



Christopher C. Russell

partner

Chris practices in the fields of labor and employment and workers' compensation representing various companies before state and federal courts and administrative agencies.

He has been certified as one of the state of Ohio's first specialists in the field of Workers' Compensation by the Ohio State Bar Association.

A substantial portion of Chris' practice also involves labor arbitrations, employment litigation and workplace safety issues.

Chris is named in *The Best Lawyers in America*® in the area of Workers' Compensation Law – Employers and was named *The Best Lawyers in America*® 2025 Columbus, Ohio Workers' Compensation Law – Employers "Lawyer of the Year." He also is recognized by Ohio Super Lawyers in the field of Employment and Labor Law.

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Ohio
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio
- U.S. District Court for the Central District of Illinois
- Supreme Court of the United States

PUBLICATIONS

- "The Final Buzzer," Savage Press, 2000

PRESENTATIONS

- "Ohio Employment Law: Guidelines for Terminating Employees on Leave," National Business Institute Seminar, Dec. 16, 2024

CONTACT

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Suites 2800 - 3200
Columbus, OH 43215

SOCIAL MEDIA

Blogs

employerlawreport.com

EDUCATION

The Ohio State University College of Law, J.D., 1988

Kenyon College, B.A., *magna cum laude*, 1985

SERVICES

Labor & Employment

- Employment law compliance counseling
- Employment litigation
- Leave, FMLA and ADA reasonable accommodation counseling
- NLRB and other unfair labor practices representation
- Public sector collective bargaining
- State and federal workplace safety and health
- Workplace safety

- “Workers’ Compensation in Ohio: Critical Essentials from Both Sides of the Aisle,” National Business Institute Seminar, Nov. 11, 2024
- “Advanced Workers’ Compensation: Insights from the Pros,” National Business Institute Seminar, Aug. 27, 2024
- “Ohio Workers’ Compensation Fundamentals,” National Business Institute Seminar, Feb. 6, 2024
- “Ohio Civil Trial Skills,” National Business Institute Seminar, Nov. 28, 2023
- “Effective Strategies for Improving Workplace Safety and Decreasing Workers’ Compensation Claims,” Porter Wright Employment Relations Seminar, Oct. 31, 2023
- “Ohio Workers’ Compensation Strategies,” National Business Institute Seminar, Aug. 31, 2023
- “Voluntary Job Abandonment in the Workplace and the Pros and Cons of Pre-Litigation Mediation,” Porter Wright Employment Relations Seminar, Oct. 19, 2022
- “A Ticket Forward: Vaccine Passports & Workers’ Compensation Issues for Remote Employees,” Porter Wright Employment Relations Webinar, June 15, 2021
- “Interplay Between the ADA & the Ohio Workers’ Compensation Act,” Porter Wright Employment Relations Seminar, Oct. 4, 2019
- “Quick Byte: 2018 Winter Advance – Sexual Harassment in the Workplace,” The Ohio Society of Certified Public Accountants, Jan. 11, 2018
- “He Slimed Me! Workers’ Compensation – Managing Difficult Claims,” Porter Wright Employment Relations Seminar, Nov. 1, 2017
- “Shining a Light on the Workers’ Compensation Hearing: Strategies for Success and Pitfalls to Avoid,” “The Ins and Outs of the New Wage Loss Rules,” Porter Wright Workers’ Compensation Seminar, Feb. 27, 2014

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- American Board of Trial Advocates
- Columbus Bar Association
- Ohio State Bar Association
- American Bar Association

HONORS | AWARDS

- *The Best Lawyers in America*®
- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, “Lawyer of the Year,” Workers’ Compensation Law – Employers, Columbus, Ohio, 2015, 2017, 2021, 2025
- Ohio Super Lawyers
- Ohio Super Lawyers, “Top 50 Columbus Super Lawyers,” 2021, 2025
- Martindale-Hubbell®, AV Preeminent
- *Columbus Business First*, Forty Under 40
- Phi Beta Kappa

SERVICES (CONTINUED)

Automotive & Mobility Emerging Technologies

- Workforce management

COMMUNITY

- Upper Arlington High School Soccer Board, Secretary
- Columbus Children's Theatre, Past Board Member
- Northam Park Advisory Committee, Past Chair
- Upper Arlington Parks and Recreation Committee, Past Chair
- Young Lawyers Committee, Past Chair
- Ohio University College of Business, Past Advisory Board Member
- The Wellness Company, past Board Member; Advisor
- National Kidney Foundation of Ohio, Columbus Chapter, Past Personnel Committee Chair; Executive Committee, Former Member