

HON. JIM HUGHEY III (RETIRED) BIO

Jim served as a trial judge in the Civil Division of the 10th Judicial Circuit of Alabama from 2013 to 2025. The 10th Judicial Circuit is the largest circuit in the State and covers Jefferson County, a diverse community of over 30 separate municipalities (including Birmingham) and approximately 675,000 citizens. During his years on the Bench, Jim handled every size, type, and description of civil case, from *pro se* small claims appeals to mass actions involving hundreds of parties and dozens of specialized lawyers from around the country. He presided over 120 complete jury trials and, in doing so, evaluated, supervised, and gave legal instructions to thousands of jurors and potential jurors. He also decided hundreds of bench trials where he personally evaluated the evidence and rendered a final decision. As a result of his covering an all-civil litigation docket, Jim also handled thousands of pre-trial motions and issues, including discovery disputes of all kinds, requests for injunctive relief, full and partial motions for summary judgment, expert witness challenges, and other matters. Jim has frequently been appointed by the Chief Justice of Alabama to handle cases in other judicial circuits when the judges in those circuits have conflicts. He continues to take such appointments as a supernumerary judge, when needed. While on the Bench, Jim served on the Board of Directors of the Alabama Circuit Judges Association and as Chair of the Education Committee for the Association. Jim is frequently called upon to speak at legal seminars and law schools on substantive civil law topics, jury trials, and pre-trial practice. He is immediate-past Chair of the Alabama Supreme Court Commission on Dispute Resolution. He presently serves on the Alabama Supreme Court's Standing Committee on the Alabama Rules of Evidence and on the Alabama Pattern Jury Instruction Committee for civil cases. Prior to taking the Bench, Jim handled complex civil cases as a partner in a litigation boutique law firm. Since leaving the Bench, Jim has served as a full-time mediator, arbitrator and private judge at SchreiberADR in Birmingham, Alabama. Jim specializes in mediating and arbitrating complex cases of all kinds, including business disputes, estate matters, catastrophic injuries, professional liability, and wrongful death.

Jim is a graduate of Vanderbilt University and of the University of Alabama School of Law (summa cum laude). While in law school, he served as Editor in Chief of the Alabama Law Review.