



Pete A. Brunson

Associate

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Pete Brunson assists clients in a variety of litigation matters as a member of the Financial Services Department.

Pete Brunson is an associate in Baker Donelson's Memphis office and a member of the Financial Services Department. Pete has a diverse practice where he assists clients in a variety of litigation matters ranging from commercial and business litigation to municipal liability disputes.

Before joining Baker Donelson, Pete clerked for the Honorable Thomas L. Parker in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Tennessee. He worked extensively on both civil and criminal cases in this position. Pete has also served as an extern to the Honorable Timothy L. Brooks in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Arkansas.

While in law school, Pete served as the managing editor of the *Arkansas Law Review* and as a student attorney representing clients with misdemeanor charges. He was selected to receive the Bogle-Sharp Award, given annually to the graduate voted by his peers as most likely to succeed in the practice of law.

Prior to law school, Pete worked for a strategic environmental consulting firm where he served as an environmental scientist in the firm's storm water division. In that role, he worked with companies to comply with environmental regulations through the use of best management practices for water pollution.

Representative Matters

- Won a motion to dismiss on behalf of a state bank in a putative class action lawsuit arising out of the bank's assessment of non-sufficient funds fees. Subsequently settled the case on favorable terms.
- Prevailed in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, which upheld a district court's ruling in favor of our banking client regarding a claim brought under the Equal Credit Opportunity Act related to the Small Business Administration's Paycheck Protection Program.
- Successfully defended the former CEO and current executive chairperson of a publicly traded Fortune 500 company in a lawsuit brought by a shareholder seeking to recover more than \$1 million in alleged short-swing profits under Section 16(b) of the Securities Exchange Act. Won on a motion for summary judgment by arguing that the stock sales were exempt transactions that only changed the form of beneficial ownership without altering the pecuniary interest in the stock.

Professional Honors & Activities

- Selected to Mid-South Rising Stars (2022 – 2025)
- Law Clerk to the Honorable Thomas L. Parker – U.S. District Court for the Western District of Tennessee (2018 – 2019)
- Extern to the Honorable Timothy L. Brooks – U.S. District Court for the Western District of Arkansas (2018)
- University of Arkansas Criminal Practice Clinic – Rule XV Student Attorney

Publications

- "As Digital Assets Infiltrate The Banking Industry, New Risks Abound," CNA article (December 2022)



Education

- University of Arkansas School of Law, J.D., 2018, summa cum laude
 - Managing Editor – *Arkansas Law Review*
- Ouachita Baptist University, B.S., 2014, cum laude



Admissions

- Tennessee, 2018
- Arkansas, 2019
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern and Western Districts of Arkansas
- U.S. District Court for the Western District of Tennessee
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit