

Charles A. Traugher

Charles is a 2003 graduate of Tennessee State University. While at TSU, he was a Presidential Scholar and member of the Honors Program, Golden Key National Honor Society, Future Business Leaders of America/ΦΒΑ Business Fraternity Inc., and **Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated, AΘ (None Greater) Chapter**. In 2008, Charles graduated from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville College of Law. While at UT, he received the Roy B.J. Campbell Leadership Award and served as the Black Law Student Association chapter secretary & Southern Region conference delegate, the Student Bar Association second-year representative, and an Admissions Committee student member. He also participated in the American Bar Association Minority Judicial Clerkship Program and received Certificates of Excellence in Wealth Transfer Tax and Advanced Constitutional Law.

Currently, Charles is the Division General Counsel, Real Estate and Retail for Bridgestone Americas, Inc. He leads a team of attorneys, paralegals, and compliance and audit professionals that provide (1) real estate legal services for Bridgestone's retail, office, and industrial properties, (2) general commercial legal services for Bridgestone's 2,200 tire and auto retail stores, and (3) legal, compliance, audit, and governing board support for Bridgestone's credit card operations. Prior to joining Bridgestone, Charles was a Senior Associate General Counsel for LifePoint Health, Inc. where he assisted a Fortune 500 publicly traded healthcare company with a variety of legal and business issues related to real estate assets for more than 70 hospitals in 22 states, including management of various aspects of a comprehensive asset management program providing lease administration and property management services. Charles began his legal career as an Associate Attorney for the Nashville-based law firm Waller, which merged into Holland & Knight.

A lifelong Tennessean, Charles was born in Chattanooga and resides in Nashville with his wife, Juanita, daughter, Georgia Grace, and son, John Charles. He has participated in various volunteer activities in the community, including the following: second vice chair on the Metro Nashville Human Relations Commission; board member of Preston Taylor Ministries; advisory board member for Youth About Business; board member of New Level Community Development Corporation; and providing pro bono legal services through the Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee.