



George B. Wilkinson

Of Counsel

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Cincinnati, OH

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George is a former chair of the firm's Workers' Compensation practice group. He counsels clients on workers' compensation law issues throughout Ohio and represents numerous clients across a wide range of industries.

Services

- Labor
- Workers' Compensation

Education

- Georgetown University Law Center (J.D., 1981)
- University of Virginia (B.A., *with distinction*, 1974)

Bar Admissions

- Ohio

Court Admissions

- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio

Affiliations/Memberships

- Cincinnati Bar Association, Workers' Compensation Committee, past chairman
- Ohio State Bar Association,
 - Specialization Board, past chairman
 - Workers' Compensation Committee, past chairman
- Ohio Manufacturer's Association, Workers' Compensation Committee, past member
- American Law Firm Association International, Workers' Compensation Committee, past chairman
- Cincinnati Ballet, board chair

- Mercantile Library, board member

Distinctions

- Peer Review Rated AV in *Martindale-Hubbell*
- *Best Lawyers*®
 - Workers' Compensation Law (2021-2024)
- Ohio *Super Lawyers*®

Experience

A Sounding Board for the Cincinnati Reds

Before claims become cases

Reds turn to Dinsmore for workers' comp insight

Workplace and employee safety are paramount to the success of every business, especially one as high-profile as a professional baseball team. When the unfortunate does occur, having the right counsel oftentimes makes all the difference and for the Reds, that's Dinsmore.

Dinsmore attorneys serve as a sounding board for the Cincinnati Reds, offering strategies and advice to help the club maintain their consistent, efficient and cost-effective approach to handling workers' compensation claims. Collectively, Dinsmore's nationwide network of personal contacts, working relationships and industry leaders provides the Reds with a competitive advantage in jurisdictions across the country.

Complexities abound in the world of workers' compensation, compounded by the Reds' largely contract-based workforce that travels regularly as part of the job. Dinsmore attorneys provide value through case, claims and scenario analysis as well as settlement valuation and draft agreements, all with an eye toward mitigating risk. Working closely with Jim Marx, the Reds' General Counsel, Dinsmore helps the organization handle a variety of workers' compensation cases, always aiming to resolve issues before they reach the stage where either party feels the need to involve the courts.

Amicus Briefs Before Ohio Supreme Court

Filed amicus briefs before the Ohio Supreme Court on behalf of employers on issues of insurance coverage in intentional tort cases.

Ohio Supreme Court and Tenth District Court of Appeals Workers' Compensation Mandamus Cases

Appeared before the Ohio Supreme Court and Tenth District Court of Appeals in numerous workers' compensation mandamus cases on a variety of issues from Violation of Specific Safety Requirements to permanent total disability.

Representation at Meetings with Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation

Have attended numerous meetings at Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation over employer risk issues, PEOs, successorships, penalty-rating, association group-rating, TPA concerns, MCOs.

Representation Before Full Industrial Commission

Defended employers before the full Industrial Commission on numerous occasions, including recent defense of an employer which was issued an overly broad subpoena which the Industrial Commission substantially limited.

Representation Before Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation Adjudicating Committee

On numerous occasions have represented employers and TPAs before the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation Adjudicating Committee.

Representation of Employers Before Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation Self-Insured Review Panel

On numerous occasions have represented employers on Self-Insured issues before the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation Self-Insured Review Panel and in meetings with members of the Self-Insured Department.

Service on Bureau of Workers' Compensation and Industrial Commission Committees

Selected by the Administrator and by the Chairman of the Industrial Commission to serve on Bureau of Workers' Compensation and Industrial Commission committees in charge of drafting the original rules for PEOs and wage loss, respectively.

State, ex rel. Crossett Co. v. Conrad, 2000-Ohio-464

We successfully challenged the Bureau of Workers' Compensation decision to hold our client responsible for workers' compensation premiums which were owed by our client's predecessor in interest which the BWC said our client inherited. We demonstrated that because the amounts allegedly due from the predecessor were related to the retrospective rating program, it was illegal for the BWC to order that our client was responsible for this plan which was agreed to by our predecessor. We used a novel approach to argue that the retrospective rating program was an exception to the rule that allows BWC to charge successor employers with premiums of its predecessors.

Trial

On behalf of a PEO, won a court trial which overturned an Industrial Commission finding. The court denied the claim for occupational asthma. This result is a vacation of subsequent a finding of permanent total disability, saving the employer over \$100,000 in premiums.

Trial

Defended a temporary agency in a suicide case involving an injured worker who killed himself three years after the injury because of unbearable pain from his back injury. The case was ultimately settled for a nuisance-value amount, saving the employer over \$500,000 in premiums.