
Ward and Smith Receives 2015 'Best Law Firm' Rankings

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Ward and Smith has been recognized as a "Best Law Firm" for 2015 by *U.S. News* and *Best Lawyers*®. Firms included in the 2015 "Best Law Firms" list are recognized for professional excellence based on ratings from clients and peers. Achieving a tiered ranking signals a combination of quality law practice and breadth of legal expertise. More than 17,000 attorneys provided nearly 600,000 law firm assessments, and close to 7,500 clients provided more than 40,000 evaluations.

Firms with offices in the identified "metropolitan areas" and with the highest overall scores are included on the metropolitan area lists. For ranking purposes, *U.S. News* and *Best Lawyers*® incorporate Greenville into the Raleigh metropolitan area and New Bern into the Wilmington metropolitan area. As a result, Ward and Smith's metropolitan area offices include Asheville, Raleigh, and Wilmington. Rankings for these cities include:

Metropolitan Tier 1

Asheville

Arbitration
Litigation — Land Use & Zoning

Raleigh (includes Greenville)

Commercial Litigation
Litigation — Bankruptcy
Medical Malpractice Law — Plaintiffs
Trusts & Estates Law

Wilmington (includes New Bern)

Commercial Litigation
Corporate Law
Environmental Law
Family Law
Health Care Law
International Trade and Finance Law
Land Use & Zoning Law
Litigation — Construction
Litigation — Environmental
Litigation — Intellectual Property
Litigation — Trusts & Estates
Real Estate Law
Trusts & Estates Law

Metropolitan Tier 2

Asheville

Land Use & Zoning Law

Tax Law

Trusts & Estates Law

Raleigh (includes Greenville)

Technology Law

Wilmington (includes New Bern)

Litigation — Labor & Employment

Litigation — Real Estate