

CONSTRUCTION

NEALE T. JOHNSON

FOX ROTHSCHILD

Hometown: Birmingham, Alabama. Greensboro is my adopted home.

Undergrad: University of South Carolina, 1988

Law school: University of Virginia School of Law, 1998

Practiced Law: 26 Years

Family: Deborah Brantley Johnson, my wife of 30 years, and three grown children and two grandchildren, all living in North Carolina.

HARDWORKING & PRACTICAL



FIRST JOB: I stayed in the Marine Corps Reserves until the early 2000s, when I mustered out with the rank of major.

WORKING SMARTER: Perfection is often the enemy of good work. It raises anxiety and reduces productivity. A 70% solution is better than no solution or a 90% solution that is unaffordable.

FAVORITE N.C. PLACE: Mountains of western North Carolina.

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED: Seeing my children finish school and become responsible, independent adults who are great human beings.

STILL ON BUCKET LIST: Helping my grandchildren do as well as their parents.

STRESS RELIEVER: Walking in the woods, followed by fellowship and a single malt scotch.

ALTERNATIVE CAREER CHOICE: Chef

YOUR EDGE: Almost everything good that I've accomplished traces back to some investment that someone shared with me.

WHY I BECAME A LAWYER: My wife and I married in 1994, and I knew that constant overseas deployments would make family life difficult. My sister, also a lawyer, suggested I might really enjoy law.

2025 MILESTONES: Expanding my neutral practice as a mediator and arbitrator.

FAVORITE PASSION: Preparing the next generation of lawyers for their challenges in a complicated and difficult environment. Generational differences are real, but I can also remember the generations ahead of me saying a lot of the same things about my generation.

LAW SCHOOL IN 2 OR 3 YEARS: Students should have a chance to learn in summer months what they need to pass the bar, but still finish in two years.

ABOUT FOX ROTHSCHILD

FOUNDED: 1907

OFFICES: Charlotte, Raleigh and Greensboro and 27 other locations coast to coast.

MANAGING PARTNER: Todd Rodriguez

HOW MANY ATTORNEYS, STAFF: 1,000 attorneys, 1,000 staff

KEY SPECIALTIES: More than 70 practice areas