

Samuel E. Barker

Partner

📞 (704) 319-5458

✉️ sbarker@hedrickgardner.com



Practices

Workers' Compensation

Bar Admissions

North Carolina State Bar

U.S. Court of Appeals,
Fourth Circuit

U.S. District Court, Western
District of North Carolina

Education

J.D., West Virginia
University, 2004

B.A., West Virginia
University (summa cum
laude), 2001

Overview

Sam Barker focuses his practice on workers' compensation law, with an emphasis on serving Professional Employer Organizations and staffing companies. His disciplined approach and systematic case management help clients navigate North Carolina workers' compensation law while keeping claims moving toward efficient resolution.

Sam regularly handles intricate issues including return-to-work protocols and average weekly wage calculations for his clients. He regularly provides continuing education presentations that help clients understand the nuances of North Carolina workers' compensation law. His clear communication style makes complex legal concepts accessible to business professionals managing workplace injury claims.

With extensive courtroom experience, Sam has conducted numerous hearings before the Industrial Commission and successfully handled appeals to the Full Commission and the North Carolina Court of Appeals. He maintains active memberships in the North Carolina State Bar, Mecklenburg County Bar Association, and the North Carolina Association of Defense Attorneys.

Outside the office, Sam volunteers regularly at Forest Hill Church, supporting various community projects. He stays active through regular workouts and enjoys reading thrillers by authors like John Grisham and Dan Brown. A devoted Seinfeld fan who can quote most episodes from memory, Sam also has a passion for tropical travel. He and his wife live in Charlotte with their miniature Schnauzer.

"I have always found Sam's legal knowledge to be forward thinking, and this attribute, combined with his attention to detail, is the perfect combination to offer exemplary results with any case he has handled."

Nanci Lewis, Account Manager – CCMSI

Awards & Honors

- Selected by peers for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America© 2026 in the field of Workers' Compensation Law – Employers
- Selected as finalist for North Carolina Lawyers Weekly's Emerging Legal Leaders Award in 2010
- Selected to the North Carolina Rising Stars List published in Super Lawyers® Magazine in 2012 & 2018 – 2019

Involvement

- North Carolina Association of Defense Attorneys
- Mecklenburg County Bar Association
- Defense Research Institute
- Council of Children's Rights
- Volunteer Attorney (2004-present)