



Georgia's
2006 Legal Elite

Edited by Susan Percy

A listing of the state's most effective lawyers, selected by their peers.

From left: Attorneys Allegra Lawrence, Jim Butler, Lisa Ballentine, Jack Dalton and Ed Garland

DONALD F. SAMUEL

Garland, Samuel & Loeb
Atlanta



IN 1982, Don Samuel had just begun what he thought would be a career as a labor lawyer when he was summoned to Macon to defend a woman accused of murdering her husband. It didn't go well. The jury didn't buy his self-defense argument. But Samuel had a new career path. He was hooked on criminal law.

Today, Samuel, 50, is a nationally recognized criminal defense attorney with a *Who's Who* of clients, including Baltimore Ravens linebacker Ray Lewis and antiques dealer Jim Williams of *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil* fame. A graduate of the University of Georgia School of Law, Samuel is past president of the Georgia Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and author of three legal texts.

Samuel says he enjoys the dynamic nature of criminal defense work and its potential to shape the law. "The

Bill of Rights is the forefront of every single criminal case," he says.

Case in point: Last March, one of Samuel's cases led to a new interpretation of the Fourth Amendment prohibiting "unreasonable searches and seizures." Samuel's client had objected to a search of his home, but his wife invited police in. The U.S. Supreme Court found that the search violated his constitutional rights.

Samuel is currently defending one of the two Georgia men charged with providing support to terrorists. That case will require him to navigate the restrictions posed by national security.

Samuel has made a mark on the world in his personal life, as well. With wife Melissa Fay Greene, author of *Praying for Sheetrock* and *The Temple Bombing*, Samuel has nine children, including one adopted from Bulgaria and four adopted from Ethiopia. — MCM

MINDY S. PLANER

Kilpatrick Stockton LLP
1100 Peachtree St. NE, Ste. 2800
Atlanta 30309
404-815-6394
www.kilpatrickstockton.com

MARK G. POTTORFF

Smith, Gambrell & Russell LLP
Promenade II, Ste. 3100
1230 Peachtree St.
Atlanta 30309
404-815-3597
www.sgrlaw.com

WILLIAM G. ROTHSCHILD

Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP
999 Peachtree St. NE, Ste. 2300
Atlanta 30309
404-853-8484
www.sablaw.com

CHARLES T. SHARBAUGH

Paul, Hastings, Janofsky
& Walker LLP
600 Peachtree St. NE, Ste. 2400
Atlanta 30308
404-815-2213
www.paulhastings.com

MASON W. STEPHENSON

King & Spalding LLP
1180 Peachtree St. NE
Atlanta 30309
404-572-4945
www.kslaw.com

MICHAEL W. TYLER

Kilpatrick Stockton LLP
1100 Peachtree St. NE, Ste. 2800
Atlanta 30309
404-815-6474
www.kilpatrickstockton.com

RONALD A. WEINER

Arnall Golden Gregory
171 17th St. NW, Ste. 2100
Atlanta 30363
404-873-8193
www.agg.com

STEPHEN F. WHITE

Hunton & Williams LLP
Bank of America Plaza, Ste. 4100
600 Peachtree St. NE
Atlanta 30308
404-888-4234
www.hunton.com

ANDREW C. WILLIAMS

Morris, Manning & Martin LLP
1600 Atlanta Financial Center
3343 Peachtree St. NE
Atlanta 30326
404-504-7602
www.mmmlaw.com