



William R. Lathan, Jr.

E: wrl@wardandsmith.com

P: 252.672.5458

F: 252.672.5477

Post Office Box 867

New Bern, NC 28563-0867

Professional Experience

Bill's practice experience encompasses the formation, regulation, and operation of banks and bank holding companies; securities offerings and reporting; mergers and acquisitions; and corporate governance matters pertaining to publicly-held companies.

Prior to joining the firm, Bill served as vice president and general counsel/corporate secretary for one of North Carolina's multi-bank holding companies.

Practice Concentrations

Financial Institutions Law and Regulation

Mergers and Acquisitions

Education

J.D., The University of North Carolina School of Law, 1975

A.B., The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 1972

Admitted to Practice

North Carolina, 1975

All state courts in North Carolina

Honors and Distinctions*

The Best Lawyers in America, Best Lawyers[®], 2005-2024

"Super Lawyer," Banking, *North Carolina Super Lawyers*, 2020-2024

"Legal Elite," *Business North Carolina*, 2014



RECOGNIZED BY
Best Lawyers

BUSINESS NORTH CAROLINA'S
LEGAL ELITE

Super Lawyers

Representative Experience

Representation of two bank holding companies in the course of their separate acquisitions of bank holding companies and their subsidiary banks located in other states

Representation of two banks in the course of their being acquired by other banks

Representation of a bank holding company in raising capital through its private sale of preferred stock

Counseled bank holding companies and banks in their compliance with reporting obligations under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Counseled bank holding companies and banks in their annual shareholder meeting process, including their compliance with proxy solicitation disclosure rules and preparation of disclosures regarding various non-routine voting proposals, including various charter amendments and compensation plans

Professional and Community Affiliations

American Bar Association — Section: Business Law

North Carolina Bankers Association

North Carolina Bar Association — Section: Business Law

* Please see the following websites for an explanation of the membership standards for the following recognitions: www.bestlawyers.com; businessnc.com/special-sections/legal-elite/; and www.superlawyers.com/north-carolina.