

BLAKE J. HOOD

SHAREHOLDER



AREAS OF PRACTICE

Workers' Compensation

CONTACT INFO

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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)

An active member of the Jacksonville Bar Association, Blake currently serves as the co-chair of the Social Security and Workers' Compensation Law Committee. He previously served as co-chair of the Workers' Compensation Section. Blake also 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.

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, Social Security and Workers' Compensation Law Committee Co-Chair, 2025-2026

North Carolina Bar

YEAR JOINED

2024

CERTIFICATIONS

Board Certified Specialist, Workers' Compensation, The Florida Bar

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

Florida Court Clarifies Misrepresentation Defense and Major Contributing Cause in Successive Workplace Injury Claims

Jacksonville
Workers' Compensation
January 1, 2026

The claimant initially injured her shoulder at work in 2021. During that claim, it was determined she made misrepresentations, which barred her from receiving further benefits under Florida Statute § 440.105.

TOP 10 DEVELOPMENTS IN FLORIDA WORKERS' COMPENSATION IN 2025

Jacksonville
Workers' Compensation
December 1, 2025

1. Treatment with an authorized provider tolls the statute of limitations, although treatment occurred without employer/carrier's knowledge and billed to private health insurance

District Court Holds that Daubert Evidentiary Challenges Do Not Apply to Expert Medical Opinions under Florida's Workers' Compensation Act

Jacksonville
Workers' Compensation
November 1, 2025

In this matter of first impression, Florida's First District Court of Appeal addressed whether Florida Statutes Section 440.25(4)(d) precludes Daubert challenges to Expert Medical Advisor (EMA) opinions.

District Court Holds that Reservation Over Attorney Fee Entitlement May Not Toll Statute of Limitations

Jacksonville
Workers' Compensation
October 1, 2025

It seems there is no statute of limitations on the First District Court of Appeals' issuing opinions interpreting the actual statute of limitations under Florida's Workers' Compensation Act. What's Hot in Workers' Comp, Vol. 29, No.

District Court Holds that Average Weekly Wage Should Be Calculated at Time of Last Injurious Exposure in Occupational Injury Cases

Jacksonville
Workers' Compensation
September 1, 2025

The First District Court of Appeal reversed a compensation judge's denial of indemnity benefits to a former employee who developed atrial fibrillation months after resigning from his job. What's Hot in Workers' Comp, Vol. 29, No.

CLASSES/SEMINARS TAUGHT

"One Time Changes" in Medical Providers Under Florida Statutes Section 440.13(2)(f), Florida Bar Workers' Compensation Section Webinar, June 11, 2025

Hot Topics for Attorneys, Workers' Compensation Institute 77th 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

