



Michael J. Liddane

Shareholder

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For over 30 years, Michael Liddane has litigated transportation related matters in state and federal courts across Michigan and Ohio involving boats, ships, and trains. His niche maritime and railroad practice includes defending against personal injury, wrongful death, and property claims, and representing and counseling clients on everything from cargo, to salvage insurance coverage matters.

Maritime Practice

Mike has defended numerous clients in commercial, pleasure craft, ferry boat, and cruise line accidents in matters of collisions, allisions, groundings, and inboard and outboard slips, trips, and falls.

He defends against claims brought under the Jones Act for wrongful death and personal injury in commercial merchant vessel cases.

Mike is an experienced litigator in matters of cargo transit losses under the Carriage of Goods by Sea Act as well as both pure and contract marine salvage cases. He has extensive experience defending NVOCC cargo matters and marina property damage and personal injury claims. He has filed for and defended vessel owners and operators in numerous Admiralty Limitation Act proceedings in federal courts.

He regularly defends and provides coverage counsel for his marine insurance clients in coverage disputes involving Hull, P&I, and Salvage policy terms and conditions. He has litigated significant Marine Construction Charter Party contract disputes in federal court.

Mike is the appointed legal correspondent for the vast majority of the International Group of Protection and Indemnity Insurance Associations (P&I Clubs). These mutual insurance associations have insured most of the world's ocean going and Great Lakes fleets for the past 150 years.

PRACTICE AREAS

Transportation Law
Mass Tort
General & Commercial Litigation

EDUCATION

Detroit College of Law, J.D., 1985
University of Dayton, B.A., 1982

BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS

Michigan
U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan
U.S. District Court for the Western District of Michigan
U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio
U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin
U.S. District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin
U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals
U.S. Supreme Court



The following P&I Clubs have continuously designated and relied on Mike to respond for their members 24/7 to defend commercial vessel incidents arising on the Great Lakes:

- GARD P&I
- Steamship Mutual P&I
- The Standard Club P&I
- Japan P&I
- West of England P&I
- The Shipowners P&I
- Britannia P&I
- North of England P&I
- London P&I
- Korea P&I
- British Marine P&I
- The American Club

Railroads

For 25 years Mike has represented a Class 1 railroad in state and federal courts against a wide variety of personal injury and death claims brought by employees under the Federal Employers Liability Act (FELA) as well as claims arising from crossing accidents. He has extensive experience defending his railroad client against assertions of repetitive stress injury and illness cases as well.

Asbestos Litigation

Beyond his extensive maritime and railroad litigation defense experience, for almost 30 years Michael has defended several product manufacturers against thousands of asbestos personal injury and wrongful death product liability cases in Michigan state and federal courts. These include defense against assertions of asbestos-related lung and other cancers, mesothelioma, and asbestosis disease claims

Mike is very active in several bar associations and community organizations, most notably co-founding the charity Special Kids, Inc. a charity he founded in 2002 that focuses on serving special needs children and their families in Southeast Michigan.

MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

Legal Affiliations:

- State Bar of Michigan
- Michigan State Bar Foundation, Fellow
- Detroit Bar Association



- Maritime Law Association of the United States
- National Association of Railroad Trial Counsel
- Association for Transportation Law

Community Activities:

- Special Kids. Inc., Co-founder and Vice President
- Propeller Club of the United States, Past President and Member