

Frank A. Sommario

Senior Partner

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Senior Paralegal: Eric Montoya

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Practice Areas

Construction Injuries
Occupational Disease Cases
Railroad Worker (FELA) Injuries
Repetitive Trauma Injuries
Third Party Cause of Action
Workers' Compensation Claims
Workplace Injury

Education & Certifications

- J.D., DePaul University College of Law, 2000
- B.S., Commerce, Accounting, DePaul University, 1997
- Registered Investment Advisor, 2003
- Illinois Certified Public Accountant, 1998

Jurisdictions Admitted to Practice

Illinois, 2000
Northern District of Illinois, 2000
Minnesota, 2001
District of Columbia, 2001

Frank A. Sommario had just completed law school and was about to start his career as a lawyer when he suffered a crushed ankle in an accident. After a brief delay and months of rehabilitation, Frank began his new job as a workers' compensation lawyer. Today, you'd never know he had an accident that could have left him with a permanent disability. He fully recovered and was compensated for his injuries thanks to Antonio Romanucci, who successfully represented him in a lawsuit.

Frank served as counsel to Antonio's law firm in workers' compensation matters before joining the firm full-time in 2007. As a petitioner's workers' compensation lawyer, he vigorously fights for the rights of his clients and has obtained several large settlements and favorable trial awards for injured clients. He considers it a privilege to help injured workers get the benefits they deserve.

For his successes representing injury victims, Frank has proudly been named one of *The Best Lawyers in America*® for 2017-2023. Super Lawyers has recognized Frank as an *Illinois Top 100 Super Lawyer* for 2019 and 2022, one of *Illinois' Super Lawyers* for 2016-2022, and one of *Illinois' Rising Stars* for 2010-2015. Additionally, he was named a *Leading Lawyer* by Law Bulletin Publishing Company's Leading Lawyers Division for 2016-2022. In 2015, he was named an *Emerging Lawyer* by Law Bulletin Publishing Company. The Justinian Society of Lawyers presented Sommario with the prestigious *Award of Excellence* in 2021. He was also named to Law Bulletin Publishing Company's *40 Illinois Attorneys Under 40 to Watch* for 2012.

Frank's commitment to the practice of law and professional associations includes a two-year term as Executive Vice President of the National Italian Bar Association, in addition to serving on the Board of Managers for the Illinois Trial Lawyers Association, the Board of Governors for the Illinois State Bar Association and formerly as the President of the Justinian Society of Lawyers and Workers' Compensation Lawyers Association.

Before joining Romanucci & Blandin, Frank worked as a law clerk for the Illinois Attorney General's Office and was an accountant-consultant for the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County in law school. He is a certified public accountant as well as a registered investment advisor.

Experience

\$6,000,000 Settlement – Work Injury
August 2018

\$800,000 Settlement – Construction Injury
February 2013

Awards & Recognition

- Recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America*®, 2017-2023
- Selected to the *Illinois Super Lawyers*® list, 2016-2023
- Selected to the *Illinois Super Lawyers*® 'Top 100' list, 2019, 2022-2023
- Named a *Leading Lawyer* by Law Bulletin Publishing Company's Leading Lawyers Division, 2016-2022
- Named a *Top 100 Trial Lawyer* as certified by the National Trial Lawyers, 2016-2022
- Justinian Society of Lawyers *Award of Excellence* Recipient in 2021
- Selected to the *Illinois Rising Stars* list by Super Lawyers®, 2010 – 2015
- Named an *Emerging Lawyer* by Law Bulletin Publishing Company's Leading Lawyers Division, 2015
- Named to the *40 Illinois Attorneys Under Forty to Watch* by Law Bulletin Publishing Company, 2012
- AVVO Top Rating 10/10

Legal Activities & Leadership

- National Italian American Bar Association (NIABA), Executive Vice President, 2021-Present
- Joint Civic Committee of Italian Americans (JCCIA), Legal Counsel, 2021-Present
- JCCIA, Delegate, 2015-Present
- Justinian Society of Lawyers Endowment Fund, Chairman, 2018-Present
- Justinian Society of Lawyers, Comptroller, 2017-Present
- Illinois Trial Lawyers Association (ITLA), Board of Managers, 2016-Present
- Workers' Compensation Lawyers Association (WCLA), Comptroller 2015-Present
- Justinian Society of Lawyers, Executive Committee, 2009-2020
- Illinois Bar Foundation (IBF), Silver Fellow, 2008-Present
- NIABA, Secretary, 2019-2021
- NIABA, Board of Directors, 2017-2019
- Justinian Society of Lawyers Endowment Fund, Treasurer, 2012-2017
- Justinian Society of Lawyers, President, 2016-2017
- Justinian Society of Lawyers, 1st Vice President, 2015-2016
- Fenwick High School Bar Association, Board of Directors, 2011-2016
- Illinois Workers' Compensation Commission (IWCC) Rules Committee, Member, 2015
- Justinian Society of Lawyers, 2nd Vice President, 2014-2015

- Justinian Society of Lawyers, 3rd Vice President, 2013-2014
- Illinois State Bar Association (ISBA), Board of Governors, 2008-2014
- ISBA, Board Liaison, Workers' Compensation Law Section Council, 2009-2014
- ISBA, Board Liaison, Federal Taxation Section Council, 2008-2014
- ISBA, Board Liaison, Standing Committee on Law Office Management & Economics, 2013-2014
- WCLA, Board of Directors 2008-2014
- WCLA, President 2013
- ISBA, Board Liaison, Standing Committee on Continuing Legal Education, 2012-2013
- Justinian Society of Lawyers, Treasurer, 2012-2013
- Justinian Society of Lawyers, Secretary, 2011-2012
- ISBA, Board Liaison, Intellectual Property Section Council, 2011-2012
- WCLA, Vice President 2012
- WCLA, Treasurer 2010-2011
- ISBA, Board Liaison, Standing Committee on Mentoring, 2010-2011
- ISBA, Board Liaison, Environmental Law Section Council, 2008-2010
- ISBA, Workers' Compensation Law Section Council, 2007-2009
- ISBA, Co-Board Liaison, Young Lawyers Division Council, 2008-2009
- ISBA, General Assembly, 2006-2008
- American Association for Justice (AAJ), Member
- American Association of Attorney-Certified Public Accountants (AAA-CPA), Member
- American Bar Association (ABA), Member
- American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), Member
- Chicago Bar Association (CBA), Member
- Chicago Council of Lawyers (CCL), Member
- DePaul University Alumnus, Member
- DePaul University College of Law Alumnus, Member
- Fenwick High School Alumnus, Member
- Illinois CPA Society & Foundation (ILCPA), Member
- National Italian-American Foundation (NIAF), Member
- Public Justice, Member
- Sicilian American Cultural Association (SACA), Member, 2017-Present
- Synapse House, Board of Directors, 2016-2019
- Women's Bar Association of Illinois (WBAI), Member
- Women's Injury Law & Advocacy Group (WILG), Member

Notable Cases

- *Hallin v. Jim's Arco Service*, July 2020, Workers' Compensation, \$2,888,331.14 settlement
- *Tapia v. The Delong Company*, August 2018, Workers' Compensation, \$2,175,566.70 settlement
- *Williams v. Jesse White Tumbling Team*, May 2015, Workers' Compensation, \$2,053,000.00 settlement

In the News

Romanucci & Blandin earns high national marks
Fra Noi, January 16, 2023

Justinians go to bat for kids in need
Fra Noi, April 18, 2022

Romanucci & Blandin Senior Partner Frank A. Sommario and Partner Bruno R. Marasso present \$20,000 from the Justinian's 20th annual Children's Endowment Fund
We are the Italians, March 26, 2022

CDLB People – Frank A. Sommario sworn in as executive vice president of the National Italian Bar Association.
Chicago Daily Law Bulletin, June 18, 2021

Blog Posts

How COVID-19 has impacted Workers' Compensation Cases
Romanucci & Blandin Blog, February 12, 2021

ALL Workers' Compensation (WC) Practicing Attorneys be AWARE!
Romanucci & Blandin Blog, December 10, 2020

First Responders and Front-Line Workers Who Contract Covid-19 Now Have Easier Access to Benefits Under the IL Workers' Compensation Act
Romanucci & Blandin Blog, April 14, 2020

Increased Efficiencies for Workers' Comp Cases in Illinois
Romanucci & Blandin Blog, February 24, 2020

Events

2021 Award of Excellence, Judges & Scholarship Night
Gibson's Italia, Chicago, November 18, 2021

Speaking Engagements

- "Workers' Compensation: How the New Act Affects Physicians", 14th Annual Chicago Trauma Symposium, Presenter, August 2, 2012