

Twenty-six Ward and Smith, P.A. Attorneys Selected for Inclusion in Business North Carolina's 'Legal Elite'

January 4, 2013

Ward and Smith, P.A. is pleased to announce the inclusion of 26 of its attorneys in Business North Carolina's "Legal Elite." More than 20,000 ballots were sent to Tar Heel attorneys. The ballots asked only one question: "Whom would you rate among the current best in these categories?" Less than 3 percent of the state's attorneys were selected for this distinction.

Ward and Smith attorneys chosen by peer recognition and professional achievement to become "Legal Elite" include **Derek Allen**, Real Estate; **William Joseph Austin, Jr.**, Employment; **Adam M. Beaudoin**, Business; **Albert R. Bell, Jr.**, Employment; **Matthew A. Cordell**, Young Guns; **Stuart B. Dorsett**, Tax and Estate Planning; **Angela P. Doughty**, Business; **Donalt J. Eglinton**, Litigation; **A. Charles Ellis**, Litigation; **E. Bradley Evans**, Litigation; **Paul A. Fanning**, Bankruptcy; **Michael P. Flanagan**, Bankruptcy; **S. McKinley Gray, III**, Employment; **Rendi L. Mann-Stadt**, Employment; **Lance P. Martin**, Bankruptcy; **Michael L. Miller**, Tax and Estate Planning; **Gregory T. Peacock**, Tax and Estate Planning; **C. H. Pope, Jr.**, Real Estate; **Gary J. Rickner**, Litigation; **Frank H. Sheffield, Jr.**, Environmental; **John R. Sloan**, Tax and Estate Planning; **J. Troy Smith, Jr.**, Business, Corporate; and **Kenneth R. Wooten**, Construction.

James E. Creekman is included in the Legal Elite Hall of Fame in the category of Corporate Counsel, **E. Eric Mills** is included in the Legal Elite Hall of Fame in the category of Intellectual Property, and **David L. Ward, Jr.** is included in the Legal Elite Hall of Fame in the category of Corporate Counsel.