

Michael D. Thurston

Milwaukee, WI

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SENIOR COUNSEL

Overview

Michael believes deeply in the power of advocacy—the idea that using his voice on behalf of his clients can create meaningful change. That philosophy was shaped during his 19-year tenure as a criminal prosecutor, where he tried more than 135 jury trials and developed a reputation for fearless, empathetic, and highly effective courtroom advocacy. Those years sharpened his instincts, strengthened his command of trial strategy, and taught him the importance of truly listening to the people he serves.

Today, Michael brings that same trial-tested skillset to his civil litigation practice at Amundsen Davis, where he focuses on personal injury defense for corporate trucking and other corporate clients as a member of the firm's Business Litigation Service Group. His prosecutorial background gives him a distinct advantage in the courtroom. He understands the importance of meticulous preparation; has refined his ability to distill complicated issues into clear, compelling narratives; and knows how to command the courtroom.

Michael's extensive trial experience also allows him to handle a wide range of actively litigated matters for individuals, professionals, and organizations. He has represented clients in municipal law litigation, guided students and families through academic expulsion hearings, and served as counsel in sensitive, high-profile situations. His versatility reflects a career built on adaptability, strategic thinking, and a deep respect for the legal process.

Outside the office, Michael channels his leadership skills into strengthening his community. He is an active volunteer with nonprofit and professional organizations and a proud father of three.

Membership & Involvement

- Member: State Bar of Wisconsin; The Women's Center Domestic Violence Task Force (2016 – 2019); Hartland Chamber of Commerce; Waukesha Rotary Club

SERVICES

Business Litigation

EDUCATION

University of Illinois, B.A., 2002

Loyola University Chicago School of Law, J.D., 2005

Georgia State University, M.A., 2009

ADMISSIONS

Wisconsin

Illinois

Georgia

- Volunteer: Saint Charles in Hartland
- Board Member: Parents Place; Waukesha Parks and Recreation (2016 – 2021)
- Advisory Board: The Big Yellow House (CARE Center) (2018 – 2024)

Honors

- Selected to *The Best Lawyers in America*® in Commercial Litigation: 2026

Firm News

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

Senior Counsel Michael D. Thurston Joins Amundsen Davis
Firm News, November 11, 2024

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