

# Michael D. Barnes

Chicago, IL

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## PARTNER

### Overview

Cases can be decided on the smallest of details. Mike prides himself on knowing the fine details of every case and how they fit in the big picture. Whether he is in a court hearing or on the phone with a client, Mike is always prepared to discuss the issues big or small.

As a member of the firm's Transportation & Logistics Service Group, Mike represents clients from their initial claim investigation through a case's final resolution against allegations of negligence, statutory and regulatory violations, and related contractual and insurance issues. He has represented clients of all sizes from a wide variety of industries, including transportation companies, construction contractors, retailers, and product manufacturers.

Mike's first introduction to the legal profession came through the Youth & Government Judicial Program when he was in high school. He had the opportunity to participate in a moot court argument in the courtroom of the Illinois Supreme Court. Today Mike is a member of the Illinois YMCA Youth & Government Judicial Program. As a volunteer, he instructs students on trial practice, appeals, how to read cases and how to make an appellate argument.

### Experience

Obtained Summary Judgment for a Hardware Store in a Premises Liability Action

Negotiated Early Settlement in a Wrongful Death and Survival Action on Behalf of a Defendant Alleged to Have Negligently Loaded a Tractor-Trailer Prior to a Collision

Successfully Moved for a Dismissal of an Amended Complaint with Prejudice Where the Plaintiff Changed Basic Factual Allegations Between the Initial and Amended Pleading

### SERVICES

General Liability

Transportation & Logistics

### EDUCATION

Chicago-Kent College of Law,  
J.D., 2014, *magna cum laude*

Northern Illinois University,  
B.A., 2011, *cum laude*

### ADMISSIONS

Illinois

Michigan

Secured Summary Judgment for an Exterior Construction Contractor in a Slip and Fall Case

Defended a Construction Manager on Appeal Following Successful Summary Judgment on a Plaintiff's Claims of Construction Negligence and Premises Liability

Prevailed on a Motion of Summary Judgment and Subsequent Appeal on Behalf of a General Contractor in a Premises Liability and Construction Negligence Claim

### Membership & Involvement

Member: Illinois State Bar Association

Volunteer: Illinois YMCA Youth & Government Judicial Program

### Honors

- Selected to *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America* in Transportation Law: 2024, 2025, 2026
- Selected to the Illinois Super Lawyers "Rising Stars" list: 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024

### Firm News

130 Amundsen Davis Attorneys Recognized by Best Lawyers® in 2026 in America  
Firm News, August 21, 2025

93 Amundsen Davis Attorneys Recognized by Best Lawyers® in 2025 in America  
Firm News, August 15, 2024

Amundsen Davis Promotes 10 Attorneys to Partner  
Firm News, February 21, 2024

Amundsen Davis Attorneys Included in the 2024 Illinois Super Lawyers and Rising Stars List  
Firm News, January 25, 2024

77 Amundsen Davis Attorneys Recognized by Best Lawyers® in 2024 in America  
Firm News, August 17, 2023

Amundsen Davis Attorneys Included in the 2023 Illinois Super Lawyers and Rising Stars List  
Firm News, *Amundsen Davis*, January 23, 2023

25 Amundsen Davis Attorneys Included on 2022 Illinois Super Lawyers and Rising Stars Lists  
Firm News, January 28, 2022

Michael D.  
Barnes

Attorney Michael D. Barnes Joins Amundsen Davis's Commercial Transportation Practice in Chicago  
February 15, 2021

### Alerts

Third-Party Litigation Financing and Illinois' Attempt to Regulate Has Implications for the Transportation Industry

Illinois Supreme Court Rejects Long Standing Rule and Now Allows Claims for Direct Negligent Actions Against Employers When Agency is Admitted

### Blog Posts

BEWARE! – ILLINOIS EMPLOYERS CAN BE LIABLE FOR AN EMPLOYEE'S NEGLIGENCE

*Labor & Employment Law Update*, June 1, 2022

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