

## Carmen J. Williams

Associate

Atlanta

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Carmen is a seasoned corporate practitioner who represents private equity firms, strategic acquirers and sellers, and other corporate clients in M&A transactions, routine public company reporting, and general corporate matters.

### OVERVIEW

Carmen provides legal representation for both domestic and international public and private companies, covering all aspects of corporate transactions across diverse industries such as sports and entertainment, financial services and payments, technology, insurance, and engineering.

In her mergers and acquisitions practice, Carmen represents private equity funds and their portfolio companies, as well as strategic purchasers and sellers, in public and private mergers and acquisitions, and investment transactions. This includes corporate carve-outs, cross-border transactions, restructurings, and reorganizations.

Additionally, Carmen counsels both public and private companies with respect to a variety of general corporate matters, including corporate governance, annual meetings, fiduciary duties, and organizational matters.

Carmen frequently writes on cannabis jurisprudence and the regulatory framework surrounding cannabis.

She actively recruits for the firm on-campus, and has served as a summer advisor for the firm's summer program. Carmen is also a member of the firm's Black Affinity Group.

### REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Represented a NYSE-traded, multinational insurance broker and risk advisor in stock and asset acquisitions and mergers of privately held insurance agencies in the commercial property and casualty, employee benefits, estate planning, executive benefits, life insurance, personal lines, and retirement services sectors.
- Represented a portfolio company of a private equity fund in multiple add-on acquisitions of engineering and design services companies.
- Represented a payments and financial technology company in an asset purchase under Section 363 of the Bankruptcy Code.
- Represented a dining and retail technology platform in its sale to a private equity-backed strategic buyer.
- Represented a portfolio company of a private equity fund in multiple add-on acquisitions of security services companies.

- Represented a private equity fund in its platform acquisition of a leading provider of multidisciplinary engineering and design services.
- Represented a private equity fund in its platform acquisition of a franchise consulting services business.
- Represented independent music producers in sale of music tracks to record label-signed recording artists.

## AWARDS

- University of Georgia, Terry College of Business Alum of the Day

## TOP AREAS OF FOCUS

- Cannabis
- Corporate
- Mergers + Acquisitions
- Private Equity

## ALL AREAS OF FOCUS

- Cannabis
- Corporate
- Emerging Companies + Venture Capital
- Financial Services
- Mergers + Acquisitions
- Private Equity

## PROFESSIONAL/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- The Gathering Spot – Atlanta, Member

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Judicial intern, Hon. Lawton Stephens, Athens-Clarke County Superior Court, 2016
- Foreign legal intern, Troutman Pepper Hamilton Sanders, 2016-2017

## EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

### EDUCATION

- University of Virginia School of Law, J.D., 2021, editorial board, *Virginia Sports and Entertainment Law Journal*
- University of Georgia, B.B.A., B.A., *magna cum laude*, 2018, finance and political science

### BAR ADMISSIONS

- Georgia

### COURT ADMISSIONS

- Supreme Court of Georgia
- Court of Appeals of Georgia
- Georgia Superior Courts

## **SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

- Panelist, “Corporate Transparency Act: Federal Demands for Transparency in Cannabis,” International Cannabis Bar Association Cannabis Law Institute 2024, July 2024.
- Co-speaker, “Race, Policing & Public Governance at an Inflection Point: Obstacles, Opportunities and Implications,” Harvard Kennedy School Workshop on Racial Disparities in Policing and Prosecutions, April 8, 2021.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

- Co-author, “NCAA Drug Testing & Cannabinoids: A Break-up Story,” *Westlaw Today*, September 13, 2024.
- Co-author, “Federal Courts and Cannabis Disputes: A New Perspective From *Bartch v. Barch*,” February 22, 2024.
- Co-author, “Georgia’s Medical Marijuana Program: DEA Busts the Low-Dose THC Party Before It Starts,” December 12, 2023.
- Co-author, “The Corporate Transparency Act and Its Connection to Cannabis,” November 14, 2023.
- Co-author, “Race, Policing and Public Governance: On the Other Side of Now,” *Cambridge University Press*, June 4, 2021.
- Co-author, “Policing After George Floyd: Where Do We Go From Here?,” *Bloomberg Law*, April 22, 2021.
- Co-author, “The Past and Present of Racism in the Administrative State,” *The Regulatory Review: A Publication of the Penn Program on Regulation*, October 29, 2020.