



## Paul A. Matthews

Paul A. Matthews joined Bourland Heflin Alvarez Minor & Matthews, PLC as a named partner in 2006. Selected as one of the “Top 100 Lawyers in Tennessee,” Paul is one of only a handful of attorneys in the state to be board certified in both business bankruptcy law and consumer bankruptcy law. His published writings on legal and historical subjects include many articles and two books, and he served as contributing editor of five editions of Martindale-Hubbell Tennessee Law

Digest. Paul’s practice focuses on commercial transactions, business litigation, and bankruptcy.

Paul has handled hundreds of bankruptcy matters, some involving many millions of dollars, as well as out-of-court workouts, foreclosures, UCC sales, and inter-creditor disputes. He has litigated many cases involving various subject areas, such as contracts, real estate, probate and estate matters, business torts, and personal injury (see, e.g., *United States of America v. Ponnappula*, 246 F.3d 576 (6th Circuit 2001)). During more than 25 years as counsel for a 4,000-member trade association, he has assumed primary responsibility for litigation, arbitration, corporate governance, contract issues, internal membership questions, drafting proposed legislation, and other matters.

Paul’s experience also covers large and small transactions for buyers, sellers, lenders, borrowers, issuers, and others with respect to asset sales, sales of going businesses, loans, and issuance of stock in registered offerings and exempt offerings.

**Born:** May 7, 1952, Memphis, Tennessee

### Court Admissions

- All Tennessee state courts
- U.S. District Courts and U.S. Bankruptcy Courts for Western, Middle, and Eastern Districts of Tennessee
- U.S. District Courts and U.S. Bankruptcy Courts for Eastern and Western Districts of Arkansas
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
- U.S. Supreme Court

### Bourland Heflin Alvarez Minor & Matthews PLC

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### Education

- Duke University  
A.B., cum laude, 1974
- Vanderbilt University  
Juris Doctor, 1977  
Moot Court Board, Chief Justice, Vanderbilt

### Practice Areas

- Bankruptcy, Business Workouts & Creditors’ Rights
- Business Law
- Commercial Litigation
- Commercial Transactions
- Trade Association Matters

### Board Certification

- Board certified since 1999 in both Business Bankruptcy Law and Consumer Bankruptcy Law by the American Board of Certification and the Tennessee Commission on Continuing Legal Education and Specialization

### Professional Honors and Awards

- Top rating of “AV” by Martindale-Hubbell
- Selected for “Top 100” Lawyers in Tennessee, Mid-South Super Lawyers and Who’s Who in American Law



**Bourland, Heflin, Alvarez, Minor & Matthews, PLC**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

### **Bar Affiliations**

- Memphis Bar Association: Director (1999-2001), Chairman of Shelby County Courthouse Centennial Committee (2009), Chairman of Professionalism Committee (2004), member of Task Force for Local Rules of Court (2004-05), Judicial Practice and Procedures Committee (2000-02), and Publications Council (1990-98), and member since 1977
- Member, Tennessee Bar Association since 1977
- Member, American Bankruptcy Institute since 1993

### **Community Activities**

- Commissioner and Vice-Chair, Tennessee Historical Commission
- Former Commissioner and Chairman, Shelby County Historical Commission
- St. Mary's Episcopal School: Trustee and Chairman of Council of Advisors
- Leadership Memphis: Graduate (Class of 1987) and Alumni Advisory Council member
- Past President: Duke University Alumni Club of Memphis, Mental Health Association of Memphis and Shelby County, and Davies Manor Association
- Episcopal Church: Member of Diocesan Review Committee and former vestry member
- Recipient of Newman Award from Memphis Heritage, Inc. for Outstanding Achievement by a Volunteer in Historic Preservation.