

Thirty-one Ward and Smith, P.A. Attorneys Listed in The Best Lawyers in America® 2017

August 15, 2016

Since it was first published in 1983, Best Lawyers® has become universally regarded as the definitive guide to legal excellence. Best Lawyers lists are compiled based on an exhaustive peer-review evaluation. Over 83,000 leading attorneys globally are eligible to vote, and we have received more than 13 million votes to date on the legal abilities of other lawyers based on their specific practice areas around the world. For the 2017 Edition of The Best Lawyers in America®, 7.3 million votes were analyzed, which resulted in almost 55,000 leading lawyers being included in the new edition. Lawyers are not required or allowed to pay a fee to be listed, therefore inclusion in Best Lawyers® is considered a singular honor. *Corporate Counsel* magazine has called Best Lawyers "the most respected referral list of attorneys in practice."

Ward and Smith, P.A. attorneys recognized as 2017 *Best Lawyers*® include:

Asheville

Derek J. Allen (2009) [5]

Land Use and Zoning Law

Litigation — Land Use and Zoning

William S. Durr (2013) [5]

Family Law

Lance P. Martin (2015)

Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law

Greenville

A. Charles Ellis (1995) [20]

Medical Malpractice Law — Plaintiffs

Personal Injury Litigation — Plaintiffs

Lynwood P. Evans (2013) [5]

Medical Malpractice Law — Plaintiffs

E. Bradley Evans (2016)

Commercial Litigation

Litigation — Construction

Paul A. Fanning (2011) [5]

Banking and Finance Law
Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law
Litigation — Bankruptcy

Michael P. Flanagan (1995) [20]

Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law
Litigation — Bankruptcy

Merrill G. Jones, II (2013) [5]

Corporate Law

John M. Martin (1995) [20]

Family Law
Personal Injury Litigation — Plaintiffs

New Bern

Donalt J. Eglinton (2009) [5]

Commercial Litigation
Copyright Law
Litigation — Construction
Litigation — Intellectual Property
Litigation — Patent
Patent Law
Trademark Law

S. McKinley Gray, III (2009) [5]

Litigation — Labor and Employment
Workers' Compensation Law — Employers

William R. Lathan, Jr. (2005) [10]

Banking and Finance Law
Financial Services Regulation Law

Gregory T. Peacock (2010) [5]

Litigation — Trusts and Estates
Trusts and Estates

C. H. Pope, Jr. (1995) [20]

Land Use and Zoning Law
Real Estate Law
Timber Law

E. Knox Proctor V (2010) [5]

Administrative / Regulatory Law
Banking and Finance Law
Corporate Law
Financial Services Regulation Law

Clint D. Routson (2005) [10]

Real Estate Law

J. Troy Smith, Jr. (1987) [30]

Bet-the-Company Litigation

Business Organizations (including LLCs and Partnerships)

Commercial Litigation

Corporate Law

David L. Ward, Jr. (1983) [30]

Banking and Finance Law

Corporate Law

Financial Services Regulation Law

International Trade and Finance Law

Litigation — Antitrust

Leigh A. Wilkinson (2010) [5]

Health Care Law

Kenneth R. Wooten (2005) [10]

Bet-the-Company Litigation

Commercial Litigation

Litigation — Construction

Raleigh

William Joseph Austin, Jr. (2009) [5]

Employment Law — Management

Labor Law — Management

Workers' Compensation Law — Employers

Albert R. Bell, Jr. (1995) [20]

Employment Law — Management

Labor Law — Management

William E. Martin (2013) [5]

Real Estate Law

Michael L. Miller (1991) [25]

Arbitration

Employee Benefits (ERISA) Law

Mediation

Tax Law

Trusts and Estates

Gary J. Rickner (1995) [20]

Bet-the-Company Litigation

Commercial Litigation

James F. Verdonik (1995) [20]

Corporate Law

Technology Law

Venture Capital Law

Wilmington

Thomas S. Babel (2013) [5]

Commercial Litigation

Jenna Fruechtenicht Butler (2010) [5]

Commercial Litigation

Litigation — Securities

Litigation — Trusts and Estates

Personal Injury Litigation — Plaintiffs

Edward J. Coyne, III (2016)

Business Organizations (including LLCs and Partnerships)

Ryal W. Tayloe (2009) [5]

Bet-the-Company Litigation

Commercial Litigation

Construction Law

Litigation — Construction

Litigation — Real Estate

(Year) First year the lawyer was listed.

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

[] Total number of years of inclusion.