



# Three Ward and Smith Attorneys Named 2017 “Lawyers of the Year” by Best Lawyers®

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Best Lawyers®, the oldest peer-review publication in the legal profession, has named three Ward and Smith attorneys as 2017 "Lawyer of the Year." Only a single lawyer in each specialty in each North Carolina metropolitan area is honored as the "Lawyer of the Year."

Ward and Smith attorneys recognized as 2017 Best Lawyers® "Lawyer of the Year" are:

- **William Joseph Austin, Jr.** - Workers' Compensation Law - Employers - Raleigh
- **Knox Proctor V** - Corporate Law - Wilmington
- **Kenneth R. Wooten** - Litigation - Construction - Wilmington

Knox and Ken primarily practice from Ward and Smith's New Bern office. Best Lawyers® includes New Bern in the Wilmington metropolitan area. Accordingly, they were recognized as a "Lawyer of the Year" for the Wilmington metropolitan area.