaceutical Products
Toxic Torts & Products Liability

Education

Elon University (B.A., 2007)
Georgetown University Law Center
(J.D., 2010)

Admissions

District of Columbia and Maryland
United States District Courts for the
Northern District of Florida, and the
District of Maryland

