

---

# Ward and Smith, P.A. Receives Best Law Firm Ranking

---

November 9, 2011

---

Ward and Smith, P.A. has been recognized as a "Best Law Firm" for 2011-2012 by U.S. News & World Report and Best Lawyers®. [1]

U.S. News and Best Lawyers® joined together to survey thousands of law firm clients; leading lawyers; law firm managers, partners, and associates; and others involved in the legal profession, asking what factors each considered vital for clients hiring law firms, for lawyers choosing a firm for referral of legal matters, and for lawyers seeking employment. Based on the survey, the publishers prepared national rankings in one or more of 75 major legal practice areas for 9,633 firms. The publishers also ranked those firms in metropolitan or state rankings in one or more of 119 major legal practice areas.

For ranking purposes, U.S. News and Best Lawyers® include Greenville in the Raleigh metropolitan area and New Bern in the Wilmington metropolitan area. Ward and Smith's metropolitan area offices are Asheville, Raleigh, and Wilmington.

## Ward and Smith's National Rankings

### Tier 3

Litigation - Construction

## Ward and Smith's Metropolitan Rankings

### Raleigh Tier 1

Banking and Finance Law

Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law

Commercial Litigation

Corporate Law

Litigation - Bankruptcy

Medical Malpractice Law - Plaintiffs

Personal Injury Litigation - Plaintiffs

Trusts & Estates Law

### Wilmington Tier 1

Banking and Finance Law

Commercial Litigation

Corporate Law

Environmental Law

Financial Services Regulation Law

Health Care Law

International Trade and Finance Law

Litigation - Antitrust

Litigation – Construction  
Litigation – Environmental  
Litigation – Intellectual Property  
Litigation – Trusts & Estates  
Personal Injury Litigation – Plaintiffs  
Real Estate Law  
Trusts & Estates Law  
Workers' Compensation Law – Employers

**Asheville Tier 2**

Land Use & Zoning Law

**Raleigh Tier 2**

Employment Law – Management  
Labor Law – Management  
Litigation – Eminent Domain & Condemnation  
Venture Capital Law  
Workers' Compensation Law – Employers

**Wilmington Tier 2**

Litigation – Real Estate

---

[1] Please see [bestlawfirms.usnews.com](http://bestlawfirms.usnews.com) for a further explanation of the selection process discussed above.