

### **BLAKE J. HOOD**

### SHAREHOLDER



### **ADMISSIONS**

Florida 2002

North Carolina 2006

U.S. District Court Middle District of Florida 2007

### **EDUCATION**

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

Emory University (B.A., 1999)

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

### AREAS OF PRACTICE

Workers' Compensation

### **CONTACT INFO**

(904) 358-4203 BJHood@mdwcg.com

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

### **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.

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.

## 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

### **YEAR JOINED**

2024

### CERTIFICATIONS

Board Certified in Workers' Compensation Law, The Florida Bar

## THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

# 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.

# Although claimants have a statutory right to file petitions for benefits, a recent order imposing sanctions on a claimant's attorney highlights the non-frivolous litigation and 'good faith' limitations imposed on that statutory right.

Jacksonville

### Workers' Compensation

October 1, 2024

While not a district court opinion, this judge of compensation claims' order addresses an everincreasing source of frustration: filing and maintaining petitions for benefits without good faith efforts to either resolve these disputes before filin What's Hot in Workers' Comp, Vol. 28, No.

### Marshall Dennehey Expands Florida Workers' Compensation Practice With the Addition of Shareholder Blake J. Hood in Jacksonville

Workers' Compensation September 16, 2024 Marshall Dennehey is proud to announce the expansion of its Florida Workers' Compensation practice with the addition of Blake J. Read More

### **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