STITES & HARBISON PLLC



Gregory D. Smith

Title: Senior Member

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Mr. Smith is a family law lawyer with 37 years of experience whose practice focuses on complex, difficult disputes between spouses and former spouses. leads a team of six attorneys, two paralegals, and two staff who cover everything family law-related. His practice includes sophisticated financial issues such as valuation and distribution of businesses, business assets, real estate, retirement accounts and more; divorce and post-divorce matters involving children; and alimony and other forms of spousal support. The attorneys in the Stites domestic group, including Mr. Smith, also have experience in litigation involving the application of the Hague Convention on International Child Abduction— international custody cases governed by federal law and international law. Mr. Smith is a Fellow with the American College of Trial Attorneys and a frequent “Best of the Bar” award winner through the *Nashville Business Journal*. Greg previously served as the office executive member of Stites & Harbison’s Nashville/Franklin offices from 2015-2024.

Mr. Smith also has experience handling creditors’ rights and commercial litigation matters in both Tennessee state and federal courts.

CAPABILITIES

Practice Areas

- Arbitration, Mediation & Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Appellate Advocacy
- Business Litigation
- Family Law
- Trusts & Estates and Family Law
- Litigation & Appeals

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Tennessee
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee
- U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee
- U.S. District Court for the Western District of Tennessee
- U.S. Supreme Court

RECENT NEWS, ARTICLES & SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Gregory Smith Earns Chambers High Net Worth Honor for 2023
  by staff writer, Attorney At Law Magazine, September 19, 2023
- Gregory Smith Earns Chambers USA High Net Worth Honor for 2022
  by staff writer, *Attorney At Law Magazine*, August 2, 2022
- Ethical Considerations in Family Law
  panel member, 16th Annual Virtual Family Law Conference for Tennessee Practitioners, December 2-3, 2021 *,with Brenton H. Lankford*
- Case Law Update
  Family Law Institute, Nashville Bar Association Domestic Relations Committee, October 18, 2021 *,with Brenton H. Lankford*
- Chambers USA honors Stites & Harbison's Smith
  by staff author, *The Nashville Ledger*, July 30, 2021
- Regular seminars for the Tennessee Bar Association, the Nashville Bar Association; the Tennessee Trial Lawyers Association; Tennessee Attorneys' Memo; Tennessee; Tennessee Society of CPAs; Williamson County Bar Association; Tennessee Association of Professional Mediators; National Business Institute; and more
  (1999-Present) (Topics include ethics, case law updates; mediation; and more)
- Annual updates to the Alimony Bench Book
  prepared for Tennessee trial judges by the Tennessee Bar Association, Family Law Section (2014-present)
- Annual updates to Richards on Tennessee Family Law (with Brent Lankford), the leading treatise on the topic
  (2015-present)
- 2020 Domestic Case Law Update
  Tennessee Judicial Conference, October 2020

- Grandparent Visitation in Tennessee: A Study in Case Law
  Nashville School of Law, November 19, 2019
- Tennessee Attorneys Memo
  2018 Family Conference for Tennessee Practitioners, December 7, 2018
- New Law Update: Family Law Cases
  January 2, 2015 through July 5, 2016, Tennessee Association of Professional Mediators Summary of New Cases in Family Law and Divorce, August 2016
- Case law updates to the Tennessee Judicial Conference (a continuing legal education seminar for Tennessee's trial and appellate judges) on new cases and statutory changes in family law
  (2012-present)
- Computer and Electronic Snooping: Opportunities to Violate State and Federal Law
  Co-author, 34 *Am. J. Tr. Advoc.* 473 (2011)

FIRM LEADERSHIP

- Domestic Service Group, Former Chair
- Office Executive Member, Nashville and Franklin, TN offices (2014-24)
- Management Committee Member (two terms 2007-2011)
- Active in other firm committees, including recruiting, compensation, and nominating committees

MEMBERSHIPS

- American College of Trial Lawyers,
  - Fellow
- Tennessee Bar Association,
  - 1985-present
- Nashville Bar Association,
  - Board of Directors, 2002-04
  - Circuit and Chancery Court Committee, Chair, 2004
- Nashville Pro Bono, Inc.,
  - Executive Committee, Member
  - Board Secretary; Board Member, 1997-1999

- Nashville Bar Journal,
  - Editor, 1988-89
- Davidson County, Tenn., Juvenile Court Committee Chair,
  - 2001
- Williamson County Inns of Court

EDUCATION

- Vanderbilt University Law School J.D., 1985
- University of Tennessee, Knoxville B.S., College Scholars, 1978

RECENT ASSIGNMENTS

Mr. Smith's practice includes both trial and appellate work. His appeals include a Tennessee Supreme Court case that set the standard for subject matter jurisdiction in child support cases. He has handled numerous other appeals involving modification of alimony and child support, jurisdiction in child custody disputes, and many other issues.

MORE THAN STITES & HARBISON

Cycling, fishing, board gaming, reading and bicycle building (not too good at that last one, or any of the rest for that matter, but still trying) Active with a group of tandem cyclists who provide training/exercise and the opportunity to ride bikes to Nashville-area blind cyclists, through the help of the Harpeth Bike Club.

ACCOLADES

- American College of Trial Lawyers, North America’s preeminent organization of trial lawyers
- *Martindale-Hubbell*® AV-Preeminent® Peer Review Rated
- *Best Lawyers in America*®, Family Law (2008-27)
- *Best Lawyers in America*®, Nashville Area Lawyer of the Year for Family Law (2016, 2018, 2022, 2024, 2026)
- *Chambers High Net Worth*, Family/Matrimonial for USA: Tennessee (2021-26)
- *Nashville Business Journal*, Best of the Bar (2003, 2008, 2009, 2015, 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024)

- *Mid-South Super Lawyers*® (2008-25)
- *Mid-South Super Lawyers*® Top 50 Nashville Lawyers (2018, 2019, 2020)
- *Mid-South Super Lawyers*® Top 100 Tennessee Lawyers (2018, 2019, 2020)
- Nashville Bar Association, Joseph G. Cummings Pro Bono Volunteer of the Year award (1996); Mentor for two other members in the firm, each of whom won the same award as associates on the State level in 2004 and 2014
- 100 Best Lawyers In Nashville, *Nashville Business Journal*