



**Shannon M. Sprinkle**

Title: Member

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Shannon Sprinkle is a Member in the Atlanta office and has more than twenty years of diverse litigation experience in both state and federal courts. Shannon is frequently retained before litigation to help evaluate and control exposure to potential claims.

Shannon's core practice focuses on professional malpractice, real estate, and finance related claims. She regularly defends lawyers, accountants, agents, brokers, and other professionals in malpractice, breach of fiduciary duty, and fraud claims. Shannon's extensive professional malpractice background allows her to provide clients with valuable risk management advice and consultation to prevent claims, mitigate exposure and risk, and to respond to licensing, review boards, or other professional governing body inquiries.

Shannon also serves as an outside general counsel for numerous professional service firms, advising on employment issues, employment contracts, and data and privacy breach claims, amongst many other issues. Shannon frequently litigates in these same fields as well, securing many summary judgment, dispositive motion, or trial wins for professional service firms, lenders, and other companies defending employment cases, putative class action claims over alleged violations of consumer protection statutes, and more.

Shannon has also litigated a range of product liability claims, covering everything from recreational sporting equipment to truck and gas pump manufactured parts. She's experienced in handling emergency response site investigations, evidence preservation and spoliation issues, and the myriad of expert issues that arise in product liability matters.

# CAPABILITIES

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## Practice Areas

- Arbitration, Mediation & Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Business Litigation
- Class Action, Mass Action & Multi-District Litigation
- Litigation & Appeals
- Privacy & Data Security
- Product Liability Litigation
- Professional Liability Litigation

## RECENT ASSIGNMENTS

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- Won a motion to dismiss for a client in a Federal Syndicated Conservation Easement class action filed against 30 different defendants including lawyers, accountants, appraisers, promoters, and engineers. Claims included RICO, malpractice, negligent misrepresentation, breach of fiduciary duty, and fraud. Our client was one of only six defendants who were dismissed by the 251 page order.
- Shannon Sprinkle and Matt Gass secured a defense verdict after a two week plus trial for their national law firm client accused of wrongful foreclosure activities and GA RICO claims arising out of an alleged erroneous loan payoff.
- Shannon Sprinkle, Joe Kingma, Jeff Hoffmeyer, and Evan Elam secured summary judgment for the U.S. partner of a global accounting firm accused of defamation and tortious interference with contract arising out of an audit engagement.
- Shannon Sprinkle and Dan Millman secured summary judgment for their law firm client accused of malpractice arising out of disputes over a confirmed bankruptcy plan.
- Shannon Sprinkle and Joe Kingma successfully negotiated a favorable resolution of arbitration claims arising out of alleged failures in a Managed Services Agreement after the claimant suffered a cyber-breach resulting in the misdirected payment of several hundred thousands of dollars in vendor payments.
- Shannon Sprinkle negotiated the successful resolution of legal malpractice claims asserted against a national law firm arising out of the previous settlement of hundreds of FLSA claims totaling several million dollars. The settlement reached for our client was less than the anticipated costs of defense of the claim.
- Shannon Sprinkle and Dan Millman defeated ADA claims against a recruiting firm and a staffing company in *Akins, v. Cella, Inc.*, 2022 WL 688847 (N.D. Ga. July 18, 2022) and *Levins v. Connect Staffing, Inc.*, 2022 WL 2187109 (N.D. Ga. May 31, 2022). In both cases, the court agreed that the employers' termination decisions were lawful and justified based on the employees' actions.

## BAR ADMISSIONS

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- Georgia

## RECENT NEWS, ARTICLES & SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

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- 9 legal malpractice trends in 2024  
by Danielle Braff, ABA Journal, May 22, 2024
- Despite Tech Vendor's 'Admitted Negligence,' Ex-FisherBroyles Client May Struggle to Recover Damages  
by Justin Henry, Reporter, Law.com, April 24, 2024
- Litigation Trends  
Data Security and Privacy Symposium, Atlanta Bar Association CLE, April 17, 2024
- Nip and Tuck: Timely, Imaginative, and Successful Strategies to Pare a Legal Malpractice co-speaker, Spring 2024 National Legal Malpractice Conference, American Bar Association, New Orleans, La., April 3-5, 2024
- Trends in Non-Malpractice Claims Against Lawyers and Law Firms  
co-speaker, 23rd Annual Legal Malpractice & Risk Management (LMRM) Conference, Chicago, Ill., March 5–7, 2024
- 'Or They Could Have Fired Deloitte': Embattled CFO Appeals Case, Arguing Auditor Pressed Company Into Firing Him  
by Alex Anteau, *Daily Report*, January 25, 2024
- Statute of Limitations: Lawyers Go Toe-To-Toe  
8th Annual Accounting Risk Management Seminar, Atlanta, November 7, 2023
- Ensuring Enforcement of Electronically Executed Arbitration Agreements *with Evan W. Elam*  
Stites & Harbison Client Alert, September 25, 2023
- Georgia Court of Appeals Holds that Non-Solicitation-of-Employees Restrictive Covenants Must Have Express Geographic Limitations *with Daniel B. Millman*  
Stites & Harbison Client Alert, August 10, 2023

- Cheating Clients/Lying Lawyers: A General Counsel's Dilemma  
panelist, 22nd Annual LMRM Conference, Chicago, March 7–9, 2023
- Incident Preparedness: Developing a Program to Respond to Security Incidents  
Moderator, Data Security and Privacy Symposium, Atlanta, February 8, 2023
- 7th Annual Accounting Risk Management Seminar  
presented by Stites & Harbison's Accounting Defense Team, Atlanta, GA, October 26, 2022
- Diversity Matters - Driving Success in High-Level Decision Making Amongst Lawyers and Clients  
Driving Diversity in Law & Leadership Summit, Atlanta, September 14, 2022
- Navigating the Intersection of Cyber and Professional Liability  
SHRM-Atlanta Legal Summit, May 12, 2022
- Key Takeaways from the American Bar Association's Cybersecurity & Data Privacy Conference  
Stites & Harbison Client Alert, March 28, 2022
- Louisville law firm announces big growth in Atlanta  
by Jason Thomas, *Louisville Business First*, January 27, 2022
- Stites & Harbison Continues Expansion in Atlanta: Lands Commercial Litigation Team of 12 from Copeland, Stair, Kingma & Lovell LLP  
*Franklins*, January 25, 2022
- 19 Attorneys Move to Stites & Harbison, Rapidly Growing Atlanta Team  
by Jacob Polacheck, *Daily Report*, January 25, 2022
- Stites & Harbison Adds 19 To Atlanta Team From 2 Firms *with Jack Rodgers Law360*, January 24, 2022
- Hot Topics in Data Privacy & Cybersecurity  
Atlanta Bar Association's By The Hour Series, May 1, 2021
- Ethical Considerations for Business Lawyers  
38th Annual Business Law Institute, Atlanta, October 31, 2019

## FIRM LEADERSHIP

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- Office of General Counsel, Ethics Subcommittee, Member
- Firm Recruiting Committee, Member
- Atlanta Office Recruiting Committee, Chair

## MEMBERSHIPS

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- American Bar Association , Member
- State Bar of Georgia , Member
- Atlanta Bar Association , Member At Large; Privacy and Cyberspace Law Section, Member
- Professional Liability Underwriting Society , Member

## EDUCATION

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Tulane Law School J.D. *cum laude* 2001

University of Florida B.A., with honors 1998

## MORE THAN STITES & HARBISON

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Prior to joining Stites & Harbison, PLLC, Shannon was the Managing Partner of Copeland, Stair, Kingma & Lovell LLP, a Southeastern civil litigation law firm.

## ACCOLADES

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- *Best Lawyers in America*<sup>®</sup>, Commercial Litigation (2023-24)
- *Georgia Super Lawyers*, Rising Stars (2006-07, 2009-17)
- *The Daily Report*, 25 Lawyers On the Rise (2016)