

**Sanford G. Hooper**

Partner

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Sandy's law practice focuses on products liability, premises liability, transportation litigation, and medical device litigation. He has deep experience defending automobile and heavy truck manufacturers as well as motor carriers in lawsuits arising from catastrophic accidents.

Sandy started at Lightfoot in 2004 and during the last two decades he has successfully tried bench trials and jury trials to verdict. He has argued before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit in Atlanta. He is licensed in Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Texas, and Oklahoma. In August 2024, he was part of a Lightfoot trial team in a case in which Plaintiff suffered a catastrophic injury to his upper extremity while working near a conveyor belt. Plaintiff blamed the designer of the conveyor for his injury, but after a 5-day trial in federal court in Mobile, the jury delivered a defense verdict for Sandy's client.

Before joining the firm, Sandy served as a law clerk to Judge Thomas A. Wiseman, Jr. of the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee. Judge Wiseman was proud of his small-town roots and was a "lawyer's judge" who imparted many valuable lessons to his law clerks. Before clerking, Sandy worked on Capitol Hill as a driver for U.S. Senator Chuck Hagel from Nebraska.

Sandy grew up the "caboose" in a train of five children in a small west Tennessee town. His parents still live there. Jealous of an older sister who was studying French in college, Sandy set out to learn a second language in high school and now speaks fluent French. During election years, he appears as a talking head on French-Canadian TV trying to explain, as best he can, American politics to our neighbors to the North.

Sandy's 93 year-old father still practices law in the same town where Sandy grew up, but complains he doesn't have enough work to do. One lasting influence on Sandy's life is his maternal grandmother, Mary Sanford Myatt of Memphis, who passed away in 2014 at the age of 102.

PRACTICE AREAS

Automotive
Catastrophic Injury
Commercial Litigation
International Disputes
Pharma & Medical Device
Product Liability

EDUCATION

Washington & Lee University
School of Law (J.D.)
Washington & Lee Law Review
Washington & Lee University
(B.A., *magna cum laude*)

BAR ADMISSIONS

Texas
Alabama
Mississippi
Oklahoma
Tennessee

JUDICIAL CLERKSHIPS

Judge Thomas A. Wiseman, Jr., U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee

AWARDS

The Best Lawyers in America® by BL Rankings — Product Liability Litigation (2019-24)

Martindale-Hubbell, AV-Preeminent Rated

Mid-South Super Lawyers by Thomson Reuters, "Rising Star" — Product Liability (2014)

Mid-South Super Lawyers by Thomson Reuters — Product Liability (2015-21)