

Bio: Haywood E. (Woody) White III

March 1, 2023

Woody White was born in Kinston, North Carolina on August 4, 1969 and at the age of one, his family moved to Wilmington where his father, Haywood E. White Jr. could attend the University of North Carolina Wilmington as a beneficiary of the federal GI Bill program.

At the age of five (5), Woody's family moved to Bladen County, North Carolina where he was raised.

After high school, Woody completed undergraduate studies at Southern College in Tennessee and received his law degree from the University of Nebraska in 1994.

Woody has been admitted to the bars of every North Carolina Court, the Federal District Court, the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond, Virginia and the United States Supreme Court in Washington, D.C. He was introduced to the bar at the United States Supreme Court by Federal Judge Marian Horn, and administered the oath by the Clerk and Chief Justice William Rehnquist.

Woody has performed public service in political office in the North Carolina Senate, as well as public service on local boards including as trustee on the New Hanover Regional Medical Center Hospital Board, Coastal Horizons Treatment Center, and Lower Cape Fear Habitat for Humanity.

Recognized three times as an award winner in Criminal Law, Business North Carolina Magazine Legal Elite 2007, 2010 and 2021, as voted on by peer review.

Woody holds the highest rating of AV from Martindale-Hubbel Lawyer Rating Services, and has been recognized as a Thomson Reuters "Super Lawyer" 7 times; in 2012 and in 2017-2022.

In 2012, Woody was elected to a 4 year term to the New Hanover County Commission, receiving over 52,000 votes, and placing 1st in a field of 10

candidates. He served as chairman of the board from 2012-2014, being elected unanimously by his fellow commissioners.

In 2016, Woody was re-elected to a second 4 year term, again garnering the most votes in a 6 candidate race in November and was again elected as Chairman of the Board.

While he was Chairman of the New Hanover County Commission, and under his leadership, New Hanover County achieved a AAA Bond rating, such a distinction held by less than 100 out of 3,400 counties around the nation. Woody also proposed and pushed through back to back tax cuts in New Hanover County for the first time in modern New Hanover County history.

After serving for eight years, Woody opted against seeking re-election, instead choosing to re-enter private life. His term as a New Hanover County Commissioner ended in 2020.

## Education

- **University of Nebraska College of Law**, Lincoln, Nebraska
  - J.D. - 1994
- **Southern College**, Chattanooga, Tennessee
  - B.S.
  - Honors: Student Body President
  - Major: History

## Bar Admission

- North Carolina, 1994
- U.S. District Court Eastern District of North Carolina, 1997
- U.S. Court of Appeals 4th Circuit, 2000
- U.S. Supreme Court, 2003

## Honors

- Business North Carolina Magazine Legal Elite 2007 and 2010, 2021
- Recipient of the Super Lawyers Award, 2012, 2017-2022
- AV - Stand-out Rating from Martindale-Hubbell

## Past Positions

- North Carolina Senate, Raleigh, NC, State Senator Representing 9th District, New Hanover County, 2004 to 2004
- Lineberry, White, Hearne, and Ballantine, LLP, Attorneys at Law, Wilmington, NC, Partner, 2000 to 2005
- Lineberry and White, LLP, Attorneys at Law, Wilmington, NC, Partner, 1995 to 2000
- Hester, Grady, Hester and Greene, Attorneys at Law, Elizabethtown, NC, Associate, 1994 to 1995

## Professional Associations

- North Carolina State Bar, Member, 1994 to present.
- North Carolina Bar Association, Member
- New Hanover County Bar Association, Member
- National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
- Wilmington Chamber of Commerce, Legislative Affairs Committee, 1997 to 1998
- United States Criminal Justice Act, Panel Attorney, 1998 to 2013
- United States Naval Academy, Nominee, 1987
- New Hanover County Commissioner, Chairman, 2012-2014, 2012 to 2020
- NC State, Senator, 2004
- St. John's Episcopal Church, Youth Basketball Coach
- Winter Park Optimist, T-Ball and Little League Coach
- New Hanover Regional Medical Center, Trustee, 1999 to 2002
- Lower Cape Fear Habitat for Humanity, Trustee, 2006 to 2008
- Hanover Regional Medical Center, Chairman, Finance Committee, 2001 to 2002
- New Hanover County Republican Party, Chairman, 1997 to 2001
- Coastal Horizons, Board Member, 2003 to 2005
- North Carolina Hospital Association PAC, Board Member, 1999 to 2002

- Rotary International, Wilmington South, Member, 1996 to 2013
- Cape Fear Museum BOT member 2018-2020
- Ports and Waterways Board Member 2014-2016
- Cape Fear Community College BOT member 2012-2018.
- WAVE Transit Board Member 2016-2020
- Cape Fear Public Utility Authority 2012-2016
- United States Association of Triathlons
- United States Tennis Association
- Habitat for Humanity, Board Member, 2006 to 2007
- UNCW Board of Trustees, Member - Appointed by the Speaker of the N.C. House of Representatives, 2018-2021.

## Certified Legal Specialties

- Woody White is a Board Certified Specialist in State and Federal Criminal Law from the North Carolina State Bar. He received this distinction after successfully passing a rigorous and stringent screening process composed of written statements as to his character and competence from opposing counsel in prior cases, and the judges before whom he appeared in courtrooms. He passed a specialty examination in 2009 and his certification has been re-issued in 2014 and 2019.

## Current Employment Position

- Attorney/Principal of Woody White Law Firm PLLC