



Twenty-eight Ward and Smith, P.A. Attorneys Listed in The Best Lawyers in America® 2012

September 21, 2011

Twenty-eight lawyers from Ward and Smith, P.A. were recently selected by their peers for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America® 2012 (copyright 2011 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. Because Best Lawyers is based on an exhaustive peer-review survey in which more than 41,000 leading attorneys cast almost 3.9 million votes on the legal abilities of other lawyers in their practice areas, 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 2012 Best Lawyers are the following:

Asheville

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

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*

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

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

New Bern

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

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

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

S. McKinley Gray, III (2009) — *Workers' Compensation Law - Employers*

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

E. Eric Mills * — *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; 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 * — *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 - Plaintiffs*

James F. Verdonik (1995) — *Corporate Law, Technology Law, Venture Capital Law*

Wilmington

Jenna Fruechtenicht Butler (2010) — *Commercial Litigation; Personal Injury Litigation - Plaintiffs*

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

(Year) First year the lawyer was listed.

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