



## Chidi I. James

Principal

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### BIOGRAPHY

Attorney Chidi I. James is an AV rated attorney and a partner with the law firm of Blankingship & Keith, P.C. in Fairfax Virginia. His practice consists mostly of serious personal injury cases including wrongful death, products liability, and inadequate security cases. For the year 2013, his practice group had five cases reported in Virginia's Lawyers' Weekly annual list of verdicts and settlements in excess of \$1 million.

Mr. James joined Blankingship & Keith as an associate in 2003, after serving as a Judicial Law Clerk to the judges of the Arlington County Circuit Court and completing the Judge Advocate General School Course at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Alabama. He also currently serves in the armed forces as the Staff Judge Advocate for the District of Columbia Air National Guard's 113th Wing at Joint Base Andrews in Prince George's County, Maryland.

Mr. James holds a Bachelor's of Science Degree from Texas A&M (1997) in Sociology and a Juris Doctorate from the George Mason University School of Law (2001). As a law student, Mr. James was the founding member of the George Mason University Trial Advocacy Association, where he continued to serve as Trial Team coach for many years.

In his private life, Mr. James is a member of the Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. He also serves on the Board of the Gainesville Basketball Association, the Mount Pleasant Baptist Community Development Corporation, and has volunteered as coach for multiple youth sports teams. Mr. James is married to local psychologist, Dr. Faith Jackson James, and has three children, ages 18, 14, and 13.

### PROFESSIONAL HONORS & ACTIVITIES

He is licensed to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia and the District of Columbia. He is the former President of the Northern Virginia Black Attorneys Association, a board member of the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association, former Vice-Chair of the Virginia State Bar's Standing Committee on Lawyer Discipline, and the current member of the Virginia State Bar's Fifth District Disciplinary Committee. He is a former faculty member of the Virginia State Bar Henry L. Carrico Professionalism Course and a former adjunct faculty member at the George Washington School of Law in Washington, D.C.

Mr. James has been recognized in several periodicals for his achievements and contributions to the legal community, including:  
A Martindale-Hubbell AV rating 2013-present

### PRACTICE AREAS

Civil Litigation  
Personal Injury  
Automobile and Trucking Accidents  
Brain Injury  
Justice for Crime Victims and Inadequate Security Litigation  
Product Liability  
Wrongful Death

### BAR ADMISSIONS

Virginia State Bar (2001)  
District of Columbia (2002)  
Eastern District of Virginia (2003)  
United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces (2003)

### EDUCATION

George Mason University School of Law, 2001  
Texas A&M University, 1997

Best Lawyers in America 2012-2014

Legal Eagles - Most Respected Attorneys in the Commonwealth - 2012 - Virginia Living Magazine

Washington's Best Legal Minds - 2011 - Washingtonian Magazine

Outstanding Young Lawyers - Rising Star 2009 - Richmond Magazine

Top Young Attorneys in Virginia - Rising Star 2008 - Richmond Magazine

Top Virginia Lawyers - Rising Star 2007 - Richmond Magazine.