

**WILLIAM KEN HAWKINS, ESQ.**  
**Ponchatoula, Louisiana**



William Ken Hawkins has been practicing in the area of workers' compensation law for more than 25 years. With experience representing both insurance companies and injured workers, Ken brings a wealth of practical experience and a balanced perspective to the mediation process. Ken concentrates his mediation practice on the resolution of workers' compensation and longshore matters, but also mediates personal injury, disability and admiralty & maritime cases. He has been mediating cases since 2008. Ken is well known as a talented mediator often called in for complex cases involving complicated legal issues, including reverse offsets. Ken has a special gift for helping both parties see past the emotional roadblocks common to litigation.

Ken handles file closures due to age of the claim, and after practicing for over 25 years on both the defense and plaintiff sides, is particularly aware of issues both sides face in attempting to resolve the claims using alternative dispute resolution. Ken is particularly well known on both sides of the bar as an attorney mediator who has the ability to successfully resolve claims involving claimants unable to mentally move past their claim, insurers who need a trusted source to accurately calculate the true value of a claim. Because of his dedication to the system as a whole, having worked with both sides and at the Legislature, he is often selected hired by adjusters and defense attorneys, as well as claimant's attorneys. He mediates throughout Louisiana and East Texas.

**Education:**

- Lafayette High School, 1978
- Louisiana State University, B.A., 1984
- Loyola University School of Law, New Orleans, LA, J.D., 1988
- Tulane University School of Law, L.L.M., 1993

**Military Service:**

United States Marine Corps Reserve 1982-1986  
Lance Corporal

**Work History:**

Admitted to Bar, October 7, 1988

Admitted to the Eastern, Middle and Western Districts for the State of Louisiana in United States Federal Courts, October 13, 1989

OneBane, Donohoe, Torian, Diaz, McNamara and Abell  
Lafayette, Louisiana  
1988-1991

Associates

General insurance defense, including automobile accidents, homeowners' policies and workers' compensation, along with longshore defense

Hailey, McNamara, Hall, Larmann and Papale  
Metairie, Louisiana  
1991-1993  
Associate

General insurance defense, including fire policies, automobile accidents, homeowners and worker's compensation, along with longshore defense

The Law Offices of Grayson Brown  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
1993-1995

Workers' compensation and longshore insurance defense as in-house counsel for The Travelers

Brunt and Associates  
Lafayette, Louisiana  
1995-1996

Contract Auditor

Audited workers' compensation policies as an independent contractor for Louisiana Workers' Compensation Corporation

Johnson, Johnson, Barrios and Yacoubian  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
1996

Associate

Handled workers' compensation and longshore insurance defense exclusively

Robein, Urann and Lurye  
1996-1999

Associate

Handled workers' compensation plaintiff's work exclusively and worked with local unions on making steps that keep the claim from dragging. Litigated and won *Rapp v The City of New Orleans*, which clarified all areas of law regarding wage loss and return to work issues dealing almost exclusively with firefighters. In those claims, complicated legal issues, such as offset percentages, occupational disease, death benefits and other causes of action unique to the field of firefighting.

The Work Injury Center of Louisiana, L.L.C.

1999-2013, reopened as The Law Office of William Ken Hawkins, September 9, 2013

Partner

Handles a daily docket of exclusively workers' compensation clients, from helping claimants understand the system to filing suit on their behalf and then litigating these claims from trial court to Supreme Court. Collecting those judgments and then monitoring the claim for continued compliance under the terms the Court sets forth. We assist in obtaining medical care authorization, payment of indemnity benefits and other issues unique to workers' compensation.

### **Memberships & Organizations:**

- Member, Governor's Advisory Council on Workers' Compensation, as the plaintiff's attorneys representative from 2004-2008 under Governor Kathleen B. Blanco. Reappointed under Governor Bobby Jindal in 2008-2011. Third appointment just announced under Governor Bobby Jindal on January 10, 2012. After this appointment, I stepped down from this Council.
- Co-Chair, Committee on Vocational Rehabilitation and Worker Retaining, whose purpose is to send out of this committee viable, reasonable goals and guidelines in return to work issues. Ken co-chairs this committee with James Patterson, general counsel for Louisiana Association of Business and Industry (LAB).
- Member, Committee on Pharmacy Review, Subcommittee on Narcotics Co-Chair.
- Chair, Office of Workers' Compensation Committee on Attorney Trust Accounts.
- Member, Louisiana Workers' Advocates, since 2003 (formerly "DAWN", a watch group that helps lobby proposed law that is argued in committee, on the Louisiana House and Senate floor and eventually becoming law.
- Member, WILG (Workplace Injury Litigation Group) 2010-present
- National level of advocating and lobbying on behalf of injured workers in Louisiana

- Member, American Bar Association
- Member, Louisiana State Bar Association, since 1988
- Member, New Orleans Bar Association, since 2010
- Member, Baton Rouge Bar Association, since 2013
- Member, Ponchatoula Chamber of Commerce, 2007-present

**Published Works and Seminars:**

- Average Weekly Wage (AWW): New Procedures for Workers' Comp; 2/7/14
- 2012 Legislative and UR Developments in Workers' Compensation (New Orleans Bar Association); 11/4/11
- Louisiana Workforce Commission Educational Conference; Speaker/Teacher on new Utilization Review Rules; 1/24/12
- Louisiana Medical Guidelines; LWA; 9/9/11
- Workers' Compensation, Tips and Tactics from Both Sides of the Table (NBI); 6/10/11
- 2012 Legislative and UR Developments in Worker's Compensation (New Orleans Bar Association); 11/4/11
- Comprehensive Fundamentals of Louisiana Workers' Compensation Practice; 3/25/11
- Legislative Update, Louisiana Workers' Advocates; 1/28/11
- Workers' Compensation Subrogation (NBI); 9/17/2010
- Updates in Workers' Compensation: The 2010 Legislative Session (New Orleans Bar Association); 8/6/2010
- Workers' Compensation Case Preparation Techniques (NBI); 3/9/2010
- Legislative Update in the Area of Workers Comp (Baton Rouge Bar Association); 8/11/2009
- Workers' Compensation: Tips and Tactics From Both Sides of the Table (NBI); 6/25/2009
- Workers' Compensation Case Preparation Techniques (NBI); 3/23/2009
- Workers' Comp Updates, Traps, Pitfalls, New Legislation (21<sup>st</sup> Judicial District Bar Association); 2/11/2009
- Handbook of Workers' Compensation Practice (Louisiana Department of Labor – Office of Workers' Compensation); 9/18/2008
- Workers' Compensation: Tips and Tactics from Both Sides of the Table (NBI); 4/2/2008
- Workers' Compensation: Tips and Tactics from Both Sides of the Table (NBI) (Lafayette)
- The Dynamics of Disability Law (Louisiana State Bar Association); 3/12/2008
- Workers' Compensation: Tips and Tactics From Both Sides of the Table (NBI); 4/11/2007
- The Art of the Settlement NBI (Lafayette); 10/20/2006
- The Art of the Settlement (NBI) (New Orleans); 10/19/2006
- 2006 LABI Workers' Compensation Seminar (Louisiana Association of Business And Industry); 8/22/2006
- Advanced Workers' Comp in Louisiana (NBI); 4/25/2005
- Nuts & Bolts of Workers' Compensation (Louisiana State Bar Association); 11/18/2004
- Advanced Workers' Compensation (NBI); 4/28/2004
- Advanced Workers' Compensation (NBI); 12/31/2003
- Workers' Compensation Practice (Louisiana State Bar Association); 11/21/2002
- Advanced Workers' Compensation in Louisiana (NBI) (Shreveport); 10/25/2002
- Workers' Compensation in Louisiana (NBI) (Lafayette); 01/10/2002
- Workers' Compensation in Seminar (Louisiana State Bar Association); 11/30/2001
- Workers' Compensation for the General Practitioner (Lorman Business Center, Inc.); 4/17/2001
- Workers' Compensation Seminar (Louisiana State Bar Association); 11/29/2000

**Call 800-776-6060, x125 to Schedule Mediation with Ken**