

## BLAKE J. HOOD

SHAREHOLDER



### AREAS OF PRACTICE

Workers' Compensation

### CONTACT INFO

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Bank of America Tower  
50 N. Laura Street, Suite 1900  
Jacksonville, FL 32202

### ADMISSIONS

Florida  
2002

North Carolina  
2006

U.S. District Court Middle District  
of Florida  
2007

### OVERVIEW

Blake devotes his practice to the defense of employers and insurance carriers in claims and appeals arising under the Florida Workers' Compensation Act as well as claims brought under the federal Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act.

Blake is Board Certified by The Florida Bar in Workers' Compensation, a designation he earned in 2013. He is experienced in workers' compensation law dealing with the analysis and litigation of problems or controversies arising out of the Florida Workers' Compensation Law.

In addition to his practice that extends throughout the state of Florida, Blake is also licensed to practice law in North Carolina. He represents many insurance carriers and third party administrators. Additionally, he lectures on various topics concerning state and federal workers' compensation claims.

### EDUCATION

Florida State University College of  
Law (J.D., 2002)

Emory University (B.A., 1999)

Oxford College of Emory  
University (A.A., 1997)

Blake proudly served as Co-Chair for the Friends of 440 Scholarship Fund between 2010 and 2012 and helped coordinate numerous fundraising events for the purpose of raising scholarship funds for the organization. When not working, Blake enjoys spending his time with his wife and daughter, cooking, reading and playing classical guitar.

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## ASSOCIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

E. Robert Williams Inn of Court,  
Barrister

Florida Bar

Friends of 440 Scholarship Fund,  
Inc., Jacksonville Division Co-  
Chair, 2010-2012

Jacksonville Bar Association,  
Workers' Compensation Section,  
Co-Chair, 2007-2009

North Carolina Bar

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## YEAR JOINED

2024

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## CERTIFICATIONS

Board Certified in Workers'  
Compensation Law, The Florida  
Bar

## THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

### First District Court of Appeal Enforces Statutory Provision Divesting Judges of Compensation Claims of Subject Matter Jurisdiction

**Jacksonville**  
**Workers' Compensation**  
**June 1, 2025**

In a per curiam opinion from the First District Court of Appeal on May 7, 2025, the court addressed what at first glance appeared to be an arcane case about collective bargaining agreements. What's Hot in Workers' Comp, Vol. 29, No.

### Post-Accident Drug Testing and Consent: Evaluating Reasonable Suspicion Under Florida Workers' Compensation Law

**Jacksonville**  
**Workers' Compensation**  
**May 1, 2025**

The claimant was injured in a workplace accident and subsequently hospitalized. What's Hot in Workers' Comp, Vol. 29, No.

### First District Court of Appeal overturns attendant care award due to lack of specificity in judge's findings.

**Jacksonville**  
**Workers' Compensation**  
**April 1, 2025**

The First District Court of Appeal overturned an award for nonprofessional attendant care because the judge of compensation claims failed to distinguish which services qualified for compensation under Florida law. What's Hot in Workers' Comp, Vol. 29, No.

### Florida Court of Appeal holds that employer/carrier entitled to recover benefits paid from third-party settlement after settlement date.

**Jacksonville**  
**Workers' Compensation**  
**March 1, 2025**

The claimant was injured at work when the elevator he entered suddenly stopped and then plunged into a free fall. What's Hot in Workers' Comp, Vol. 29, No.

### Treatment with authorized provider tolls statute of limitations, although treatment occurred without employer/carrier's knowledge and was billed to private health insurance, as it was similar in nature to previously authorized treatment.

**Jacksonville**  
**Workers' Compensation**  
**February 1, 2025**

The First District Court of Appeal issued another opinion in the ongoing statute of limitations saga triggered by the 2023 opinion in *Ortiz v. Winn-Dixie, Inc.*, 361 So. 3d 889 (Fla. 1st DCA 2023) (Ortiz I). What's Hot in Workers' Comp, Vol. 29, No.

## CLASSES/SEMINARS TAUGHT

*Hot Topics for Attorneys*, Workers' Compensation Institute 77<sup>th</sup> Annual Workers' Compensation Educational Conference, Orlando, FL, August 2023

*Repetitive Trauma, Exposure and Occupational Disease*, The Florida Bar Workers' Compensation Forum, 2015-2017

## PUBLISHED WORKS

"Repetitive Trauma, Exposure and Occupational Diseases," *The Florida Bar Workers' Compensation Forum Course Book*, 2015-2017

"Florida Common Law Jurisprudence," by Michael Cavendish and Blake J. Hood, *The Florida Bar Journal*, January 2007, Volume 81, No. 1, Page 8

