



Michael L. Blumenthal

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mike@sbhlaw.com 816.285.0558 (direct)

Mike's legal career has been devoted to representing management in workplace legal issues and representing businesses in high-stakes business litigation. Mike is known as an aggressive and passionate trial lawyer. He is admitted to the bars of Kansas, Missouri, and Georgia and has defended lawsuits in more than twenty states. Mike is often called upon by other lawyers to mediate and arbitrate their lawsuits.

Mike's professional honors include:

- Selected by *The Best Lawyers in America* as the 2017 "Lawyer of the Year" in Kansas City, Missouri in Litigation-Labor & Employment
- Selected by *The Best Lawyers in America* as the 2014 "Lawyer of the Year" in Kansas City, Missouri in employment law - management.
- Included in *The Best Lawyers in America* in the field of labor and employment law.
- Named one of "The Best Lawyers in Kansas City" by *Ingram's* magazine.
- Recognized as one of the "The Top 50" lawyers in Kansas City and one of "The Top 100" lawyers in Missouri and Kansas by the publishers of *KC Magazine*.
- Repeatedly named a Missouri & Kansas "Super Lawyer" by the publishers of *KC Magazine* in the field of labor and employment law.
- Repeatedly recognized by *The Kansas City Business Journal* as "Best of the Bar" in the area of labor and employment law.
- Rated AV® Preeminent by the Martindale-Hubbell peer review rating system. This rating is given only to those lawyers who have reached the height of professional excellence.

Practice Emphasis

- Employment and Business Litigation
- Trade Secrets and Non-Compete Enforcement Litigation
- Human Resources Counseling and Policy Development

Professional Associations

- Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association
 - Labor & Employment Law Committee (former Chair)
- Society for Human Resource Management
- Society for Human Resource Management of Johnson County (Past President, Vice President, and Chair of the Government and Legal Affairs Committee)
- American Employment Law Council

Education

- University of Kansas
 - J.D., 1992
 - Publications Editor for *The Kansas Journal of Law and Public Policy*
- University of Kansas
 - B.A., 1989
 - "Hilltopper" Award recipient



- Named by *Chambers USA* as a “Leading Individual” in the Kansas City area in the field of labor and employment law.

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Mike’s success as a trial lawyer includes:

- In January 2013, the SBH trial team comprised of Mike, Paul Seyferth, and Kevin Karpin obtained an award of \$162 million on behalf of the Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City against the Hospital Corporation of America (HCA). SBH was awarded over \$13 million in attorneys’ fees in connection with this verdict. This commercial contract action is still pending as SBH engages in an additional court-supervised accounting to determine whether additional money is owed to our client. This was Missouri’s largest judgment in 2013 according to *Missouri Lawyer’s Weekly*.
- In January 2011, Mike teamed with Paul Seyferth to defend a two-plaintiff age discrimination case that resulted in defense verdicts. These verdicts were designated by *Missouri Lawyer’s Weekly* as among the largest defense verdicts in 2011.
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- In 2008, Mike and Paul Seyferth received a defense verdict in an age discrimination case tried in the Circuit Court of Jackson County, Missouri. Our client, a family-owned small business, "bet the company" on the outcome of this case.
- In 2007, Mike was lead counsel in a consumer fraud case tried in the District Court of Wyandotte County, Kansas. The case was widely publicized on local television after the plaintiff's claims were covered by a consumer advocacy reporter. The jury found for our client, a national provider of funeral services.

Mike serves as a Master in the Ross T. Roberts Inn of Court, an educational program sponsored by the United States District Court for Western District of Missouri designed to help enhance the trial skills of young lawyers.

Mike's published articles include 10 *The Labor Lawyer* 19, *The Defendant's Perspective: Ethical Considerations In Representing and Counseling Multiple Parties In Employment Litigation* (1994), and 1 *The Kansas Journal of Law and Public Policy* 155, *Warning! Collective Bargaining Can Be Hazardous To Your Health* (1991).

Mike also holds the rank of Godan (fifth degree black belt) in Okinawan Kenpo Karate and the rank of Shodan (first degree black belt) in Taiko Ryu Jujitsu and teaches traditional karate and jujitsu at the Kansas City Karate Club. In 2013, Mike was awarded the title of "Renshi" (i.e., "polished instructor") in the United States Kenpo Kobujitsu federation.