

# Burke G. Lopez

Tampa, FL

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### **About Burke**

A defense lawyer, Burke focuses his practice on personal injury, professional liability, and property damage lawsuits. He represents clients with significant liability and exposure, guiding them through the litigation process.

Burke's experience extends to matters involving trucking and transportation, insurance coverage issues, commercial disputes, products and premises liability, wrongful death, and commercial litigation. Burke also defends professional liability lawsuits against architects, engineers, insurance agents, accountants, and lawyers. His clients have included major property and casualty insurers, residential service providers, transportation companies, third-party administrators, product manufacturers, and Fortune 500 corporations.

### Areas of Focus

**Industries:** Insurance; Professional Services; Transportation & Mobility

Services: Complex Tort & General Casualty; Insurance Coverage Litigation & Counseling;

Litigation & Trial

## **Experience**

• Obtained a favorable outcome as defense counsel in a four-day jury trial in Wachula, Florida, arising from a slip and fall at a Wendy's fast-food restaurant; the plaintiff injured her head, neck, and shoulder and underwent

shoulder surgery following the accident. The plaintiff's last demand was \$350,000, and the jury awarded \$26,000, apportioning 65 percent fault to the plaintiff. Arce v. Wendy's Old Fashioned Hamburgers, Hardee County, Florida, April 2012.

- Served as lead defense counsel in a construction-site accident case resulting from a scissor lift fall. After a fourday trial, the jury apportioned more than 50 percent comparative fault to the plaintiff. Hahn v. Meridian Lighting, Inc., Hillsborough County, Florida, July 2017.
- Obtained a defense verdict on behalf of a private security guard contractor after a five-day jury trial before Judge Douglas Baird in Clearwater, Florida. The plaintiff claimed a closed head injury arising from an assault at a shopping center. The jury found no liability on the part of the security guards present during the assault. Siar v. IPC International, Pinellas County, Florida, November 2012.
- Obtained a defense verdict in favor of a homeowner's insurance carrier following a jury trial arising from a policyholder's sinkhole claim. In a three-day jury trial heard before Judge Linda Babb in Dade City, Florida, successfully argued that interior and exterior damage to the plaintiff's home was not caused by sinkhole activity beneath the house. Mejia v. Citizens Property Insurance, Pasco County, Florida, March 2013.

# Recognition

- The Best Lawyers in America®., Commercial Litigation, 2023 2026; Litigation Insurance, 2024 2026; Personal Injury Litigation – Defendants, 2023 – 2026; Product Liability Litigation – Defendants, 2023 – 2026
- The Florida Bar, Board Certified Civil Trial Lawyer, 2003 2022
- University of Florida School of Law, James C. Adkins Inn of Court
- Martindale-Hubbell, AV® Peer Review Rating

### **Credentials**

#### Education

University of Florida Levin College of Law, JD, 1990 University of Florida, BS, 1987

#### **Bar Admissions**

Florida

#### **Court Admissions**

US District Court for the Middle District of Florida US District Court for the Northern District of Florida

### **Interests**

#### Did you know...

Burke will take every moment he can to spend time with his grandchildren. If sports and travel get worked into the mix, all the better.

# **Thought Leadership**

#### **Event**

• Burke Lopez Presents at "Anatomy and Physiology 101 for Attorneys" Seminar, Dec 4, 2015

#### **Press Releases**

- 102 Hinshaw Lawyers Recognized in 2026 Editions of *The Best Lawyers in America®* and *Ones to Watch™*, Aug 21, 2025
- 105 Hinshaw Lawyers Recognized in 2025 Editions of Best Lawyers in America and Ones to Watch, Aug 15, 2024
- 101 Hinshaw Lawyers Recognized in 2024 Editions of Best Lawyers in America and Ones to Watch, Aug 17, 2023
- Eighty-Seven Hinshaw Lawyers Recognized in 2023 Editions of Best Lawyers in America and Ones to Watch, Aug 18, 2022
- Kristina Marsh and Burke Lopez Successfully Obtain Summary Judgment for Commercial Trucking Insurer, Jul 26, 2016