



Robert F. Duncan

Member

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Robert F. Duncan is a Member in the Health Care and Insurance industry groups, focusing primarily on litigation, health care litigation, and products liability litigation. He practices out of the Firm's office in Lexington, Kentucky.

Bob's practice involves a wide variety of civil litigation, concentrating on defense of doctors, hospitals, and other health care providers in medical liability actions, along with matters involving complex insurance issues, insurance bad faith claims, products liability, and construction. He also regularly serves as a mediator in civil litigation matters.

To Bob, there is no better feeling than helping clients resolve their problems. When Bob can leave the office knowing he truly helped a client, it's been a good day – and thanks to his skill and experience, Bob has many good days. An engineer by training, Bob relishes the opportunity to produce tangible results and get his hands dirty, whether that means arguing motions, mediating cases, or going to trial. While at work, he's happiest in the trenches.

Bob is not satisfied with the status quo and is always pushing for a better result, both professionally and personally. At work, this is reflected by his desire and ability to get the most for his clients. This same drive also pushes him to do extraordinary things outside of the office. The epitome of an outdoorsman, Bob is an avid long-distance runner, golfer, tennis player, and mountain climber. Having scaled Mount Rainier, dealing with thorny legal issues doesn't intimidate him.

Bob's passion for the law is reflected not only through his practice, but through his desire to craft the next generation of lawyers. He has taught both medical liability and legal writing as an adjunct law professor – and everyone knows the hallmark of a true professional is someone who can teach a subject to others.

Second only to law, Bob has a passion for being on the water. Bob spends the summer months enjoying all water-adjacent activities, from waterskiing to wakeboarding, sailing to paddle boarding, and even learning to fish. He has a small armada of four boats (five if you count a whitewater class paddleboard), which he swears are all necessary for different activities. In the winter months, he settles for being on frozen water, spending his time on the slopes skiing and snowboarding.

Bob's diverse interests and experiences exemplify why he's so good at what he does. He understands the importance of helping others, has the drive to continuously learn and grow as an attorney, and commits the time and effort needed to provide upstanding representation.

Awards

- Named the *Best Lawyers'* 2024 Lexington Mass Tort Litigation/Class Actions - Defendants "Lawyer of the Year"
- Named the *Best Lawyers'* 2024 Lexington Litigation – Construction "Lawyer of the Year"
- Named the *Best Lawyers'* 2021 Lexington Mass Tort Litigation/Class Actions - Defendants "Lawyer of the Year"
- Named the *Best Lawyers'* 2020 Lexington Litigation – Construction "Lawyer of the Year"
- Top Fifty List of Kentucky *Super Lawyers*®

- Martindale-Hubbell: AV Preeminent Rated
- Selected for membership in the American College of Trial Lawyers
- *Super Lawyers*® Magazine for Personal Injury Medical Malpractice: Defense Law (2009-2023)
- Top Ten List of Kentucky Super Lawyers® (2023)
- *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Commercial Litigation, Litigation – Construction, Mass Tort Litigation/Class Actions – Defendants and Product Liability Litigation – Defendants (2005-2025)
- Named the *Best Lawyers*’ 2017 Lexington Mass Tort Litigation/Class Actions - Defendants “Lawyer of the Year”
- Named the *Best Lawyers*’ 2016 Lexington Litigation – Construction “Lawyer of the Year”
- Listed in the Litigation Section of 2013 *Super Lawyers*® Business Edition for Personal Injury Defense: Medical Malpractice
- Kentucky *Super Lawyers*® for Personal Injury Medical Malpractice: Defense (2013-2014)
- Named the *Best Lawyers*’ 2014 Lexington Product Liability Litigation – Defendants “Lawyer of the Year”
- Kentucky *Super Lawyers*® (2012)

Notable Legal Experience

- Served as adjunct professor at the University of Kentucky College of Law, teaching classes on medical liability and legal writing

Work History

- Jackson Kelly PLLC (1996-Present)

Practices

- Arbitration, Mediation & Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Commercial Litigation
- Litigation
- Medical Malpractice

Industries

- Health Care
- Insurance

Education

- University of Kentucky College of Law (J.D., 1983)
- University of Kentucky (B.S. in Civil Engineering, 1980)

Admissions

- Kentucky (1983)
- U.S. Supreme Court (1992)
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit (1987)
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Kentucky (1987)
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Kentucky (1984)

Professional Organizations

- American College of Trial Lawyers, Fellow (2016)
- Fayette County Bar Association
- Kentucky Bar Association

- Kentucky Defense Counsel
- Association of Attorney-Mediators, Inc.
- National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals

Community

- Lexington-Fayette Urban Council, Council Member (1988-1992)
- Reynolds Small Area Plan Committee, Chairman
- First United Methodist Church, Member
- Kentucky Blood Center, Board of Directors
- Junior Achievement of the Bluegrass, Board of Directors