

Susan M. Clare

Partner

Trial and Global Disputes

Atlanta: +1 404 572 3556

sclare@kslaw.com



Susan Clare, a partner in our Trial and Global Disputes Practice, is the Co-Chair of the Firm's Automotive and Transportation Litigation Team, named a Practice Group of the Year by *Law 360*. Susan represents clients in the automotive/transportation, life sciences, consumer products, and financial services industries in high-exposure class action, mass tort, and other complex litigation. She has been named a Georgia Rising Star by *Super Lawyers* and *Atlanta Magazine* every year since 2013. In 2018, Susan was recognized as a Rising Star for Transportation by *Law360*, one of only four lawyers selected in the category. In 2019 and 2020, Susan was selected as a Next Generation Lawyer by *The Legal 500* in two litigation categories. Susan has also been named to *Benchmark Litigation's* 40& Under Hot List.

With experience in all phases of complex litigation, Susan represents companies in individual, class action and multi-district proceedings in federal and state courts across the country.

She is skilled at handling the types of issues that frequently accompany the highest-exposure matters, such as cases involving recalled and foreign-manufactured products, data breaches, media attention, government investigations, allegations of consumer fraud, jurisdictional challenges, insurance disputes, and extensive expert discovery. In addition to litigation, Susan frequently advises clients on risk assessment and mitigation strategies, product labeling and other consumer communications, government regulations, and product recalls. Susan also counsels clients on e-discovery issues that include litigation preparedness, discovery strategy in active litigation, and defending against allegations of evidence spoliation.

Matters

Representing **leading automobile manufacturers** as strategic counsel in hundreds of consumer fraud and breach of warranty cases in California.

Key member of King & Spalding team representing **Equifax, Inc.** in more than 250 consumer and financial institution class actions in an MDL proceeding arising from the data breach announced by Equifax in September of 2017.

Serving as co-national trial counsel for **one of the world's largest shipping and logistics companies** in serious injury cases arising out of tractor trailer and package delivery motor vehicle accidents.

Representing **leading domestic and foreign automotive manufacturers** in class actions, catastrophic injury, and wrongful death cases, including claims alleging manufacturing, design, and failure to warn defects, breach of warranty, violations of consumer protection statutes, consumer fraud, and entitlement to punitive damages. Technical specialties include vehicle rollovers, alleged powertrain defects, advanced occupant restraint systems, infotainment systems, and vehicular fires.

Representing a **global pharmaceutical company** in medical device and biologic cases across the country involving allegations of personal injury, off-label promotion, and fraud.

Representing a **national flooring retailer** in federal class action proceeding involving allegations of consumer fraud, false labeling, and breach of warranty.

Representing **Beazer Homes** as national counsel in its Chinese drywall docket, including individual and putative class actions in state court and a federal MDL proceeding alleging product defects, breach of warranty, and violations of consumer protection statutes.

Representing a **top private university** in putative class action in federal MDL proceeding brought by former student athletes alleging injuries resulting from concussions and head trauma.

Representing a **high-growth specialty retailer** in burn injury cases resulting from the use of recalled gel fuel and firepot products.

Summary judgment for **GM Canada** on lack of personal jurisdiction grounds in quadriplegia injury, automotive product liability case. *Hinrichs v. GM of Canada, Ltd.*, 2016 Ala. LEXIS 81 (Ala., June 24, 2016), cert denied, 582 U.S. _ (U.S. June 26, 2017).

Dismissal on preemption grounds of medical device case brought against **Allergan USA, Inc.** in South Carolina federal court. *Wells v. Allergan USA, Inc.*, No. 6:12-3509-TMC, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 3735 (D.S.C. Jan. 13, 2014).

Summary judgment for **Atlanta Gas Light Co.** in multi-plaintiff burn injury case after excluding plaintiffs' standard of care expert on *Daubert* grounds. *Anderson v. Atlanta Gas Light Co.*, 324 Ga. App. 801 (2013).

Summary judgment for **GM Canada** in quadriplegia injury, automotive product liability case on a writ of mandamus to the Alabama Supreme Court. *Ex Parte General Motors of Canada Limited*, 144 So. 3d 236 (Ala. 2013).

Summary judgment for **GM Canada** based on the expiration of the statute of limitations in a wrongful death, automotive product liability case filed in Alabama federal court. *King v. GMC*, No. 5:11-cv-2269-AKK, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 54439 (N.D. Ala. April 18, 2012).

Dismissal of product liability claims brought against former officers and directors of **General Motors Corporation** by plaintiffs attempting to circumvent bankruptcy law. *Frye v. Smith*, 67 So. 3d 882 (Ala. 2011).

Credentials

EDUCATION

J.D., Emory University, with high honors

B.S., Georgia Institute of Technology, with highest honors

ADMISSIONS

Georgia

CLERKSHIPS

Intern, Justice Hugh P. Thompson, Georgia

ASSOCIATIONS

International Academy of Defense Counsel (IADC) Trial Academy, 2014

Recognition

Named to 40 Under 40 Hot List - South
BENCHMARK LITIGATION, 2020

Named a Next Generation Partner in Transport: Rail and Road - Litigation and Regulation
LEGAL 500 US, 2019-2020

Named a Next Generation Partner in Product Liability, Mass Tort And Class Actions:
Automotive/Transport - Defense
LEGAL 500 US, 2019-2020

Member of K&S team named 2018 Automotive Practice Group of the Year
LAW360

Member of K&S team named 2013-2018 Product Liability Practice Group of the Year
LAW360

Named a Rising Star for Transportation
LAW360, 2018

Georgia Rising Star, Personal Injury Defense: Products
SUPER LAWYERS, 2013–2019

Order of the Coif

Insights

CLIENT ALERT

September 1, 2020

FDA Continues its Focus on Breast Implant Safety and Transparency with an Eye Toward Improving Regulatory Decision-Making

NEWSLETTER

June 18, 2020

Autonomous Vehicles Speed Read – June 2020

May 21, 2020

Autonomous Vehicles Speed Read – May 2020

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Events

CONFERENCE

November 12, 2019

12th Annual King & Spalding Pharmaceutical University

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

July 9, 2018

Susan Clare to Speak at Automated Vehicles Symposium

April 16, 2018

Susan Clare to Speak at University at Buffalo School of Law

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News

CASES & DEALS

July 17, 2020

Pro Bono Client's Conviction for Double Murder Overturned as Judge Orders New Trial

RECOGNITION

August 10, 2020

Benchmark Litigation Names Seven King & Spalding Partners to its 40 & Under Hot List

June 15, 2020

King & Spalding Earns Top-Tier Rankings in Legal 500 United States 2020 Guide

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