



## **JAMES A. CROCKER**

**SHAREHOLDER**

**Grand Rapids, MI**

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### **Practice Areas**

- Agriculture
- Appellate Work
- Automobile Accident Defense
- Bad Faith
- Civil Rights
- Commercial Lines (Premises Liability)
- Construction Defect Litigation
- Contract Disputes
- Coverage Litigation
- Directors and Officers Litigation
- Elevator Liability
- Environmental Liability
- Employment Practices Liability
- Excess Liability Claims
- Fraud Defense/EUO
- Jail and Prison Liability
- Mediation
- Personal Lines (Premises Liability)
- PIP
- Products Liability
- Sexual Abuse Defense
- Toxic Tort Defense
- Transportation Defense
- Trusts, Wills, and Estates
- UM/UIM
- Wrongful Death Defense

James “Jim” A. Crocker concentrates his practice on his experience handling high-exposure cases including transportation, catastrophic injury and wrongful death, professional liability, product liability and product defect, premises liability, personal protection insurance (PIP) benefits, UM/UIM and Michigan No-Fault. In addition to his depth of trial experience, Jim is a skilled business consultant and routinely consults with corporations, big and small, on their risk profile and risk mitigation strategies.

Jim has tried numerous cases to favorable verdict in a variety of matters, as well as briefed and argued appeals before the Michigan Court of Appeals and Michigan Supreme Court. In a Michigan jury trial, a defense verdict was achieved, convincing the jury to deny the plaintiff’s back surgery and permanent disability claims. Jim is also a highly experienced workers’ compensation attorney, representing employers, insurance companies, transportation companies, and self-insureds throughout the State of Michigan.

Bringing his distinctive expertise to Kopka Pinkus Dolin, Jim dedicated a portion of his career to managing liability claims and litigation for one of the world's top freight carriers in the industry. Jim successfully defended serious transportation cases involving a wide range of issues including traumatic brain injury and wrongful death. He has handled cases across North America in both state and federal courts, as well as cases in the Canadian Provincial Courts. In addition to handling these matters, Jim routinely consulted with and advised the executive suite on emerging legal trends in the transportation industry and ways to proactively manage the company's risk profile. Jim's expertise extends from the courtroom to boardroom.

As part of the firm's Rapid Response Team, Jim is available 24/7 to immediately deploy to the scene of a major accident to undertake an investigation of the evidence and direct experts to evaluate the accident for possible exposure and defenses.

Jim speaks frequently throughout the country at conferences and for organizations on topics concerning heavy trucking and transportation. Dedicated to maintaining his proficiency and knowledge in emerging trends throughout the industry, Jim is an active member in such organizations such as TIDA and TLA.

## **Memberships**

- ALFA International
- Transportation Lawyers Association (TLA)
- Trucking Industry Defense Association (TIDA)

## **Trial and Case Highlights**

### **Appellate Opinions**

- *Travelers Property Casualty Co of America v. City of Grand Rapids*, (Mich. Ct. App. 2015)
- *Mobiletech Automotive LLC v. Crystal Clean Automotive Detailing*, (Mich. Ct. App. 2014)

## **Admissions**

- Michigan
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan

## **Education**

- Thomas M. Cooley Law School, J.D.
- Grand Valley State University, B.A