



## James G. Exum Jr.

Retired Counsel

**Greensboro, NC**

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### Before Fox Rothschild

Jim was a partner at Smith Moore Leatherwood LLP, which combined with Fox Rothschild in 2018. He retired as Chief Justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court in December 1994, after 28 years on the bench - eight years as a Superior Court judge in Guilford County and 20 years on the North Carolina Supreme Court. Before being appointed to the bench, he served in the 1967 North Carolina General Assembly and practiced law from 1961 until 1967 and from 1996 until the present. He helped establish and was the first leader of Smith Moore Leatherwood's Appellate Practice Group.

### Beyond Fox Rothschild

Jim is an active member of the Greensboro community. He has been affiliated over the years with a long list of organizations including the Paul Green Foundation, Sustainable North Carolina, Fair Trial Initiative, Court Watch, Habitat for Humanity, Greensboro City Club, Carolina Club, Sherwood Swim & Racquet Club, Neuse Sailing Association, Watauga Club and Conversation Club.

*This lawyer is an inactive member of the State Bar who has voluntarily petitioned for Emeritus Pro Bono status, which allows the lawyer to represent indigent persons under the supervision of an active member of the State Bar who is employed by a nonprofit corporation duly authorized to provide legal services to such persons.*

### Honors & Awards

- 2009 John McNeill Smith, Jr., Award from the North Carolina Bar Association Constitutional Rights and Responsibilities Section
- North Carolina *SuperLawyers*, Listed Appellate (2006-2011)
- Selected by his peers as Greensboro *Best Lawyers* Lawyer of the Year (Woodward/White, Inc.), Appellate Practice (2014)
- Listed, *The Best Lawyers in America*® (Woodward/White, Inc.), Appellate Law, Bet-the-Company Litigation (2007-2016)
- Rated AV Preeminent™ by Martindale-Hubbell®
- Judge John J. Parker Award, North Carolina Bar Association

- Alumni Achievement Award, NYU School of Law
- Herbert Harley Award, The American Judicature Society
- James Iredell Award, Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity, Norman A. Wiggins School of Law, Campbell University
- Distinguished Alumnus Award, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC-CH)
- William Richardson Davie Award, Trustees, UNC-CH
- Distinguished Service Award, General Alumni Association, UNC-CH
- Frank Porter Graham Award, American Civil Liberties Union of North Carolina
- President, Phi Beta Kappa, UNC-CH
- Morehead Scholar, UNC-CH
- Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award, UNC-CH
- Root-Tilden Scholar, New York University School of Law
- Benjamin F. Butler Memorial Award, New York University School of Law

### **Practice Areas**

- Appellate Practice

### **Bar Admissions**

- North Carolina, Emeritus Pro Bono

### **Court Admissions**

- U.S. Supreme Court

### **Education**

- New York University School of Law (LL.B., 1960)
- University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (A.B., 1957)
- New York University School of Law (1976)
  - Senior Appellate Judge's Seminar, Institute of Judicial Administration

### **Memberships**

- Fellow, American Academy of Appellate Lawyers
- American Bar Association: House of Delegates, 1993-96; Chairperson, ABA Criminal Justice Standards Committee, 1990-93
- Fellow, American Bar Association Foundation: State Chair, 1995-2003
- North Carolina Bar Association: Member, Committee on Judicial Independence, 2003-present; Appellate Rules Study Committee, 1985-87; Vice-Chairman, Task Force on Alternatives to Litigation, 1983-85; Vice-President, 1979-80
- International Society of Barristers
- Guilford Inn of Court

## **Representative Matters**



While an Associate Justice and Chief Justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court, Jim wrote 402 opinions for the Court and 208 concurring or dissenting opinions. As a lawyer, he has participated in over 40 appeals in state and federal appellate courts.

Representative appellate cases in which he participated in both the briefing and oral arguments are:

- *Analog Devices, Inc. v. Michalski*, \_\_\_\_\_ N.C. App. \_\_\_\_\_, 579 S.E.2d 449 (2003)
- *Governors Club, Inc. v. Governors Club Ltd Partnership, et al*, 152 N.C. App. 240, 567 S.E.2d 781 (2002), *aff'd*, 357 N.C. 46, 577 S.E.2d 620 (2003)
- *Martishius v. Carolco Studios*, 355 N.C. 465, 562 S.E.2d 887 (2002)
- *Royal, et al. v. State, et al.*, 153 N.C. App. 495, 570 S.E.2d 738 (2002), *review denied*, 356 N.C. 677, 576 S.E.2d 111 (2003)
- *Guilford Financial Services v. City of Brevard*, 356 N.C. 655, 576 S.E.2d 325 (2002)
- *Piedmont Triad Airport Authority v. Urbine*, 354 N.C. 336, 554 S.E.2d 331 (2001)
- *Williamson v. Liptzin*, 141 N.C. App. 1, 539 S.E.2d 313 (2000), *review denied*, 353 N.C. 456 (2001)
- *New Horizon of New York, LLC v. Jacobs, et al.*, 231 F.3d 143 (4th Cir. 2000)
- *State v. Israel*, 353 N.C. 211, 539 S.E.2d 633 (2000)
- *Cato v. Crown Financial*, 131 N.C. App. 154, 683, 508 S.E.2d 822 (1998, *review denied*, 350 N.C. 836, 536 S.E.2d 836 (1999)