

# **EXHIBIT A**

**BEASLEY, ALLEN, CROW, METHVIN, PORTIS & MILES, P.C.**

**FIRM PROFILE**

The firm represents plaintiffs and claimants in civil litigation. Currently, the firm employs more than 75 lawyers and over 200 support staff. While our offices are based in Montgomery, Alabama, we work with attorneys and clients throughout the country, representing plaintiffs and claimants in the following areas: Business Litigation, Personal Injury and Product Liability, Medical Devices and Drugs, Fraud, Employment Law, and Environmental. Our attorneys are leaders in multidistrict litigation in courtrooms around the U.S., including district and federal courts. Our attorneys have represented clients testifying before U.S. Congressional committees on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. Our support staff includes full time nurses, investigators, computer specialists, technologists, a public relations department and a comprehensive trial graphics department. We are one of the country's leading firms involved in civil litigation on behalf of claimants, having represented hundreds of thousands of people.

**ATTORNEYS**

**Jere Beasley**, the senior member of the firm Beasley, Allen, Crow, Methvin, Portis & Miles, P.C., has practiced law as an advocate for victims of wrongdoing since 1962. During his career, he has tried hundreds of cases. Jere's numerous courtroom victories include landmark cases that have made a positive impact upon our society. One such case prompted a major automobile manufacturer to recall its unsafe vehicles, while another made a major tractor manufacturer put rollover protection on all of its tractors. Still another prompted a major insurance company to seek out thousands of its policyholders who had been wronged in an effort to correct their policies. Jere Beasley established a one-lawyer firm that officially opened on Jan. 15, 1979, and he filed his first case on behalf of the practice on Jan. 17, 1979. Now, it has been 30 years since he began with the intent of "helping those who need it most." Today, the firm is known as Beasley, Allen, Crow, Methvin, Portis & Miles, P.C., still located in Montgomery, Alabama. Beasley Allen is one of the country's leading firms involved in civil litigation on behalf of claimants, having represented hundreds of thousands of people. The firm employs more than 250 people in Montgomery, including more than 60 attorneys. The driving force behind Jere's success has been his intense commitment to his clients. Jere is, without a doubt, one of the leading trial lawyers in the entire country and a leading advocate for those who have been wronged. He has appeared as a lecturer throughout the country at numerous legal seminars and other events. He has been profiled in Time Magazine, Business Week, and many other noted publications. Jere has tried over 30 cases that have resulted in verdicts greater than one million dollars, including 15 verdicts that exceeded ten million dollars. He is also featured in the 2003-2004, 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 editions of The Best Lawyers in America, a traditional database of over 16,000 lawyers in 30 specialties, all of whom have been chosen as "the best" by their fellow attorneys. Jere also has been selected to Alabama Super Lawyers for 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011; Chambers USA Leading Lawyers list for 2010 and the Lawdragon 500, Leading Lawyers in America rankings for 2010. Jere, along with Beasley Allen Shareholder W. Dee Miles, was recognized by Business Alabama magazine on its 2012 list of the 10 largest Alabama jury awards in the past five years, for their work on the AWP/Medicaid Fraud litigation. Chambers USA quotes sources as saying Jere is "an excellent lawyer who gets good results for his clients." In March 2011, Jere was honored by the Southern Trial Lawyers Association (STLA) with the "War Horse" award. This recognition celebrates the nation's most outstanding trial lawyers. Acknowledged leaders in their communities, the recipients have been active in practice for more than 30 years, demonstrate outstanding skill as trial advocates, and show exceptional commitment to furthering the cause of justice. He also was selected by The Trial Lawyer magazine as a 2011 member of The Round Table: America's 100 Most Influential Trial Lawyers. This selection places him among the top 100 civil plaintiff and criminal defense attorneys in the United States. Jere was co-lead counsel in the record \$11.9 billion punitive damages award against ExxonMobil Corp. on behalf of the state of Alabama. The claims by the State of Alabama were based on breach of

contract and fraud. Beginning in 1993, Exxon had cheated the State by intentionally underpaying royalties on natural gas from the Mobile Bay field. The future anticipated gain to Exxon, as a direct result of their fraudulent conduct, would have been almost one billion dollars. Jere's areas of practice include litigation in Products Liability, Insurance Fraud, Business, Nursing Home, Personal Injury. He is an active member of the Trial Lawyers for Public Justice.

**Greg Allen** has been involved in many product liability cases that have resulted in substantial verdicts and settlements. He was the lead attorney in a claim against General Motors, in which the jury, after two weeks of trial, awarded \$122 million for Greg's client, a brain-damaged child. The case later settled for a confidential amount. The National Law Journal featured this case as one of the top ten verdicts for 2002. As a result of that trial, Greg was also profiled as Litigator of the Month by The National Law Journal. Since then Greg has been selected to Alabama Super Lawyers 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012, and was named one of America's "Best Lawyers" by U.S. News & World Report for 2011 and 2012. Greg also was named the Best Lawyers' 2012 Montgomery Product Liability Litigation Plaintiff's Lawyer of the Year. Only a single lawyer in each specialty in each community is being honored as the "Lawyer of the Year." In addition to his most recent success, Greg has tried cases which have resulted in verdicts of \$114.5 million, \$26.25 million, \$13.5 million, \$12 million and \$11.75 million. He has had a number of eight-figure settlements and many seven-figure verdicts and settlements. He was featured in Lawyers Weekly USA for obtaining a settlement in the amount of \$1 million, in which the damage to the client was an injury to one foot. He proved significant wrongdoing on the part of the defendant. In 2003, Greg was the lead attorney in a \$12 million record verdict in Lamar County, Alabama against Pro Tech, involving a defective product. In 2007 Greg settled two cases for severely injured clients where the total of the two settlements exceeded \$30 million. Greg has taught products liability at a number of seminars and at Jones School of Law, who honored Greg by naming their mock trial competition "The J. Greg Allen Trial Competition." Greg was the chairman of the steering committee in Jones School of Law's effort to obtain ABA approval, which has since been accomplished. In October 2010, Jones School of Law announced it would name a new addition to the law school after him - the Allen Law Center. The Center officially opened on November 15, 2011.

**Mike Crow** is in our personal injury section and mainly handles car and truck litigation, premise liability cases, and has special interest in brain injury cases. Mike has been successful in litigating against the "Big Box Stores," i.e. Wal-Mart, Home Depot and others, and he has a wealth of knowledge of their practices and procedures. Mike has handled several cases against a local School Board for section 1983 violations and Title IX violations. These cases range from young females students being sexually assaulted by a substitute teacher to the local school board failing to have and implement a Title IX policy. Mike is a current and past member of the Montgomery County Bar Association grievance committee and has served on the committee for the past 10 years. In 2009 he was appointed to serve on the Alabama State Bar committee Disciplinary Commission. He is a member of the American Association for Justice (AAJ) Interstate Trucking Litigation Group, and the Plaintiffs Interstate Trucking Lawyers of America. Mike also has been selected for inclusion on both the 2011 and 2012 Best Lawyers in America lists, published by U.S. News & World Report.

**Tom Methvin** was born in Eufaula, Alabama in 1963. After graduating from High School with honors, Tom graduated from the University of Alabama with a degree in Corporate Finance in the Business School. He then earned his law degree from Cumberland School of Law in Birmingham, Alabama in 1988 and began his legal career at Beasley Allen that same year. Tom's family has been lawyers, judges and other elected officials in Alabama for over 200 years. Tom always knew he wanted to be an attorney. From a very early age, Tom has had a heart for those whom the Bible calls "the least of these." Tom's father was a great influence in this area. Tom remembers his father stating that "one of the worst things someone can do is to take advantage of the illiterate, the ignorant, or the uneducated." Based on this life experience, Tom began his legal career at Beasley Allen representing victims of consumer fraud, many of

whom were illiterate or uneducated. Tom is a national spokesman for the rights of consumers and the law that applies to their rights. He has appeared on "Good Morning America," "The O'Reilly Factor," and on all the major networks to discuss these issues. He also has appeared in numerous publications, including The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, Business Week Magazine, and Fortune Magazine. He was the lead lawyer in a landmark predatory lending case involving a door-to-door sales and finance scam. The verdict of \$581 million is the largest predatory lending verdict in American history. As a result of this litigation, the defendant finance company left the State of Alabama. Tom was also co-counsel in other consumer fraud cases resulting in verdicts of \$50 million, \$45 million, \$34.5 million, \$25.4 million and \$15 million. Tom has tried a total of thirteen cases that have resulted in verdicts in excess of one million dollars. Since 1998, Tom has been the managing shareholder of the firm. He helped organize the firm into sections based on types of cases. This has allowed our lawyers to concentrate in certain areas and to be on the cutting edge in their field. He has helped Beasley Allen become a national powerhouse in representing victims of wrongdoing. In 2010, the firm was named among Alabama's Largest Law Firms by Business Alabama magazine. In 2002, Tom was selected by the National Law Journal as one of the Top 40 Litigators in the country under the age of 40. Tom also was named by the Montgomery Advertiser as one of the "Top 40 under 40," which is a list of the top 40 business leaders in Central Alabama under the age of 40. In July of 2007, Tom was featured in Fortune Magazine as one of America's Premier Lawyers. Tom was also featured in Business Alabama Magazine. Also in 2007, Tom was chosen by Birmingham Magazine as one of the Best Lawyers in Alabama in the field of personal injury and mass torts. Tom has been selected to Alabama Super Lawyers for 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011. Since 2006, he has been selected every year for inclusion in U.S. News & World Report's Best Lawyers in America list. Tom also is included on the Chambers USA Leading Lawyers list for 2010. He was named to Lawdragon 2010. In 2011, the Birmingham Business Journal named him a "Leading Lawyer of Alabama." He also was selected by The Trial Lawyer magazine as a 2011 member of The Round Table: America's 100 Most Influential Trial Lawyers. This selection places him among the top 100 civil plaintiff attorneys in the United States. He was named to The American Lawyer "Top Lawyers" list. Tom is a Martindale-Hubbell AV Preeminent Rated attorney.

**J. Cole Portis**, an AV rated lawyer by Martindale-Hubbell and a "Super Lawyer," serves as Section Head of our Product Liability / Personal Injury section. He represents mothers and fathers who lost their daughters, spouses who lost their life-long mates, and severely injured children who are unable to care for themselves for the rest of their lives. Unreasonably dangerous and defective products caused these unnecessary deaths and injuries. Instead of placing profits above safety, Cole's hope is that manufacturers of consumer products will safely engineer and manufacture products so that innocent victims won't be hurt or killed. In order to encourage the safe engineering and manufacture of consumer products, Cole will continue to prosecute companies that manufacture defective automobiles, aircraft, ATVs, farm equipment, logging equipment, textile machines and other consumer products. Cole and his staff have successfully handled over 75 cases that were tried or resolved for more than one million dollars. More importantly, Cole and his staff are blessed to be able to counsel and care for their clients. Cole believes it is important to use the gifts God has given him in the community. Thus, as an attorney, he has used his gifts to participate in legal organizations. He is past president of the Montgomery County Bar Association (2002), past president of the Alabama Young Lawyers Association (2000-2001), President of the Montgomery County Trial Lawyers Association (1999), and past President of the Auburn University Bar Association (1999). He is also an active member of the Trial Lawyers for Public Justice. Currently, Cole is a Bar Commissioner representing the 15th judicial circuit. He has also been selected as an Alabama Super Lawyer for consecutive years, as well as to the Best Lawyers in America list. In December 2010, he was named one of Beasley Allen's two Litigators of the Year.

**W. Daniel “Dee” Miles, III** has not only been a pioneer of consumer fraud and commercial litigation nationwide, he has demonstrated great leadership resulting in the firm's numerous record-setting verdicts for clients in many areas of law. In addition to representing clients in litigation, Dee manages the entire Consumer Fraud / Commercial Litigation Section of the firm. He is involved in every case being litigated in this section and on a national level. Dee has involved the firm in cases on a national level. The majority of the Consumer Fraud / Commercial Litigation lawyers are licensed in two or more states. Dee has served as lead and co-lead counsel in numerous cases resulting in multi-million dollar verdicts, including the State of Alabama v. AstraZeneca, \$215 million for the State; State of Alabama v. GlaxoSmithKline, \$81 million verdict for the State; State of Alabama v. Sandoz, \$78 million verdict for the State; State of Mississippi v. Sandoz, \$38.2 million verdict for the State; State of Alabama v. Novartis, \$33 million verdict for the State; Barron v. Alfa, \$15 million jury verdict; Wooten v. Horace Mann Ins. Company, \$12.4 million verdict; Spann v. Life of Georgia, \$2.1 million jury verdict; Knox v. Alfa, \$1.9 million verdict; Sewell v. Alfa, \$850,000 verdict; and Hudson v. Alfa, \$500,000 verdict. Dee has settled thousands of cases for clients over the years with settlement value exceeding \$4 billion. He has in the past and is currently spearheading national global settlements for state Attorneys General in the AWP litigation, having so far recovered over \$600 million in settlement funds for the States' Medicaid Agencies. He spoke at the American Conference Institute's National Forum on Pharmaceutical Pricing Litigation on Oct. 2, 2012 at The Carlton Hotel in New York City. His subject was "Developing Cutting-Edge Defense Responses to New Causes of Action in AWP Cases." Dee has also pursued settlement for individual plaintiffs against this country's top Fortune 500 companies. Most of these individual settlements involve confidentiality and cannot be discussed publicly, but Dee's leadership in the consumer fraud / commercial litigation areas of law is unprecedented. Dee is a regular guest speaker at national, regional and state seminars, and he has authored numerous publications on consumer fraud and commercial litigation. He serves as counsel to state Attorneys General all over this country on civil litigation matters, particularly pharmaceutical pricing issues. He has been featured on The Today Show, NPR, CNN, USA Today, CBS, Fox News and other national news broadcasts and publications. Dee is presently a Sustaining Member and Executive Committee member for the Alabama Association for Justice and past President of the Montgomery Trial Lawyers Association. Dee is also an active member of the Trial Lawyers for Public Justice. In the recent past, Dee and the firm were named "Boss of the Year" by the Montgomery Association of Legal Secretaries. Dee has been named in the "Who's Who" of lawyers by the Heritage Registry, selected as "Best Lawyers in America" by Best Lawyers in America for 2011 and 2012; Alabama Best Lawyers 2012; selected to Alabama Super Lawyers 2009, 2010, and 2011; and was honored by the lawyers in this firm as "Litigator of the Year" in 2008. He has a Martindale Hubbell AV rating. Dee, along with Beasley Allen Founding Shareholder Jere L. Beasley, was recognized by Business Alabama magazine on its 2012 list of the 10 largest Alabama jury awards in the past five years, for their work on the AWP/Medicaid Fraud litigation.

**Andy D. Birchfield, Jr.** manages the firm's Mass Torts Section, which is recognized as a national leader in pharmaceutical litigation. The section successfully resolved claims for thousands of clients in the Vioxx, Bextra/Celebrex, Baycol, Rezulin, PPA and Ephedra litigations. Andy also serves as a regular speaker at national, regional and state seminars pertaining to mass tort litigation. After graduating cum laude from Samford University, Andy went on to graduate magna cum laude from Thomas Goode Jones School of Law. Beginning his legal career at a small law firm in Montgomery, Andy gained trial experience in both state and federal courts. His practice encompassed a wide range of legal matters

including personal injury and civil rights cases. After joining Beasley Allen in 1996, Andy handled cases involving consumer fraud and commercial litigation. He later proved to be instrumental in developing the Mass Torts Litigation Section in 2000 and was named Section Head for Mass Torts, which now consists of 11 lawyers and 60 support staff. To date, Andy has been involved in cases resulting in settlements and verdicts totaling in excess of \$5.4 billion. Andy's efforts have been indispensable in heading the firm's Vioxx litigation. In April of 2005, Andy was chosen to co-lead the Plaintiff's Steering Committee for the federal Vioxx Litigation MDL; and he has been lead counsel or co-lead counsel in five Vioxx trials, including one that resulted in a \$51 million verdict against Merck. He has been quoted in a number of publications, including the Wall Street Journal, Lawyers Weekly USA, American Lawyer, Financial Times, Los Angeles Times, USA Today, U.S. News and World Report, and the New York Times. He has also appeared on Sixty Minutes, CNBC's "Closing Bell," National Public Radio, CNN and MSNBC. Andy has been selected to Alabama Super Lawyers 2009, 2010, and 2011; and to Best Lawyers in America 2012. Andy is a member of the American Association for Justice and the Montgomery Trial Lawyers Associations. He has served as President of the Montgomery County Young Lawyers and the Alabama Young Lawyers, as well as numerous task forces and committees of the Alabama State Bar. He has served on the Committee for Character and Fitness, which assesses those attributes with respect to applicants for admission to the Bar. Andy also serves as a member of the Board of Governors of the Alabama Trial Lawyers Association and is an active member of the Trial Lawyers for Public Justice. In December 2010, Andy was named one of Beasley Allen's Litigators of the Decade. The award was created to recognize the attorney or attorneys who have demonstrated consistent excellence on behalf of their clients and the firm.

**Rhon E. Jones** is one of the top environmental attorneys for plaintiffs in the entire country. Since early 2010, he has devoted his law practice to victims of the devastating BP Oil Spill. He currently serves on the Plaintiffs' Steering Committee for the BP Deepwater Horizon MDL. He also serves as class counsel for plaintiffs in the private economic and property class settlement against BP, having played a crucial role in the negotiation for the settlement for all business claims. That settlement, while not capped, has been conservatively estimated to be worth more than \$8 billion dollars. Rhon has also played a major role for the State of Alabama in the BP oil spill. He represents Governor Robert Bentley regarding the economic losses for the State of Alabama from the oil spill, and he will be lead trial counsel for the State of Alabama for all natural resource losses (NRDA) the state has suffered. Finally, he has worked cooperatively with Attorney General Luther Strange, who is representing the State of Alabama in the ongoing trial in New Orleans to determine the fault of BP and other defendants. Holding an AV rating from Martindale Hubbell, Rhon has been selected to Alabama Super Lawyers in 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012. He has been selected for inclusion on both the 2011 and 2012 Best Lawyers of America lists, published by U.S. News and World Report. Additionally, he was named the Best Lawyers' 2012 Montgomery Litigation – Environmental Lawyer of the Year. Only a single lawyer in each specific area of law in each community is honored as "Lawyer of the Year." Rhon has been involved in cases at Beasley Allen where the total verdicts or settlements are almost \$10 billion dollars. He has played a major role in many of the most significant environmental cases in the United States, including the above mentioned work on the BP oil spill MDL, a \$700 million dollar settlement for thousands of Alabama victims for PCB contamination, continuing work as a Plaintiff Steering Committee member in the Hot Fuel MDL litigation against major oil companies, resolution of a class action involving groundwater contamination against McWane industries in Alabama, a \$20 million dollar plus verdict and other

settlements over carbon black pollution in Alabama and Oklahoma, continuing litigation against TVA over the breach of a coal ash impoundment, and successful resolution of class action allegations of contaminated drinking water in New Jersey. Obtaining his B.A. from Auburn University and his J.D. from the University of Alabama, Rhon served as a law clerk for U.S. District Judge Robert Varner and later began trial practice in Birmingham with the law firm of Starnes & Atchison. Rhon joined Beasley Allen in 1994 and now manages the firm's environmental cases. He has handled environmental or toxic exposure cases in Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, Kansas, Missouri, New Jersey, Tennessee, Georgia, Colorado, West Virginia, Oklahoma, Ohio, and Minnesota.

Rhon has taught Torts at Jones Law School in Montgomery, and is a regular speaker at national, regional and state seminars on various subjects for both plaintiff and defense counsel. He has authored more than 30 articles and papers for publication. He is currently a board member of the Montgomery County Bar Association, is chair of both the litigation section and the environmental law section of the Alabama State Bar, and serves as Chair of the Gulf Coast Oil Spill Litigation Group for the American Association for Justice.