



John Nichols

Disciplinary Counsel SC Supreme Court & Author of *Service of Process in South Carolina*

John Nichols grew up in Florence, South Carolina. He received a BS in mathematics from Francis Marion College in 1978 and his JD from the USC School of Law in 1985. He worked for Rogers and Koon focusing primarily on property law litigation. In 1986, the South Carolina Court of Appeals hired John as a staff attorney, and he became chief staff counsel in 1993. John also served at times as a law clerk for Chief Judge Alex M. Sanders, Jr., Associate Judge Randall T. Bell, and Acting Associate Judge C. Bruce Littlejohn. From 1996 until 2000, John worked with Suggs & Kelly, PA, primarily on pharmaceutical mass tort litigation around the country. In 2000, John and Marti Bluestein formed Bluestein & Nichols which is now Bluestein Thompson & Sullivan. John's primary focus was on appellate practice, general tort litigation and representing attorneys before the Office of Disciplinary Counsel. In 2018, the Supreme Court of South Carolina appointed John to serve as Disciplinary Counsel.

John is admitted to practice in South Carolina's state and federal courts as well as the United States Courts of Appeals for the Fourth and Eleventh Circuits, the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, and the Supreme Court of the United States.

From 2003 to 2018 John has served on the SC Board of Law Examiners. Since 2012 John has served on the SC Commission on Indigent Defense. From 2013 to 2017 he served as special counsel to the SC House Ethics Committee and the SC Senate Ethics Committee.

John has spoken at a number of seminars for a number of groups, including the SC Bar, the SC Judicial Branch, SCAJ/SCTLA, SCDTAA and the SCIWA. He has served on several committees for the South Carolina Bar as well as the ABA. John has also authored or edited several books and other publications, including "The Trial Handbook for South Carolina Lawyers" (Thomson Reuters), "Masters in Equity and Special Referees" (SC Bar), and "Service of Process in South Carolina" (SC Bar). John and Scott Moise prepare updates to "The South Carolina Law of Torts" (SC Bar) and he is working with law professors Joel Samuels and Colin Miller on a new edition of "South Carolina Civil Procedure" (SC Bar). John also served on the South Carolina Lawyer magazine's Editorial Board, serving as Editor-in-Chief from 2004 through 2006. John also served as editor of "The Bulletin," the magazine for the SC Association for Justice. John serves on USC's "B-Ball/Coaches versus Cancer" committee, and is an officer with the Columbia USC Tip-Off Club. He and his wife, Michelle, enjoy traveling, hiking, Gamecock sports, and spending time with their grandson, Max.