

CURRICULUM VITAE

Michael S. McKnight
Partner

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Professional Summary:

Member of the firm since 1986, and a senior partner in the firm's litigation section, with emphasis on workers' compensation defense, representing numerous large insurance companies and self-insured entities trying over 100 cases. Outside of defending workers' compensation claims, has been hired as a mediator in nearly 300 mediations, successfully mediating a wide variety of claims and issues, including bad faith claims.

Education:

B.S., Wildlife & Fisheries Biology; Chemistry Minor (1981)

South Dakota State University

J.D., *with honors* (1986)

University of South Dakota Law School

Bar Admission:

South Dakota (1986)

U.S. District Court, District of South Dakota (1986)

U.S. Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit (1986)

Professional Memberships:

State Bar of South Dakota

Second Judicial Circuit Bar Commission

State Bar of South Dakota – ADR Committee (Present Chair)

State Bar of South Dakota – Ethics Committee

State Bar of South Dakota – Disciplinary Board

The Defense Research Institute – Worker's Compensation Committee

National Worker's Compensation Defense Network – South Dakota Representative

The College of Workers' Compensation Lawyers - Fellow

ABA Dispute Resolution Committee

Credentials:

Civil Mediation Training, Hamline Mediation Center (anticipated March 2016)

Recognized by *Chambers USA* as a leading attorney in Labor & Employment Law/Workers' Compensation (2015)

Recognized by *Best Lawyers* as the “Sioux Falls *Best Lawyers* Employment Law – Management Lawyer of the Year” (2014)

Recognized by *Best Lawyers* as the “Sioux Falls *Best Lawyers* Litigation – Labor and Employment Lawyer of the Year” for (2015).

Recognized by *The Best Lawyers in America* in the areas of Employment Law-Management, Litigation-Labor and Employment and Workers’ Compensation Law (2014-2015).

Recognized by *Great Plains Super Lawyers*, for the States of South Dakota, North Dakota and Nebraska

Professional Presentations*:

"A Hands-On Approach to Labor and Employment Law In South Dakota." Presented at Sioux Falls, South Dakota, 1995.

"Ethics and Law Office Management." Presented at University of South Dakota School of Law, 1991-1995, Vermillion, South Dakota. (1991-1995)

"Employee Handbooks." Presented at Sioux Falls, South Dakota, 1998.

"ADA, FMLA and Worker's Compensation in South Dakota." Presented at Sioux Falls, South Dakota, July 2000.

"How to Prepare Yourself (and Your Client) for Mediation." Presented at South Dakota Bar Nuts and Bolts CLE, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, April 2013.

"The Impact of the Affordable Care Act on Workers’ Compensation." Presented at the South Dakota Workers’ Compensation Summit, June 2015, Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

*Extensive list of additional professional speaking presentations in the area of workers’ compensation available upon request.