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## Chambliss Welcomes Experienced Litigators to Growing Team

**CHATTANOOGA, Tenn.** (Dec. 16, 2025) — Chambliss, Bahner & Stophel, P.C. is pleased to welcome attorneys [Jennifer Lea](#) and [Susie Lodico](#), who will support the firm's [litigation](#) practice area.



Jennifer Lea



Susie Lodico

"We're excited to welcome two highly accomplished litigators to the firm," said President and Managing Shareholder [Steve Barham](#). "Jennifer brings a rare blend of global legal experience and strategic insight, and Susie adds deep, industry-spanning litigation knowledge and exceptional courtroom skills. Together, they elevate our ability to serve clients with the loyalty, precision, and advocacy they expect from Chambliss."

With more than 15 years of experience as a state and federal prosecutor and international human rights lawyer, Lea advises clients in criminal and human rights matters, labor and employment, family law, health care regulation, and civil litigation. She also represents health care providers in qui tam cases, white-collar criminal defense, payment and licensing disputes, and fraud and abuse litigation.

Before joining Chambliss, Lea held a senior position litigating before the European Court of Human Rights and previously appeared before the Supreme Courts of Tennessee and Virginia, the Air Force Court of Criminal Appeals, and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces. As a federal prosecutor and leader within the Department of War, she managed cases involving elected officials, corporations, and international criminals.

Lea has received several notable honors, including the Air Force Commendation Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and Nuclear Deterrence Operations

Service Medal. She is a member of the [Tennessee](#) and [Virginia](#) Bar Associations and is admitted to practice before the Supreme Courts of Tennessee and Virginia, the Air Force Court of Criminal Appeals, and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces.

Beyond the courtroom, Lea serves on the boards of three French nonprofits: [Advocates France \(Juristes & Chrétiens\)](#), [Comité Protestante Évangélique pour la Dignité Humaine \(CPDH\)](#), and [Impact France](#). She earned her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Covenant College and her Master of Arts in International Affairs from The American University of Paris and Institut Catholique de Paris. Lea received her J.D. from the William & Mary Marshall-Wythe School of Law. She is licensed to practice in Tennessee and Virginia.

Lodico focuses her practice on complex commercial and business litigation, representing individuals and companies in matters involving contract disputes, property rights, construction issues, and related commercial conflicts. She advises clients across a broad range of industries, including international manufacturing and distribution, finance, and commercial and residential real estate. Lodico has significant experience litigating disputes among businesses, owners, and family members. She is involved in every stage of the litigation process, from early investigation through final resolution, including appeals when necessary.

Throughout her career, Lodico has handled a wide range of high-stakes and complex cases, experience that informs the focused and strategic approach she brings to each matter at Chambliss. She uses her trial experience and practical judgment to resolve disputes efficiently, both in and out of the courtroom. Lodico's approach is tailored to each client's goals and industry to support long-term business needs. She is a member of the [Tennessee](#) and [Chattanooga](#) Bar Associations. Lodico received her Bachelor of Arts from the University of Colorado and earned her J.D., cum laude, from the University of Georgia School of Law. She is admitted to practice in Tennessee.

#### **About Chambliss**

Chambliss, founded in 1886, is a Chattanooga-based law firm serving local, regional, and national clients. With over 135 employees, the firm offers a wide range of legal services, including business, cybersecurity and data privacy, construction and real estate, estate planning, finance, health care, intellectual property, labor and employment, litigation, and mergers and acquisitions. The firm serves as counsel for businesses, financial institutions, local governments, families, individuals, and nonprofit organizations. For more information about the firm, please visit [www.chamblisslaw.com](http://www.chamblisslaw.com).

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