



Richard A. Hricik, Esq.

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Licensed in SC & OH, 4th & 6th USCA & SCOTUS

Richard Hricik is a trial and appellate attorney with more than 30 years of experience litigating complex constitutional, civil rights, personal injury, and wrongful death cases in state and federal courts. His practice focuses on high-stakes matters involving institutional accountability, including catastrophic injury, products liability, medical negligence, insurance coverage disputes, and business and financial litigation.

Select Results & Appellate Experience

Richard has achieved significant results at both the trial and appellate levels. He recently secured a \$2+ million settlement and a precedent-setting victory in the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit in litigation arising from a fatal carbon monoxide exposure at a public housing complex (Allen Benedict Court Apartments, Columbia, South Carolina).

He is a member of the Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States and he just successfully obtained a grant of certiorari, vacatur, and remand in *Williams v. Charleston Cnty. Sheriff's Office*, No. 25-640, 2026 U.S. LEXIS 1486 (Mar. 23, 2026). The case concerns the inapplicability of Eleventh Amendment immunity to the Charleston County Sheriff's Office as to civil rights claims, a core constitutional principle overlooked for decades, and was just remanded back to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit for further proceedings.

In addition to his civil practice, Richard has handled numerous matters of election integrity on a *pro bono* basis, that include extending voter registration deadlines due to the impacts of Hurricane Helene. He also provides pro bono counsel and advice to a Montessori charter school and numerous non-profit and NGO groups.

Recognition and Professional Distinction

Richard has been consistently recognized by leading peer-reviewed and invitation-only organizations. He has been selected as a SuperLawyer (2012–2026), holds an AV Preeminent rating from Martindale-Hubbell, National Trial Lawyers Top 100 – South Carolina and has been selected to the National Association of Distinguished Counsel, distinctions reserved for a very small percentage of attorneys demonstrating superior qualifications, results, and professional standing. He is also a member of the Million Dollar Advocates Forum.

Professional Appointments, Consulting & Expertise

Appointed by the South Carolina Supreme Court, Richard serves as an Attorney to Assist the Office of Disciplinary Counsel, participating in investigations of attorney misconduct, and as a Fee Dispute Hearing Officer ruling on attorney-client disputes over fees. He was recently added to the South Carolina Ethics Advisory and Practice & Procedure Committees of the South Carolina Bar. He further supports the legal community through service with Lawyers Helping Lawyers.

He regularly advises attorneys and law firms on professional responsibility, litigation strategy, and ethical compliance, and is retained as an expert witness on attorney standard of care in legal malpractice matters.

His practice also benefits from his prior experience as a then Big 8 public tax accountant, (BBA Accounting Cleveland State University '89 *cum laude*) and he has advanced capabilities in forensic accounting, financial analysis, and complex systems / damages modeling, that include knowledge of high-net-worth and corporate financial and tax structures.

Academic and Teaching Roles

Richard serves as adjunct faculty at both William & Mary Law School (*alma mater* '93) and Charleston School of Law, where he teaches Constitutional Civil Rights Litigation under 42 U.S.C. § 1983, with a focus on integrating constitutional doctrine with trial and appellate advocacy in complex litigation. He previously served on the faculty of Charleston Southern University, teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in Constitutional Law and Criminal Justice to police officers, correction professionals, and other criminal justice students.

Public Engagement

He is a frequent speaker and presenter on constitutional issues, civil rights litigation, and legal strategy, including programs hosted by the South Carolina Association for Justice, and has served as a panelist at both William & Mary Law School and Charleston School of Law. He also appears in television and other media as a legal commentator on these and other legal issues.

Personal

Richard values time with his family above all else, and enjoys endurance athletics, golf, and the arts. His firm donates a portion of all earnings to public interest and charitable causes.