

Michael E. Dockins

PARTNER, INTELLECTUAL
PROPERTY REGIONAL SERVICE
LINE LEADER



Known as the “Gimmick Attorney®,” Mike is a registered patent attorney serving as intellectual property counsel for elite pro wrestlers by helping them trademark their characters or “gimmicks.” He also represents college coaches, television personalities, and podcasters in the sports and entertainment industry. Working collaboratively with their agents, financial advisors, non-IP legal counsel, and accountants, Mike works to protect clients’ past, present, and future brands and to ensure that their contracts provide well-considered protections given the risks and uncertainties endemic to the industry. He is also the host of the “Wrestling with the Law” podcast, discussing the intersection of professional wrestling and the law. In addition to his pro wrestling trademark practice, Mike has a background in chemical engineering.

Clients also rely upon Mike for advice regarding:

- Developing and implementing their estate plans, deferred compensation packages, and philanthropic objectives
- Participation in outside business ventures
- Assisting with patent, trademark, and copyright law
- Preparing and prosecuting patent applications in various technical arts, including chemical, material, and mechanical
- Preparing legal opinions in respect to patentability,

SERVICE LINE

Intellectual Property

INDUSTRY SECTOR

Financial Institutions &

Insurance

Health Care

Hospitality, Leisure, & Sports

infringement, patent validity, and freedom to practice

Away from the office, Mike can be found traveling to new places with his wife and children, attending concerts, weightlifting, and watching and participating in a long list of sports.

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

Ohio, 2005

Indiana, 2006

United States Patent and Trademark Office

United States Supreme Court

United States Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit

United States District Court, Northern District of, Ohio

United States District Court, Northern District of, Indiana

United States District Court, Western District of, Michigan

United States District Court, Southern District of, Ohio

United States District Court, Southern District of, Indiana

PROFESSIONAL & COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS

- CIFT (Center for Innovative Food Technology), Board Member
- Inspirations Early Learning Center, Board Member (2015-2020)
- Plastic Technologies, Inc., Advisory Board (2014-2020)
- Leadership Toledo, Class of 2009
- Leadership Toledo, Board of Trustees (2009-2012)
- International Fraternity of Phi Gamma Delta, Board of Directors (2000-2002)

HONORS

- *WTR 1000*: the World's Leading Trademark Professionals, 2024
- *Best Lawyers in America*, 2022-2024
- Ohio Rising Star by *Super Lawyers* magazine, 2017-2018
- Distinguished Young Alumni Award, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, 2012

Manufacturing
Real Estate, Construction, &
Development
Technology

PRIMARY LOCATION

Toledo, OH

EDUCATION

J.D., *cum laude*, The
University of Toledo College
of Law, 2005

B.S., *magna cum laude*,
Chemical Engineering, Rose-
Hulman Institute of
Technology, 2002