

# Thirty-three Ward and Smith, P.A. Attorneys Listed in The Best Lawyers in America® 2013

August 23, 2012

Thirty-three lawyers from Ward and Smith, P.A. were recently selected by their peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*® 2013 (copyright 2012 by Woodward/White, Inc., of Aiken, S.C.). Since its inception in 1983, *Best Lawyers* has become universally regarded as the definitive guide to legal excellence in the U.S. The new 2013 *Best Lawyers* list, the 19th Edition, is based on a rigorous national survey involving more than 4 million detailed evaluations of lawyers by other lawyers, and because lawyers are not required or allowed to pay a fee to be listed, inclusion in *Best Lawyers* is considered a singular honor.

Ward and Smith attorneys recognized as 2013 *Best Lawyers* are the following:

## Asheville

**Derek J. Allen (2009)** — *Land Use and Zoning Law; Litigation - Land Use and Zoning*

**Michael L. Miller (1995)** — *Arbitration; Employee Benefits (ERISA) Law; Mediation; Tax Law; Trusts and Estates*

## Greenville

**A. Charles Ellis (1995)** — *Medical Malpractice Law - Plaintiffs; Personal Injury Litigation - Plaintiffs*

**Lynwood P. Evans\*** — *Medical Malpractice Law - Plaintiffs*

**Paul A. Fanning (2011)** — *Banking and Finance Law; Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law; Litigation - Bankruptcy*

**Merrill G. Jones, II\*** — *Commercial Litigation*

**John M. Martin (1995)** — *Personal Injury Litigation - Plaintiffs*

## New Bern

**James Lee Davis (1993)** — *Real Estate Law*

**William S. Durr\*** — *Family Law*

**Donalt J. Eglinton (2009)** — *Commercial Litigation; Copyright Law; Litigation - Construction; Litigation - Intellectual Property; Litigation - Patent; Patent Law; Trademark Law\*\**

**Michael P. Flanagan (1995)** — *Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law; Litigation - Bankruptcy*

**S. McKinley Gray, III (2009)** — *Litigation - Labor & Employment\*\*; Workers' Compensation Law - Employers*

**William R. Lathan (2005)** — *Banking and Finance Law; Financial Services Regulation Law*

**William E. Martin\*** — *Real Estate Law*

**E. Eric Mills (2012)** — *Copyright Law*

**Gregory T. Peacock (2010)** — *Litigation - Trusts and Estates; Trusts and Estates*

**C. H. Pope, Jr. (1995)** — *Land Use and Zoning Law; Real Estate Law; Timber Law*

**E. Knox Proctor V (2010)** — *Administrative / Regulatory Law; Banking and Finance Law;*

*Corporate Law\*\*; Financial Services Regulation Law*

**Clint D. Routson (2005)** — *Real Estate Law*

**Frank H. Sheffield, Jr. (1995)** — *Environmental Law; Litigation - Environmental*

**J. Troy Smith, Jr. (1987)** — *Bet-the-Company Litigation; Commercial Litigation, Corporate Law*

**David L. Ward, Jr. (1983)** - *Banking and Finance Law; Corporate Law; Financial Services Regulation Law; International Trade and Finance Law; Litigation - Antitrust*

**Leigh A. Wilkinson (2010)** — *Health Care Law*

**A. Rexford Willis, III (2012)** — *Corporate Law; Tax Law*

**Kenneth R. Wooten (2005)** — *Bet-the-Company Litigation; Commercial Litigation; Litigation - Construction*

### **Raleigh**

**William Joseph Austin, Jr. (2009)** — *Employment Law - Management; Labor Law - Management; Workers' Compensation Law - Employers*

**Albert R. Bell, Jr. (1995)** — *Employment Law - Management; Labor Law - Management*

**Stuart B. Dorsett (2001)** — *Trusts and Estates*

**Gary J. Rickner (1995)** — *Bet-the-Company Litigation; Commercial Litigation; Personal Injury Litigation - Defendants*

**James F. Verdonik (1995)** — *Corporate Law; Technology Law*

### **Wilmington**

**Thomas S. Babel\*** — *Commercial Litigation*

**Jenna Fruechtenicht Butler (2010)** — *Commercial Litigation; Litigation - Securities\*\*; Litigation - Trusts & Estates\*\*; Personal Injury Litigation - Plaintiffs*

**Ryal W. Tayloe (2009)** — *Bet-the-Company Litigation; Litigation - Construction; Litigation - Real Estate*

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(Year) First year the lawyer was listed.

(\*) Lawyers who are listed for the first time in *Best Lawyers*.

(\*\*) First time the lawyer was recognized in this category.