ALSTON & BIRD



Clare H. Draper
Senior Counsel

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Related Services

With more than 30 years of experience, Clare was a seasoned and creative counselor to employers nationwide. Clients trusted him with complex problems and cases, ranging from wage and hour collective actions to EEOC claims to contract negotiations and union campaigns. With proficiency in government-mandated affirmative action plans, Clare was national affirmative action counsel for several companies.

Clare Draper was a seasoned litigator and counselor with over 30 years of experience protecting clients' interests in labor and employment matters throughout the country. He has extensive experience defending wage and hour collective actions and DOL audits, as well as handling other complex litigation such as EEOC pattern and practice cases and private discrimination class actions. Clare was known for his practical approach to helping clients avoid litigation and solve problems through HR counseling, training, workforce reduction advice, compliance audits, negotiating and drafting employment agreements, restrictive covenants and separation agreements. In addition, he handled traditional labor matters, including union campaigns, negotiation of collective bargaining agreements, arbitrations and hearings. He is a nationally known expert in the field of government-mandated affirmative action plans and he is national affirmative action counsel for several companies, including the second-largest-private employer in the U.S. Clare was listed as a leading labor and employment lawyer in *The Best Lawyers in America®*, *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* and *Super Lawyers* magazine.

Representative Experience

- National affirmative counsel for the second largest employer in the United States.
- Lead counsel in the defense of an OFCCP audit in which the OFCCP's claim of \$9 million in alleged affected class damages
 was defeated and ultimately withdrawn.
- Lead counsel in the successful decertification of a class in an FLSA collective action.
- Lead counsel in successfully preventing the certification of a 20,000-person class in an FLSA collective action.
- Lead counsel in coordinating numerous successful reductions in force, including a 5,000 employee reduction that resulted in no litigation or administrative claims.
- Lead counsel in the successful defense and trial of a Sarbanes-Oxley whistleblower claim.
- Lead counsel in the enforcement of numerous noncompetition and other restrictive covenant agreements.
- Successfully defended a technology company in an employee raiding case.
- Implemented and conducted a comprehensive nationwide training program for hundreds of client's managers and human resources representatives covering harassment, EEO compliance, whistleblower issues and union avoidance.

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- Conducted a whistleblower code of conduct investigation for a national financial services client.
- Conducted other numerous internal investigations, including the investigation of harassment and discrimination claims, reports of violations of codes of conduct and investigations of executive malfeasance.

Professional & Community Engagement

- The Best Lawyers in America
- Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business
- Georgia Super Lawyers
- State Bar of Georgia 1985

Education

- Vanderbilt University (J.D., 1985)
- Yale University (B.A., 1982)

Admitted to Practice

Georgia