



## Poyner Spruill Fast Facts

Attorneys: Approximately 110

Offices: 5 (Raleigh, Charlotte, Rocky Mount, Southern Pines and Wilmington)

Based out of Raleigh

**Major Practice Areas:** Corporate, Litigation, Banking, Creditors' Rights, Environmental Law, Governmental Law, Health Law, Employment Law, Employee Benefits, Trusts and Estates

**Poyner Spruill's History:** Poyner Spruill was formed January 1, 1986 by the merger of two of North Carolina's oldest and most respected law firms: Poyner, Geraghty, Hartsfield & Townsend of Raleigh and Spruill & Spruill of Rocky Mount and Raleigh. The Poyner firm was established in Raleigh in 1946 by James M. Poyner, Marshall B. Hartsfield and John J. Geraghty. It steadily expanded its civil practice in Raleigh, becoming the city's largest and most established corporate practice and achieving a significant reputation for expertise in tax law. Spruill & Spruill traced its beginning to 1883 when it was established in Henderson by Frank S. Spruill. Spruill moved the firm to Rocky Mount in 1907. In 1988, Mark B. Edwards and Richard E. Thigpen, Jr., then president of the North Carolina Bar Association, joined the firm and opened its office in Charlotte. In 2005, the Broughton & Broughton firm merged into Poyner Spruill, giving the firm an office in Southern Pines. And most recently, the firm changed its name from Poyner & Spruill LLP to Poyner Spruill LLP, effective October 10, 2008. The firm is now known as Poyner Spruill LLP.

**Leadership:** Joseph b. "Bo" Dempster, Jr. is the firm's Managing Partner. His practice is based in Raleigh, and he is a commercial real estate and banking attorney.

## Media Inquiries

Poyner Spruill LLP attorneys serve as resources and background on many newsworthy topics across a number of different practice areas. If you are interested in speaking with one of our attorneys for a story or if you have a question about any of our web publications, press releases or events, please contact our marketing department or public relations firm.

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Our attorneys can serve as background or comment upon such topics as:

- An employer's right to review employee emails, use of the computer and mobile devices – from both an employer and an employee perspective
- Availability of long-term care for Baby Boomers in North Carolina
- Bank privacy laws
- Bank security breaches
- Closely-held businesses and succession issues
- Companies that have funded 401 K match programs (how to encourage employees to save)
- Contested wills
- Employees caring for sick relatives
- Employees on active military duty
- Employer requirements under OSHA and jobsite safety
- Employers dealing with revisions to Family Medical Leave Act
- Employers' responsibilities when politics are discussed at the office (free speech)
- Enforceable non-compete agreements
- Green/environmentally-friendly initiatives
- Health care privacy law (HIPAA)
- How employers should handle employees taking intermittent leave
- Long-term care facilities in trouble for fraud and abuse
- Long-term care licensing
- Medicare reimbursement (state or facility level)
- Notable trends in entertainment law in North Carolina
- Employer's obligations to secure private information, including performance reviews and medical records
- Employee blogging
- Online internet security – employer blogging – pros and cons of
- Privacy issues in the workplace
- Protecting intellectual property on the internet
- Repeal of the estate tax
- Residential foreclosures
- Right to videotape the workplace
- Strategies for businesses to reduce litigation costs
- Strategies for employers to stay out of court
- Tax issues, corporate or manufacturing
- Tax incentives for entertainment companies
- Tax incentives for relocating companies
- Time management (From an employee and employer perspective)
- What companies can do to protect copyrights, trademarks and other intellectual property
- White collar criminal defense
- Wills and blended families