

4 Ward and Smith Attorneys Recognized as 'Ones to Watch' by Best Lawyers®

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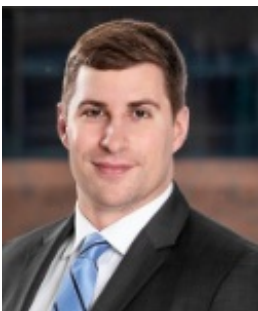


***Best Lawyers*®** has selected four Ward and Smith attorneys for inclusion into its inaugural 'Ones to Watch' list for 2021.

This honor recognizes some of the nation's most promising attorneys who have demonstrated professional excellence and who have been in private practice for fewer than ten

years. "Ones to Watch" is based entirely on peer review and employs the same methodology that has made *Best Lawyers*® the gold standard for legal rankings worldwide.

The four Ward and Smith attorneys recognized are:



Danny Brader - Raleigh
Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law



Paige Inman - Willmington
Family Law
Litigation - Trusts and Estates



Xavier Lightfoot - Asheville
Litigation - Construction
Litigation - Labor and Employment



Evan Musselwhite -
Raleigh
Litigation -
Construction

An awarded lawyer can be recognized for multiple years but cannot indefinitely remain recognized in "Ones to Watch." After a candidate has been in practice for 10+ years, they are eligible to be nominated for the traditional *Best Lawyers*[®] awards.

Recently, *Best Lawyers*[®] recognized nearly half of the firm's attorneys in the 2021 edition of "Best Lawyers in America." The prestigious guide also awarded three Ward and Smith attorneys the "Lawyer of the Year" status for 2021.