

# APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT



4800 Ashford Dunwoody Road | Dunwoody, GA 30338  
Phone: (678) 382-6700 | Fax: (678) 382-6701

The Dunwoody City Council believes that citizens bring valuable insights and are a skilled resource in the community. The Council encourages all citizens to consider becoming involved in the city government by serving on a Board, Commission, or Committee. Applications are accepted throughout the year.

To be considered for an appointment to a municipal board, commission, or committee, please complete and submit the following application and send it with a resume to the City Clerk, Sharon Lowery. Applications and resumes may be submitted by e-mail to [sharon.lowery@dunwoodyga.gov](mailto:sharon.lowery@dunwoodyga.gov), by fax to (770) 396-4705, or by mail to 4800 Ashford Dunwoody Road, Dunwoody, GA 30338.

## \* Applicant Information

Name: <u>Aaron Chausmer</u>			
Address: <u>5177 Meadowcreek Dr., Dunwoody, GA 30338</u>			
Phone: [REDACTED]		Cell: [REDACTED]	
Email: [REDACTED]			
Place of Employment: <u>Hecht Walker, P.C.</u>		Occupation: <u>Attorney</u>	
How long have you been a resident of Dunwoody?		<u>9</u> Years	<u>4</u> Months

## \* Board / Commission / Committee for which you would like to be considered

<input type="checkbox"/> Alcohol License Review Board	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Planning Commission
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Audit Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainability Committee
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Board of Ethics	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban Redevelopment Agency
<input type="checkbox"/> Construction Board of Adjustment and Appeals	<input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer Coordinating Committee
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Convention and Visitors Bureau of Dunwoody	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Zoning Board of Appeals
<input type="checkbox"/> Design Review Advisory Committee	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Development Authority	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No preference, I just want to volunteer!	

## \* Interest and Experience (Please also attach or submit a resume)

Why are you interested in serving on a board / commission / committee?
<u>I had the pleasure of running to be a Superior Court judge in DeKalb County, albeit unsuccessfully.</u>
<u>That experience prompted me to consider other tangible ways to participate in my community.</u>
What experience do you possess that would be of benefit to a board / commission / committee?
<u>I am an attorney who focuses on business and contract matters, including corporate governance issues.</u>
<u>I believe this experience, along with my analytical and other substantive skills, would help me serve my community</u>
<u>in a positive and beneficial manner.</u>

## \* Terms & Conditions

<i>I hereby attest that all statements and information provided in this application are true to the best of my knowledge. I understand that I may be interviewed prior to consideration for appointment.</i>	
<i>I hereby agree that if appointed to serve as a member of a City of Dunwoody Board, Commission, or Committee, I will spend my time, skills, and energy on the goals and mission of the Board, Commission, or Committee including preparation for meetings. Furthermore I agree that, if appointed, my term will be governed by the By-laws of the Board, Commission, or Committee to which I am appointed.</i>	
<i>I understand that if appointed, I will make an effort to attend all meetings and must attend at least two-thirds of the scheduled meetings in order to remain a member in good standing.</i>	
Applicant's Name: <u>Aaron Chausmer</u>	
Applicant's Signature:	Date: <u>6/22/2020</u>

**Submit!**

Packet page:...

# Aaron Chausmer

5177 Meadowcreek Drive • Dunwoody, Georgia 30338 • [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] • [www.linkedin.com/in/aaronchausmer](http://www.linkedin.com/in/aaronchausmer)

## PROFILE

I am an experienced business attorney who handles litigation and advisory matters. My focus has been on corporate governance concerns, restrictive covenant advice and disputes, and contract-related issues.

Personally, I am an avid fan of Atlanta United, experiential travel, and periodically stepping away from the world. I also appreciate the Oxford comma.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

*Received "AV" Preeminent Peer Review Rating by Martindale-Hubbell for very high general ethical standards and legal ability, especially in Labor and Employment, Business Law, and Litigation Matters*

### CANDIDATE FOR DEKALB SUPERIOR COURT (June, 2020 election)

Endorsed by former Governor Roy Barnes, Georgia Equality, and elected officials across DeKalb County, but unsuccessfully ran in a 5-way contested race for an open judicial seat. I learned a lot and met many good people.

### HECHT WALKER, P.C., Senior Counsel, Atlanta, Georgia (February, 2016 to present)

Originate, maintain, and service client relationships for both litigation and advisory matters. Significant exposure to complex litigation matters, while also providing a wide-range of non-litigation advice and counsel to clients regarding external and internal employment and corporate matters.

- Frequently served as "outside" general counsel to corporate clients and executives for employment and commercial matters, including implementing employment policies, terminating employees, and responding to related claims, while aiding as a trusted advisor on general, commercial, and strategic planning matters, including risk management and litigation avoidance practices and liaising between clients and local counsel in other jurisdictions;
- Represent Management and Executives in Dealings with Board regarding corporate governance and employment matters;
- Represent businesses and individuals in family law matters that involve corporate issues;
- Prepare, draft, and negotiate executive employment agreements, severance agreements, master service agreements, confidentiality/non-disclosure agreements, and other commercial documents;
- Successfully and efficiently resolved complex business cases involving employment (covenant and compensation) matters, commercial agreements, loan and collateral agreements, and real estate-related litigation; and
- Represented licensees in Georgia Lottery Corporation Coin Operated Amusement Machine arbitrations and other related topics.

### CHAUSMER LAW LLC, Member, Atlanta, Georgia (2009 to February, 2016)

Represented clients in both litigation and advisory roles. Significant experience handling all aspects of litigation and general business matters, including first chair trial experience.

- Selected for inclusion in *Super Lawyers – Rising Stars 2011* for Business Litigation in Georgia.
- Evaluated cases, developed and adjusted litigation strategies, created and implemented discovery plans, including handling depositions and discovery disputes, and resolved disputes directly or through mediation, arbitration and trials.

**BERMAN FINK VAN HORN P.C., Partner, Atlanta, Georgia (1999 to 2009)**

Maintained full accountability for representing a diverse range of business and individual clients in sophisticated corporate matters on a national scale. Managed and directed litigation cases from inception through completion, including case analysis, litigation strategy, discovery, motion practice, and settlement negotiations. Handled bench and jury trials in state and federal court with numerous victories. Supervised, trained, and mentored associate attorneys and support staff. Among other clients, represented Georgia-based national companies with all aspects of restrictive covenant matters, including obtaining injunctive relief to enforce covenants or to allow client to lawfully employ individuals notwithstanding restrictive covenant agreements.

**U.S. SECURITIES & EXCHANGE COMMISSION, Summer Law Clerk, Atlanta Regional Office, Georgia (1997)****DEMONSTRATIVE OUTCOMES**

- Negotiated employment agreements on behalf of Executive Clients;
- Advised and/or negotiated Executive Clients' departures, including retention of benefits and reduction of restrictive covenants;
- Won judgment finding Client's non-disclosure agreement was void and a dismissal of all of Employer's remaining claims, including alleged breach of fiduciary duty, violation of federal and state computer systems acts, misappropriation of trade secrets, and tortious interference with business relations;
- Following jury trial, obtained defense verdict in favor of Client for breach of partnership agreement where Plaintiffs sought in excess of \$500,000 in damages and also obtained verdict and judgment on Client's counterclaim for breach of partnership agreement and for attorney's fees;
- Through appeal, vacated a \$603,000 judgment entered jointly against Company and Executive Clients prior to engagement as counsel; and
- Obtained summary judgment dismissing all claims against Corporate Clients for fraudulent transfer claims seeking in excess of \$10,000,000 in damages and judgment was upheld on appeal as to material issues and claims.

**BAR ADMISSIONS AND INVOLVEMENT and OTHER CERTIFICATIONS**

- State Bar of Georgia (1998) and Supreme Court of Georgia (1998);
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia (1999); U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Georgia (2003); and U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit (2001);
- Previously admitted to State Bar of Arizona (2010), resigned in good standing (2014);
- Admitted *pro hac vice* to state and federal courts in Florida, Alabama, Tennessee, Texas, and Utah;
- Previously Registered Arbitrator with the Georgia Commission on Dispute Resolution;
- Member, State Bar of Georgia's Law Practice Management Committee for 2015-16, and 2019-2022;
- Member, State Bar of Georgia's Business Court Committee for 2019-2020;
- Fee Arbitrator, State Bar of Georgia; and
- Obtained Certified Information Privacy Professional designation (CIPP/US) through the International Association of Privacy Professionals (2015)

**EDUCATION**

- Juris Doctor - Boston University School of Law, Boston, Massachusetts (1998), including Case and Note Editor, *International Law Journal*
- Bachelor of Arts in Political Science - Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia (1995)
- Study Abroad Program (Brussels, Belgium) - American University, Washington, D.C. (Fall 1993)

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

- Member of Lawyers Club of Atlanta, Atlanta Bar Association, North Fulton Bar Association (Treasurer, 2017-19); and Dunwoody Bar Association (Board Member, 2019-2020)

**RELEVANT SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS, ARTICLES, AND PUBLICATIONS**

- "Georgia Restrictive Covenants 101: What You Should Know," approved by the State Bar of Georgia for one hour of CLE (2014 - 2017);
- Sole Presenter, "Fiduciary Duty Litigation in Business Disputes: Identifying Causes of Action, Key Defenses, Remedies and Proof," National CLE Webinar Offered by Clear Law Institute, January 31, 2018;
- Featured Presenter, "Fiduciary Duty Litigation in Business Disputes: Identifying Causes of Action, Key Defenses, Remedies and Proof," National CLE Webinar Offered by Strafford Publications, May 23, 2017;
- Featured Presenter, "Navigating the Complexities of Litigating Closely Held Business Disputes," National CLE Webinar Offered by Lorman Education Services, February 29, 2016 and January 17, 2017;
- "Restrictive Covenants 101: An Overview for Education, Planning, and Strategy Purposes," accepted by the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, Inc. for one hour of CE (2015);
- Featured Presenter, "Litigating Closely Held Business Disputes: Breach of Fiduciary Duty, Breach of Contract and Shareholder Oppression: Identifying Causes of Action; Pursuing Emergency Injunctions, Partition and Dissolution; Tackling Valuation Issues," National CLE Webinar Offered by Strafford Publications, May 21, 2014 and August 4, 2015;
- Featured Presenter, "Noncompete Agreements: Latest Litigation Developments; Crafting Enforceable Contracts to Protect Trade Secrets and Confidential Business Information," National CLE Webinar Offered by Strafford Publications, July 22, 2010;
- Featured Presenter, "The Basics of Restrictive Covenants for Small Businesses in Georgia," for the Sandy Springs/Perimeter Chamber of Commerce Small Business Council Educational Series, October 23, 2012; and
- Featured Presenter, "Covenants Not to Compete," In-Person CLE Presentation with Lorman Education Services, April 22, 2008.