



## Jason Groch

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Jason Groch is an associate in the Atlanta office of Hawkins Parnell Thackston & Young LLP. Jason handles a range of personal-injury and wrongful-death cases, but concentrates primarily on defense of clients in toxic tort litigation. In addition, Jason represents clients in appellate litigation. He began his legal career as a staff attorney at the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit, and he now uses his appellate expertise in service of his clients in private practice.

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Jason is the primary attorney responsible for drafting motions, pleadings, appellate briefs, memoranda, and other documents for a litigation team handling asbestos, silica, and benzene cases. He also reviews the work of other attorneys on the litigation team and serves as the team's authority on questions of civil and appellate procedure. In addition, he prepares case evaluations for clients and makes recommendations regarding litigation strategy. Jason is frequently consulted to devise solutions to difficult problems encountered in toxic tort litigation.

Jason has played a leading role in defending the constitutionality of Florida's tort-reform legislation for asbestos and silica litigation. He worked with counsel for codefendants to draft briefs defending the legislation against constitutional attacks in trial courts across Florida. In addition, he authored the briefs in the first appeal taken from a trial court ruling that the legislation was unconstitutional, and he succeeded in obtaining a reversal of that ruling.

Jason has authored scores of successful motions to dismiss cases in asbestos and silica litigation.

In the first ruling on this issue in Florida, Jason recently obtained summary judgment for an equipment manufacturer on the ground that the manufacturer was not responsible for replacement asbestos-containing parts installed in the manufacturer's products after sale.

Jason coordinates joint-defense projects with codefendants in asbestos and silica cases, and works with codefendants' attorneys to develop a unified position on issues, when appropriate.

Jason works on "big picture" matters, such as drafting and revising omnibus case management orders. He participated in successful efforts to adopt a defense-oriented case management order for silica litigation in Broward County, Florida, and to obtain defense-oriented revisions to the omnibus case management orders for asbestos litigation in three Florida counties.

Jason is also involved in projects of a nationwide scope, and he is responsible for monitoring national litigation developments.

### PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- American Bar Association
- Atlanta Bar Association
- Defense Research Institute

### PRACTICE AREAS

Toxic Tort and  
Environmental Litigation  
Appellate and Legal Issues

### EDUCATION

J.D., with honors, George  
Washington University Law  
School, 1995

- Member, *George  
Washington Law Review*

- Order of the Coif

B.A., *magna cum laude*,  
University of Arizona, 1991

- Phi Beta Kappa

### BAR ADMISSIONS

Georgia  
Maryland

Jason Groch (*Cont.*)

**PRESENTATIONS**

Author, "Getting Down to the Nitty-Gritty of the Silica Deposition," *Defense Research Institute Silica Litigation Conference* (June 2006)

Author, "New Plaintiff and Product Investigation: Research Regarding Plaintiffs," *Defense Research Institute Asbestos Medicine Seminar* (November 2007)

Author, "Ctrl+Alt+Delete: Identifying Alternative Causal Factors to Control or Delete Defendants' Liability Exposure," *Mealey's Benzene Litigation Conference* (July 2008)

**TRIALS**

- National Office Partners, L.P. v. Stanley
- Flowserve Corp. v. Bonilla
- Genuine Parts Co. v. Parsons

**NEWS**

- HPTY Secures Summary Judgment for Two Clients
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