

Gary Hemric

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Gary came to the firm in September, 1974 and has practiced continually here for the past 33 years. He is a capable and experienced civil trial attorney, having handled more than 50 jury and bench trials to verdict in state and federal court. He has argued cases before the North Carolina Supreme Court and *en banc* panels of the United States Circuit Court for the Fourth Circuit. Gary has been lead counsel in a number of complex arbitration proceedings involving construction, securities and commercial disputes.

Gary is also heavily involved in alternative dispute resolution as a means of problem solving for clients of the firm and other litigants. He obtained his certification as a mediator in North Carolina in November 1992 and over the past 15 years he has served as mediator in almost 2,000 state and federal cases. Through his efforts, the parties have successfully negotiated claims with a total value in excess of \$50 million dollars. Gary also has extensive training and experience as an arbitrator, including numerous courses under the auspices of the American Arbitration Association. He is on the Commercial Arbitration Panel for North and South Carolina and has served as panel member and/or chair person in a number of complex arbitration proceedings.

Gary is originally from Burlington, North Carolina. He attended Davidson College on an athletic scholarship and graduated in 1970 with a BA Degree in Political Science. He obtained his law degree from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill in 1974. He was admitted to practice in 1974 and his entire legal career has been spent as a trial lawyer with James, McElroy & Diehl, P.A. Gary is a member of the American Association for Justice, the North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers, American Bar Association and North Carolina Bar Association. His areas of practice include complex business disputes, serious bodily injury and wrongful death, construction and professional negligence. He has handled a number of high profile catastrophic injury cases, obtaining multi-million dollar settlements or judgments for clients of the firm. Gary is consistently listed as a "Super Lawyer" and one of the state's top litigators in surveys of his peers. Gary is a frequent lecturer on subjects ranging from civil trial strategy to effective alternative dispute resolution management.

In his spare time, Gary enjoys cooking, gardening, snow skiing, hunting and a variety of other sports activities.