

Michael G. McQuillen

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About Mike

Mike primarily represents airlines, aircraft and product component manufacturers, and aviation insurers. An accomplished trial lawyer for over 40 years and a pilot for more than 45 years, Mike has tried high-profile air carrier accident and product liability cases before juries in state and federal courts across the country. His clients include major and regional airlines, cargo carriers, helicopter operators, fixed-base operators, individual aircraft owners, and corporate operators.

On the products side, he represents manufacturers of airframes, jet engines, turbine engines, piston engines, valves, vacuum pumps, autopilots, flight control systems, ground proximity warning systems, collision avoidance systems, oxygen generating systems, rocket components, and various other avionics and component parts, and has also defended numerous manufacturers in a variety of US military accidents. He has also defended air show and air racing associations.

Mike has delivered an extensive number of speeches and authored numerous papers on aviation law for various industry groups, including the Southern Methodist University School of Law Aviation Law Symposium, Risk Management Society, Chicago Bar Association, American Bar Association, Forum Committee on Air & Space Law, *John Marshall Law Review*, *IFR Magazine*, *Lawyer Pilots Bar Association Journal*, *American Bonanza Society Magazine*, and many aviation-related conferences and conventions.

Areas of Focus

Industries: Aviation & Aerospace; Transportation & Mobility

Services: Complex Commercial Litigation ; Insurance Coverage Litigation & Counseling;
Litigation & Trial

Experience

Mike prefers not to publicize client names for the sake of personal recognition, but upon request, he can provide details of numerous defense verdicts at trial in several states on behalf of high-profile aviation manufacturers and airline clients, along with client references. He has also successfully resolved hundreds of disputes for aviation clients across the country, via direct resolution efforts or mediation, and has built a strong working relationship with many established plaintiff attorneys nationwide.

Recognition

- *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*, Transportation: Aviation: Litigation – USA – Nationwide, Band 1, 2010 – 2025
- *Illinois Super Lawyers*, 2012 – 2025
- *Jury Verdict Reporter and Law Bulletin Media*, Trial Lawyer Excellence Award for Outstanding Defense Verdict in a Product Liability Case, October 26, 2017
- *Chicago Magazine*, Top Attorneys in Illinois, 2015, 2016
- *Crain's Chicago Business*, Top Lawyers in Illinois, 2005
- *National Registry of Who's Who*, Lifetime Member, 2001 Edition

Credentials

Education

University of Illinois Chicago School of Law (formerly The John Marshall Law School), JD, *with distinction*, 1984
Illinois State University, BS, 1980

Bar Admissions

Illinois

Court Admissions

US Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
US Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit
US District Court for the District of Colorado
US District Court for the Central District of Illinois
US District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, including Trial Bar
US District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan

Interests

Did you know...

Mike is an active pilot who has flown continuously for over 45 years. He holds a commercial license for single and multi-engine land aircraft, as well as a private license for single-engine seaplanes. With more than 5,700 flight hours logged, he currently flies a Beech Baron. In a former life, he earned a Category C (advanced) skydiver license and a Jumpmaster rating from the United States Parachute Association.

Thought Leadership

Presentations

- Panelist, “Litigation Trends Impacting the Aviation Sector,” Aon Aviation Symposium, London, United Kingdom, June 12, 2025
- Moderator, “Eyes in the Skies: Navigating ATC Litigation,” TIPS Aviation and Aerospace Law Conference: Reaching New Heights, American Bar Association (ABA) Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section, Arlington, Virginia, September 19, 2024
- Co-Presenter, “Case Studies: Select Legal Issues Impacting Exposure & Risk,” Client CLE, Chicago, Illinois, May 9, 2024
- Panelist, “The People’s Court: Obtaining and Using Information from Mock Juries,” Aviation Insurance Association’s Annual Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana, May 3, 2024
- Co-Presenter, “Navigating the Skies: Trends and Developments in Aviation Law,” Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP, Chicago, Illinois, October 18, 2023

Event

- Michael McQuillen Presented at the Aviation Insurance Association’s Annual Conference, May 3, 2024

Press Releases

- Hinshaw Earns National Recognition in 2025 *Chambers USA* Directory, Jun 5, 2025
- 2024 Edition of *Chambers USA* Recognizes Hinshaw for its Insurance, Aviation, and Financial Services Practices, Jun 6, 2024
- 2023 Edition of *Chambers USA* Recognizes Hinshaw for its Transportation, Insurance, and Financial Services Practices, Jun 1, 2023
- Hinshaw Finalizes Adler Murphy & McQuillen LLP Deal in Chicago, Apr 3, 2023
- Hinshaw Announces Adler Murphy & McQuillen LLP Will Join the Firm, Mar 9, 2023