



*Michael C. Russ*

A retired partner in the General Litigation Practice, **Mike Russ** practiced for two years in Washington, D.C. and joined King & Spalding in 1971. He was elected partner in 1975. His practice has focused on corporate litigation, antitrust and SEC investigations, as well as general commercial disputes.

Mr. Russ has served as the partner responsible for many of the firm's important litigation matters, including:

- Lead counsel for Avondale Mills, Inc. in connection with insurance claims and federal court litigation seeking recovery of property damage, loss of income and business value caused by a January 2005 train derailment and chlorine release.
- Lead counsel for Sprint Nextel in affiliate litigation arising out of the merger of Sprint and Nextel.
- Lead counsel for a major textile company in five years of litigation and arbitration arising out of a fire loss that involved sharply contested insurance and construction issues. The client prevailed against a syndicate of 33 insurance companies and recovered one of the largest awards for property damage and business interruption loss ever rendered.
- Trial and appellate counsel for The Coca-Cola Company in the Diet Coke litigation, which challenged the company's interpretation of the Coca-Cola Bottle Contract, ownership of The Coca-Cola trademark and alleged violations of the antitrust laws. The Coca-Cola Company prevailed at trial and on appeal.
- Co-counsel for The Coca-Cola Company in the Southern District of New York in antitrust litigation brought by PepsiCo challenging the legality of Coca-Cola's fountain distribution contracts. The Coca-Cola Company prevailed in the trial court and on appeal.

- Co-counsel for General Electric Medical Systems in an antitrust class action challenging the legality of provisions in GE's medical equipment contracts that protected GE's intellectual property rights.
- Represented The Coca-Cola Company as co-counsel in the Coca-Cola/Tri Star securities/shareholders litigation in Delaware Chancery Court.
- Represented Brown & Williamson Tobacco Corporation as co-counsel at trial of a class action brought by airline flight attendants who claimed personal injury caused by environmental tobacco smoke.

Mr. Russ is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and a member of the litigation section of the American Bar Association. Mr. Russ is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*, listed as a leading lawyer in his practice area by *Chambers USA*, and recognized by Corporate Counsel Magazine as one of the "Nation's Top Litigators." He also is a member of the State Bar of Georgia, the District of Columbia Bar and the Atlanta Bar Association.

Mr. Russ graduated Order of the Coif from Duke University School of Law in 1969 where he was Note Editor of the *Duke Law Journal*. He obtained his B.A. from Duke with a major in economics in 1966. Mr. Russ has served as a member of the Board of Visitors of Duke University School of Law, the Judicial Nominating Commission appointed by the Governor of the State of Georgia, and the Board of Directors of the Georgia Resource Center.