



MICHAEL HALVORSON

PARTNER

Arizona

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Industries Served:

Areas of Practice:

Automobile Liability Defense
Dram Shop & Social Host Liability
Premises Liability
Product Liability Defense
Transportation Defense
Wrongful Death & Personal Injury Defense

Construction
Insurance
Manufacturers
Professional Service Providers
Recreation & Amusement
Retail & Hospitality
Transportation

Mike Halvorson's diverse practice focuses on trucking and transportation defense, including commercial cargo and property loss, as well as in the areas of motor vehicle liability, product liability, dram shop and premises liability defense. He also chairs his firm's General Liability/Auto Trial Group, which represents numerous auto and transportation insurers, motor carriers, logistics providers, product manufacturers, retailers, and distributors. He has successfully tried, arbitrated and mediated a wide variety of cases for more than 20 years, obtaining multiple defense verdicts in cases ranging from simple soft tissue damages to catastrophic brain injuries and wrongful death.

Mike has been listed in Best Lawyers, Arizona's Finest Lawyers and Southwest Super Lawyers, and he is AV-Preeminent Rated by Martindale-Hubbell. Mike is also a member of the Claims and Litigation Management Alliance (CLM), Arizona Association of Defense Counsel (AADC), Defense Research Institute's (DRI) Trucking Steering Committee, and USLAW Network.

REPRESENTATIVE CASES

[Obtained unanimous defense verdict in a wrongful death lawsuit stemming from a two-vehicle accident.](#)

[Obtained unanimous defense verdict after one hour of deliberation in highly-publicized wrongful death lawsuit.](#)

[Prevailed on appeal in motor vehicle insurance coverage case concerning exclusion of damage to "Transported" property.](#)

[Obtained defense verdict in a \\$1-million, two-week jury trial involving a pedestrian-vehicle accident near Pinnacle High School.](#)

[Prevented six-figure award on behalf of tractor-trailer operator in eight-day trial involving extensive personal injury claims.](#)

[Obtained unanimous defense verdict in personal injury suit after four-day jury trial.](#)

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

- State Bar of Arizona, Member
- American Bar Association, Member
- Arizona Association of Defense Counsel, Member
- USLAW Network, Member
- Defense Research Institute, Trucking Steering Committee Member
- Claims and Litigation Management Alliance, Member

PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION & AWARDS

- AV® Preeminent™ Rated on Martindale-Hubbell
- *Best Lawyers in America*®, Litigation – Insurance, 2020-2025; Insurance Law, Transportation Law, 2021-2025; Product Liability Litigation – Defendants, 2023-2025
- Named to *Arizona's Finest Lawyers*
- Recognized by *Southwest Super Lawyers Rising Stars*, 2013

PRESENTATIONS & PUBLICATIONS

- "Trial Tactics and Nuclear Verdict Avoidance", Presenter, Central Mutual Insurance Transportation Summit, April 2025
- "Investigation and Pre-Litigation Matters", Presenter, Central Mutual Insurance Transportation Summit, April 2025

- [“The I-Do’s and I-Don’ts of Risk Limitation for Wedding Venues,”](#) Co-Author, USLAW Magazine, Spring 2023
- [“Overthinking Underinsurance: Simplify Your UIM Forms”,](#) Co-Author, The JSH Reporter Fall 2019
- “Commercial Vehicle Accident Cases,” Presenter, Lorman Education Services, August, 2018
- “Preparing the Personal Injury Case for Trial,” Presenter, State Bar of Arizona CLE, February 2018
- “Discovery Tools and Tactics,” Presenter, Techniques for Effective Discovery, State Bar of Arizona CLE, October 2017
- “Defending Sleep Apnea Claims,” Co-Presenter, 2017 CLM Midwest Conference, June 2017
- “Who’s Driving That Car: The Future of Insurance and Litigation With the Development of Autonomous Vehicle Technology,” Co-Presenter, CLM Phoenix Chapter Event, May 2017
- “Vehicle Data and Discoverability,” Presenter, 2015 American Trucking Association Leadership Meeting, May 2015
- “Emerging Trends: An Overview of New Case Law and Developments,” Presenter, JSH Annual Seminar: It’s All Fun and Games Until Someone Gets Hurt, November 2014
- “Reducing Damages Through Medical IME,” Presenter, JSH Seminar, October 2013
- “The Perfect Claims File...Is It Possible?” JSH Webinar, October 2012 – [Click here to view recording](#)
- “A Guided Tour of a Comprehensive Independent Medical Examination,” Presenter, DRI National Trucking Law Seminar, February 2012
- “Motor Carrier Trucking Issues,” Presenter, Arizona State Bar, December 2011
- “The MCS-90 Endorsement (The Ultimate Monkey Wrench),” Author, *In Transit*, December 2011
- “Broker/Shipper Liability,” Presenter, USLAW/MARSH Roundtable, June 2011
- “Transportation Coverage,” Presenter, National USLAW Conference, March 2011
- “The Carriage of Goods by Sea Act Trumps the Carmack Amendment in Governing Losses Incurred During Multimodal Shipments of Cargo Originating Overseas,” Author, *JSH Reporter*, Fall 2010
- “Trucking Litigation and D.O.T. Regulations,” Presenter, Lorman Education Services, May 2009
- “Black Box Technology and Its Use in Litigation,” Author, *For the Defense*, January 2009
- “EDR Technology as the New Frontier of Auto Accident Investigation,” Author, *ABA Committee News*, Fall 2008
- “Trucking Law Boot Camp,” Presenter, USLAW/Werner Enterprises, 2008
- “Black Boxes: ECMs and EDRs and Their Uses for Trucking Companies and in Litigation,” Presenter, Lorman Education Services, 2008
- “Trucking Litigation and D.O.T. Regulations,” Presenter, Lorman Education Services, 2007-2008
- “Chapter 10: Trucking and Transportation,” Author, *JSH Reference Guide to Arizona Law*, 2005-2008
- “New Frontiers of Auto Injury Investigation,” *National Business Institute*, 2007
- “Motor Carrier Response to Trucking Accidents,” Presenter, Lorman Education Services, 2007
- “Insurance Coverage Issues Unique to Commercial Trucking,” Presenter, Lorman Education Services, 2007
- “Advanced Auto Accident Litigation,” Presenter, National Business Institute, 2007
- “Morris and Damron Agreements: A Practical Analysis and Case Law Update,” Presenter, 2005
- “The Trucking Industry and the Law,” *National Business Institute*, 2004
- “Truck Accident Litigation from Start to Finish in Arizona,” Presenter, National Business Institute, 2004
- “Investigating and Defending Trucking Accidents,” Presenter, JSH Annual Update of Arizona Law, 2001, 2003

EDUCATION

Arizona State University, Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, J.D., 1999

Northern Arizona University, B.S., History, Social Studies/Secondary Education, *magna cum laude*, 1995

BAR ADMISSIONS

Arizona, 1999

U.S. District Court, District of Arizona