

**John Ryder***Member*

Downtown Memphis Office

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**Concentration:**

- Bankruptcy and Debt Restructuring
- Commercial Litigation
- Municipal Law

John Ryder's practice is focused on the areas of bankruptcy, workouts, commercial litigation and election law. He has significant experience representing secured lenders, unsecured creditors' committees, trustees and debtors in the bankruptcy process. He has participated in a number of major bankruptcies including The Julien Companies, Microwave Products, Wexner & Jacobson, Wang's, XpertTune and Braniff, to name a few. In addition, Mr. Ryder is knowledgeable in the area of election law, having represented clients in numerous cases involving redistricting matters and election contests, as well as defending clients before the Tennessee Registry of Election Finance. Currently, he is litigation counsel for the Shelby County Election Commission.

At Harris Shelton since 2000, Mr. Ryder was previously a delinquent tax attorney for Shelby County and currently serves as an assistant county attorney. He has also served as member of the Shelby County Home Rule Charter Commission. Mr. Ryder is also an adjunct professor of law at Vanderbilt University.

He is currently General Counsel of the Republican National Committee. He is also vice president of the Republican National Lawyers Association.

He has been recognized by *Business Tennessee Magazine* as being among the 101 Best Lawyers in Tennessee, and has been listed in Best Lawyers since 1987.

Along with his involvement in professional organizations, he has given back to the community through involvement as chairman on the board of trustees of Opera Memphis and as secretary of Memphis Rotary. He has also served on the boards of the YMCA of Greater Memphis and Bridges.

**Professional Honors and Activities**

- American Bankruptcy Institute
- Best Lawyers, Litigation and Bankruptcy Memphis Lawyer of the Year, 2012
- Commercial Law League of America, member
- Memphis Bar Association, member

- Bankruptcy section, past chairman, 1985
- Mid-South Commercial Law Institute, past director, 1989-2006
- Mid-South Super Lawyers
- Republican National Committee
  - Chairman Redistricting Committee
  - Chairman, Presidential Nominating Schedule Committee
- Republican National Committeeman for Tennessee
- Republican National Lawyers Association, vice president
- Sam Myar Award, Memphis Bar Association, recipient
- Tennessee Bar Association, member
  - Commercial, Banking and Bankruptcy Section, chairman, 1986
- Turnaround Management Association, member
- 101 Best Lawyers in Tennessee, *Business Tennessee Ma*
- AVVO rating – Excellent
- Martindale Hubbell rating – AV® Preeminent™

### **Representative Cases**

- *Rural West Tennessee African-American Affairs Council v. Sundquist*, 209 F. 3d 835, 2000 Fed. App. 0134 (6<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2000) rehearing and suggestion for rehearing en banc denied (May 16, 2000)
- *Langsdson v. Millsaps*, 9 F. Supp. 2d 880 (W.D. Tn. 1998), aff'd 510 U.S. 1160 (1994)
- *In the Matter of Braniff Airways, Inc.*, 783 F. @d 1283 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1986)
- *Doulin v White*, 528 F. Supp 1323 (E. D. Ark 1982)
- *Mader v. Crowell*, 498 F. Supp. 226 (W.D. Tn. 1980); 506 F. Supp. 484 (W.D. Tn. 1981)
- *Sullivan v. Crowell*, 444 F. Supp. 606 (W.D. Tn. 1978)
- *White v. Crowell*, 434 F. Supp. 1119 (W.D. Tn. 1977)

### **Bar Admission**

- U.S. Supreme Court, 1979
- Tennessee, 1974

### **Education**

- Vanderbilt University, J.D., 1974
- Wabash College, A.B., 1971