

HALL BOOTH SMITH, P.C.



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Partner

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Biography

Brent Allen is the Managing Partner of Hall Booth Smith's Jacksonville, Florida, office and Chair of the firm's Opioid Strategic Team. He has also served on the firm's Executive Committee since 2020.

He is a seasoned civil trial lawyer and specializes in the litigation of batch claims, high exposure cases including malpractice, commercial litigation, long-term care, negligent security, and premises liability on national, regional, and local levels. He has represented prominent corporations, nonprofits, and individuals in their most challenging civil cases, including at jury and bench trials, before arbitration panels, and governmental investigations.

He regularly advises senior executives and boards of directors in internal governance issues. Brent has been retained by national clients and appointed by State and Federal Courts to serve as lead counsel in various matters. Most recently, Brent served as lead counsel in one of the nation's largest batch malpractice claims of all time.

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Brent has been AV Preeminent® Peer Review Rated™, the highest performance rating in Martindale-Hubbell's peer review rating system. He has been named a "Person on the Move," a "Legal Listmaker," and an "Ultimate Attorney" by the *Jacksonville Business Journal* numerous times. He has also been identified as a "Bet the Company" litigator by *Florida Trend Magazine*.

[Opioid](#)

A native of Jacksonville, Brent is active in the local community. He was appointed by the Mayor to serve on the Downtown Development Review Board and most recently held the position of Vice Chair. He is also a past Mayoral appointee and sat on the Board of Directors for the Jacksonville Housing Authority. He is an Eagle Scout and serves in various leadership roles with The Boy Scouts of America.

Brent is also actively involved in many professional and civic organizations including The Rotary Club of Jacksonville – Downtown, The Chester Bedell Inn of Court, The Florida Bar, and The Jacksonville Bar Association. He lives in Jacksonville with his wife, daughter, and son. In his spare time, he enjoys being outdoors and coaching youth athletics.

Experience

Brent's practice is focused on opioid defense, medical malpractice, commercial litigation, and premises liability matters in Florida, the Southeast, and across the nation. He has extensive experience in litigation of high exposure cases.

Credentials

Admitted

State Courts:

- Florida

U.S. District Courts:

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- U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida

U.S. Courts of Appeal:

- U.S. Court of Appeal for the Eleventh Circuit

Education

- J.D., high honors, Florida Coastal School of Law
- B.A., high honors, Auburn University

Memberships

- City of Jacksonville Housing Authority, Commissioner (Former)
- City of Jacksonville Downtown Development Review Board, Vice-Chair (Former)
- Chester Bedell Inn of Court
- Rotary

Recognition

- [*The Best Lawyers in America*®](#) - Litigation - Insurance, Best Lawyers®, 2024
- Forty Under Forty, Jacksonville Business Journal, 2022
- 20 Under 40, Auburn University
- AV Preeminent® Peer Review Rated™, Martindale-Hubbell

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- Bet the Company Litigator, Florida Trend
- List Maker Legal Elite, Jacksonville Business Journal
- People on the Move, Jacksonville Business Journal
- Ultimate Attorney, Jacksonville Business Journal
- Eagle Scout

Presentations

- **Effect of Litigation Trends on Reinsurers**
Cayman Captive Forum, November 2022
- **Taking Back Control of Healthcare Litigation and Negotiations**
NCMIC Biennial Seminar, October 2021
- **Future of Med Mal: A Rise in Frequency & Severity and How to Combat It**
DRI Medical Liability Health Care Law Seminar, July 2021
- **Opioid Defense Task Force - Litigating Opioid Overdose Claims**
Baptist Health South Florida, June 2019

More +

- **Handling Opioid Exposure in the Emergency Room**
University of Miami Health System, May 2019
- **Mastering Deposition Preparation**
Federal Bar Association, April 2019
- **Amendment 7 and The Impact on Litigating the Big Picture**
Ascension, Inc., March 2019
- **Preventing Against Opioid Exposure**
Florida Defense Lawyers Association, February 2019
- **Navigating High Stakes Nursing Home Litigation**
DRI, January 2019
- **Drafting Better Incident Reports and Performing Thorough Investigations**
St. Vincent's Medical Center, Inc., October 2018
- **Defending High Stakes Massive Exposure Cases**
Western Litigation, August 2018
- **Curtailling The Opioid Crisis**
DRI, May 2018
- **How the Outcome of Claims Can Be Influenced by Social Media, Wearable Devices and the Internet**
Florida Society for Risk Management and Patient Safety, March 2018
- **Reptile Tactics: A Defense Counsel's Guide**
Markel Corp. Underwriting and Claims Summit, March 2018

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- **Defending High Exposure Dental Malpractice Claims**
Markel Corp. Underwriting and Claims Summit, March 2018
- **Opioid Defense Task Force - Litigating Opioid Overdose Claims**
MedMal Direct, Inc., November 2017
- **Opioid Defense Task Force - Litigating Opioid Overdose Claims**
Ascension, Inc., August 2017
- **Conflicts of Interest in the Practice of Law**
Chester Bedell Inn of Court, October 2016
- **Social Media Discovery**
Ascension, Inc., May 2015

Publications

- **Landmark Decision in Ohio Finds CVS, Walgreens & Walmart Liable in Opioid Epidemic**
HBS Opioid Task Force Blog, December 2021
- **A Comprehensive Guide for Defending Opioid Claims**
Hall Booth Smith, March 2018
- **What to do if a Health Care Provider Receives a Notice of Intent to Initiate Medical Malpractice**
MedMal Direct, Inc.; June 14, 2014
- **American Corporate Law: So You Want to Sit on The Board, Huh?**
Hanks Livingston, Inc.; August 1, 2010

In the Press

55 Hall Booth Smith Lawyers Recognized as

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2024 Best Lawyers® Award Recipients

August 21, 2023

We're pleased to announce that 55 lawyers have been included in the 2024 edition of The Best Lawyers in America®.

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Hall Booth Smith Adds Four Attorneys to its Jacksonville Office

May 18, 2022

Hall Booth Smith, P.C. (HBS) is pleased to announce the addition of four attorneys to its Jacksonville office as the firm expands to better serve clients in the state of Florida. Shylie Bannon is a Partner in our Jacksonville office where she focuses her practice on representing physicians, mid-level providers, and health care providers in

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“Landmark Decision” in Ohio Finds CVS, Walgreens & Walmart Liable in Opioid Epidemic

December 8, 2021

Written by: J. Brent Allen, Esq.
A federal jury in Cleveland recently found that the actions by pharmacy operators helped fuel the opioid epidemic in Ohio, which a county attorney called a “landmark decision” in the first trial the companies have faced over the drug crisis in America. After deliberating for six days, the jury

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COVID-19 Pandemic Threatens

Opioid Sobriety

May 3, 2021

For many people who are battling opioid addiction or achieved sobriety, there is a new threat of relapse: the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Mandatory quarantines, shelter-in-place orders and new daily stressors such as the loss of childcare and the demands of running remote school are creating new challenges for people who are or have been addicted.

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Debate Swirls Around How to Use Opioid Settlement Funds

March 31, 2021

Tens of billions of dollars in forthcoming opioid litigation settlement funds have public health policy leaders and elected officials debating over how to use the funds in the most effective and impactful way to address the root causes of opioid addiction

and improve access to treatment programs. One thing is clear: there is a consensus

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Seniors **Impacted by** **Dual Health** **Crises: COVID** **& Opioid** **Misuse**

February 10, 2021

Elderly people are facing a confluence of health crises right now: COVID-19 and opioid misuse. Seniors are already the most heavily impacted population for COVID-19 hospitalizations and death rates, and a concurrent acceleration of opioid misuse places additional stress on vulnerable seniors. In 2018, Medicare recipients were given an average of 5 opioid prescriptions and

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Another

Casualty of the COVID-19 Pandemic: Resolution of Opioid Litigation

January 9, 2021

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to cause countless disruptions to everyday life, including resolution of one of the largest civil cases in U.S. history — the landmark opioid litigation. Tens of billions of dollars are at stake as more than 3,000 cities, towns, municipalities and Native American tribes seek a settlement in trials against some of

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Minimizing Fentanyl Exposure Risk for Health Care Workers

November 18, 2019

Written by: J. Brent Allen,
Esq. Doctors, nurses,
phlebotomists and other

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health care workers on the frontline of saving lives and treating illnesses and injuries face a new threat in the workplace: illicit fentanyl and derivative drugs of unknown provenance. These illicit drugs pose a potential health hazard to health care workers who may come

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HBS's Brent Allen Named to Jacksonville Downtown Development Review Board

October 24, 2018

JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA –Hall Booth Smith, P.C. congratulates Partner J. Brent Allen in being appointed to the Board of Directors for the Downtown Development Review Board in Jacksonville, Florida. Jacksonville Mayor Lenny Curry appointed Allen to the post, and he was confirmed by the City Council yesterday. The Downtown Development Review Board is responsible for reviewing and

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Hall Booth Smith's Jacksonville Office Adds Two New Associates

August 13, 2018

Hall Booth Smith, P.C. is pleased to announce the addition of two new associates at its growing office in Jacksonville, Florida. Henry P. Romeu specializes in medical malpractice, general liability and transportation defense work, and Shawn J. Brooks focuses his practice on professional negligence and medical malpractice, health care, general liability, products liability and transportation matters. They join

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Hall Booth Smith Expands in Florida with New Jacksonville

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Office

June 12, 2017

ATLANTA – Hall Booth Smith, P.C. announces the opening of an office in Jacksonville, Florida, the firm’s 13th office in the Southeast and second in Florida. The new office, to be co-managed by J. Brent Allen and Duke Regan, also expands the firm’s industry-leading medical malpractice practice. Joining Allen and Regan, both civil trial lawyers, are partner Bill Fuller, of

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