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Education:

2006 B.A., University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
Major: Economics
2009 J.D., University of Iowa, College of Law, Iowa City, Iowa

Law Licenses:

Iowa 2009

Illinois 2010

Elected Position:

Iowa Association for Justice (“IAJ”), Board of Governors, District 7 (2011– present)

Iowa Foundation for Justice (“IFJ”), Board of Trustees (2019-present)

Lectures and Seminars:

“Work Comp 101,” HELP Legal Assistance Cepican CLE Seminar, November 11, 2014, Bettendorf, Iowa.

“Workers’ Compensation Appellate Case Law Update,” Iowa Association for Justice (IAJ) Eastern Iowa Workers’ Compensation Fall Seminar, September 25, 2015, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

“Expedited Civil Actions and Bad Faith: Getting Your Client Full Justice,” IAJ Workers’ Compensation Annual Seminar, February 16, 2017, Altoona, Iowa

“The Ethics of Advertising: Can I Say That? Should I Say That?” Iowa Association of Workers’ Compensation Lawyers (IAWC) Annual Seminar, October 17, 2019, West Des Moines, Iowa

“Keys to Remote Video Depositions & Mediation,” IAJ Webinar, May 5, 2020, Panel Member on Webinar through Zoom

Publications:

Chapter 54 – Workers’ Compensation, Methods of Practice, VOLUME 3 OF THE IOWA PRACTICE SERIES (2010 – present)

Notable Decisions and Orders:

Ortiz v. Loyd Roling Constr., 928 N.W.2d 651 (Iowa 2019) (holding that service by email substantially complies with Iowa Code Section 17A.19(2))

Notable Decisions and Orders:

De Dios vs. Indem. Ins. Co. of N. Am., 927 N.W.2d 611 (Iowa 2019) (holding that insurance company has nondelegable duty to act in good faith)

Kraft Foods, Inc. V. Shariff, 882 N.W.2d 873 (Table), 2016 WL 740505 (Iowa Ct. App. 2016) (employee proved that “an occupational medicine doctor actually lobbied a medical specialist to change his opinion in a manner favorable to an employer and thus directly interfere with the specialist's recommended and authorized treatment of the work injury, which had been voluntarily accepted by the employer and insurer.”)

City of Davenport v. Paulsen, 859 N.W.2d 672 (Iowa Ct. App. 2014) (holding that police officer who was injured at police academy entitled to workers’ compensation benefits)

Corelis v. Tri-City Elec. Co. of Iowa, File No. LACE122696, 2014 WL 8390753, (Scott County) (Ruling on Motion for Summary Judgment, Sept. 22, 2014) (holding that jury question on whether distracted driver acted with legal malice and was liable for punitive damages.)

Hyten v. HNI Corp. & The HON Company, LLC, Law No. LACE022714 (Muscatine County) (Ruling on Motion for Summary Judgment, June 27, 2016) (holding a supervisor’s financial motivation for wanting to terminate an employee is evidence of improper motive).

Castaneda v. Water-Works, Inc., and United Fired & Causalty Co., File. No. 5040436 (Iowa Workers’ Compensation Commissioner) (Ruling on Motion to Compel, June 14, 2013) (holding that Iowa does not require certified videographers when taking a video deposition if certified court reporter is taking record)

Laboy v. West Liberty Foods and Sentry Ins , File No. 5037309, 2012 WL 3561635 (Arb Dec., Aug. 13, 2012) (penalizing employer for refusing to pay temporary benefits because reliance on claimant’s immigration status was not reasonable)

Chavez v. HNI Corp. and ACE Ins. Co., File No. 5038964, (Iowa Workers’ Compensation Commissioner) (Ruling on Motion to Compel, August 10, 2012) (holding that questions regarding the termination of the employee may be relevant in establishing the nature and extent of the industrial disability sustained by injured worker)

Organizations and Activities:

Bettendorf Community Schools Foundation (2011-2018)
President (2016-18)

Mock Trial Coach, Our Lady of Lourdes (2012 – 2016)

League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC),
Member of Council 308 – Iowa City (2014 – present)
LULAC of Iowa, Political Director (2017-2019)

Professional Associations and Distinctions:

Graduate of Trial Lawyers College (TLC) in July of 2018, graduate of Grad 1 program in August of 2019

American Association of Justice (AAJ)