



## Michael D. Sanders

Shareholder

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Mike is a shareholder and a former President of the firm. He is a native of Alton, Illinois and an alumnus of the University of Illinois. As an undergraduate at Illinois, he was Phi Beta Kappa and completed his degree in 1980, *magna cum laude*. He earned his law degree from the University of Illinois College of Law in 1983.

Mike devotes his practice to the representation of employers, insurance carriers, and third-party administrators in workers' compensation matters throughout the state. He is the author of several published law review articles on workers' compensation topics, and he is a frequent lecturer on this topic. He serves as an adjunct professor of workers' compensation on the faculty of Western Michigan University Cooley Law School in Lansing. He is also a faculty member of the Michigan State University School of Human Resources and Labor Relations Department, where he teaches a wide array of workers' compensation topics throughout the United States in the Executive Education program. He has also served as an adjunct instructor of business law at University of Illinois and Michigan State University.

Mike is admitted to practice in Michigan and Illinois. He is a member of the State Bar of Michigan and the Ingham County Bar Association, and he is listed in Best Lawyers® in America. He resides in Grand Ledge, Michigan where he is a trumpet player of average ability in the Grand Ledge Community Band.

### SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

**Sexual Harassment in Workers' Compensation**, *Stop Before You Crash: Workers' Compensation and Employment Law*, March 22, 2017

### PRACTICE AREAS

Workers' Compensation  
Insurance Defense  
Employer Services

### EDUCATION

University of Illinois College of Law,  
J.D., 1983  
University of Illinois, B.A., 1980,  
*magna cum laude*

### BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS

Illinois  
Michigan  
U.S. District Court for the Western  
District of Michigan  
U.S. District Court for the Eastern  
District of Michigan

### HONORS & RECOGNITIONS

State Bar of Michigan, Workers'  
Compensation Section Hall of Fame,  
2022  
Ingham County Bar Association,  
Theodore W. Swift Civility Award,  
2018  
AV® Preeminent™  
Martindale-Hubbell  
*Best Lawyers® in America* -  
Workers' Compensation Law -  
Employers, 2005-2025  
ABA College of Workers'  
Compensation Attorneys



## **PUBLICATIONS**

**The Workers' Compensation Issues Raised by Coronavirus Pandemic and Michigan's Newly Promulgated Emergency Rules for "First Response Employees",** *Foster Swift Workers' Compensation Update*, March 20, 2020

**The Difficult Intersection of Workers' Compensation, FMLA and ADA when an Employee gets Sick or Injured,** *Foster Swift Employment Labor & Benefits News*, October 1, 2018

**Are Interns Injured on the Job Entitled to Michigan Workers' Compensation Benefits?,** *Foster Swift Employment Labor & Benefits Law News*, May 29, 2018

**Workers' Compensation Facilitation - The New Trial?,** *Foster Swift Employment, Labor & Benefits News*, November 17, 2016

## **MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS**

### **Legal Affiliations:**

- ACADEMIC POSITION: Western Michigan Thomas M. Cooley Law School, Adjunct Professor for Workers' Compensation Law
- ACADEMIC POSITION: Michigan State University, Instructor for Human Resources Executive Education, School of Labor and Industrial Relations
- American Bar Association
- State Bar of Michigan
- State Bar of Illinois
- Ingham County Bar Association

### **Community Involvement:**

- Grand Ledge Community Band

## **RECENT BLOG POSTS**

### **Health Care Law Blog**

Deputy Director of LEO Issues New Emergency Rule Affecting Workers' Compensation

### **Michigan Workers' Comp Defense Blog**

New Law Expands First Responders Presumed Coverage Fund

Michigan Legislature Considers New COVID-19 Presumption Bill

COVID-19: Is It An Occupational Disease or Personal Injury – And Does It Really Even Matter?

Former Foster Swift Collins & Smith  
Executive Committee, President

Michigan Lawyers Weekly's "Leaders  
in the Law" Class of 2020



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COVID-19 Related Paid Leave Tax Credits Extended Into 2021

Appeals Court Rejects Comp Benefits in 'Special Mission' Case

Recent Michigan Supreme Court Decision Affects Workers' Comp COVID-19 Rebuttable Presumption

The Anticipated Rise in At-Home Work Injury Claims During the Coronavirus Pandemic

Updates to Workers' Compensation Issues Raised by Coronavirus and New Emergency Rules for "First Responders"

Michigan's Emergency Rules Give Personal Injury Presumption to "First Response Employees" with COVID-19

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