

News



March 8, 2019

Melissa Foster Bird Admitted to American College of Trial Lawyers

Huntington, W. Va. – Melissa Foster Bird, Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough partner, has been inducted as a Fellow to the American College of Trial Lawyers (ACTL), one of the premier legal associations of North America.

Founded in 1950, ACTL is composed of the best of the trial bar from the United States and Canada. Fellowship in the ACTL is extended by invitation only, and only after careful investigation, to those experienced trial lawyers of diverse backgrounds who have mastered the art of advocacy and whose professional careers have been marked by the highest standards of ethical conduct, professionalism, civility, and collegiality. Lawyers must have a minimum of fifteen years trial experience before they can be considered for Fellowship.

Membership in the ACTL cannot exceed one percent of the total lawyer population of any state or province. There are currently approximately 5,800 members in the United States and Canada, including active Fellows, Emeritus Fellows, Judicial Fellows (those who ascended to the bench after their induction) and Honorary Fellows. ACTL maintains and seeks to improve the standards of trial practice, professionalism, ethics, and the administration of justice through education and public statements on independence of the judiciary, trial by jury, respect for the rule of law, access to justice, and fair and just representation of all parties to legal proceedings. ACTL is thus able to speak with a balanced voice on important issues affecting the legal profession and the administration of justice.

Foster Bird continues a long legacy of ACTL attorneys. In her 25 years of practice, Foster Bird has served as lead trial counsel in more than 35 trials in state and federal courts in West Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, and Virginia. Her experience includes representing clients in complex cases in the pharmaceutical, medical device, transportation, and chemical industries—including other manufacturers, retailers, and convenience stores—in some of the most difficult venues. She has been recognized by Best Lawyers in America in railroad law (2012-2019), by the Legal 500 U.S. Edition for litigation (2011-2015), by Chambers USA for leading lawyers for business (2011-2014, 2018), and as a Benchmark Litigation “Future Star” (2018-2019).

Foster Bird is an alumna of the Ohio State University Moritz College of Law and she earned her BS from Miami University in Ohio.

Established in 1897, Nelson Mullins has more than 785 attorneys and government relations professionals with offices in 11 states and Washington, D.C. For more information on the firm, go to www.nelsonmullins.com.

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PROFESSIONAL IN THE NEWS



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