

AUGUST 16, 2024 | NEWS

## 131 Shumaker Lawyers Recognized in Best Lawyers in America<sup>®</sup> 2025

Shumaker is excited to announce that 131 of the firm's lawyers have been recognized in the 2025 editions of *Best Lawyers in America*<sup>®</sup> and the *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in America*<sup>™</sup>. Of the lawyers listed, 101 were selected for inclusion in *Best Lawyers*, and 30 were included in *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch*, which recognizes lawyers who are early in their careers for their outstanding professional excellence in private practice. Additionally, nine lawyers were recognized with the "Lawyer of the Year" designation. "Lawyer of the Year" is awarded annually to only one lawyer per practice area in each geographic region who received extremely high feedback from their peers, making it an exceptional distinction.

### SERVICE LINE

Corporate, Tax  
& Transactions  
Environmental &  
Energy  
Intellectual  
Property  
Litigation &  
Disputes  
Public Policy &  
Government

Affairs  
Real Estate,  
Construction &  
Development  
Wealth  
Strategies

**RELATED  
PROFESSIONALS**

Gregory H.  
Wagoner  
Ashley B. Norus  
Michael E.  
Dockins  
Steven M.  
Berman  
Jillian Askren  
J. Todd  
Timmerman  
Karen H. Stiles  
Reed Hauptman  
Juan C.  
Villaveces  
Regina M.  
Joseph  
Robert H. Eddy  
Scott D.  
Newsom  
Thomas P.  
Dillon  
Jan W. Pitchford  
Terence S.  
Reynolds  
John C. Barron  
Julio C. Esquivel  
Amanda M.  
Leffler  
Nicolas A.  
Linares  
Stacy RC  
Berliner  
Ernest J.  
Marquart  
W. Jan  
Pietruszka  
Felix C. Pelzer  
W. Kent Ihrig  
M. Scott Aubry

Douglas A.  
Cherry  
Peter R.  
Silverman  
David F. Axelrod  
David F. Axelrod  
Mindi M. Richter  
Andrew J.  
Mayts, Jr.  
Samantha R.  
Peckham  
Michael J.  
O'Callaghan  
Rhett N. Butler  
Thomas C. Blank  
Ronald D.P.  
Bruckmann  
Andrew J.  
Oppenheim  
C. Philip  
Campbell, Jr.  
Matthew T.  
Kemp  
Seth P. Traub  
Joseph S.  
Simpson  
Benjamin R.  
Hanan  
Samuel P.  
Queirolo  
Thomas G. Pletz  
Duane A. Daiker  
John K. Nelson  
John H. Burson  
J. Douglas Miller  
John D. Kocher  
Steven J. Chase  
William H.  
Gosline  
Malcolm J.  
Pitchford  
Marcus A. Miller  
Mark Wagoner  
James R. Carnes  
Nicholas A.  
Huckaby  
Philip S. Chubb  
Julianne M.  
Servetas

John J. Siciliano  
Ronald A.  
Christaldi  
Bennett H.  
Speyer  
Tom BenGera  
David P. Strup  
Michele Leo  
Hintson  
Thomas M.  
Wood  
David W.  
Wicklund  
G.P. Diminich  
Michael S.  
McGowan  
Christina  
Davidson  
Trimmer  
Christina C.  
Nethero  
David F.  
Waterman  
Joseph J.  
Santaniello  
Raven K. Peters  
Cheryl L.  
Gordon  
Jaime Austrich  
Frederick M.  
Thurman, Jr.  
Brian N.  
McMahon  
S. Alex Long, Jr.  
Steven A.  
Meckler  
Haley D. Kole  
Grant P.  
Dearborn  
Peter P.  
Murnaghan  
David J. Coyle  
James F. White,  
Jr.  
Joseph K. Cole  
James E. Fanto  
Warren P. Kean  
Meghan O.  
Serrano

Gregory C.  
Yadley  
Hugo S. "Brad"  
deBeaubien  
Gary R. Diesing  
James D.  
O'Donnell  
Hunter G.  
Norton  
Andrew S.  
Culicerto  
David B. Heedy  
Timothy C.  
McCarthy  
Peter E. Krebs  
Lynn F. Chandler  
Douglas G.  
Haynam  
Nicholas T.  
Stack  
David J.  
Rectenwald  
Lucas D. Garber  
Katherine S.  
Decker  
P. Wesley  
Lambert  
Katie Hinson  
Lewis  
Michael E. Born  
Nicholas D.  
Horner  
David H.  
Conaway  
Willard A. Blair  
Thomas F.  
McDonnell, Jr.  
Darrell C. Smith  
Charles A.  
Wood, Jr.  
Daniel J. DeLeo

### **MEDIA CONTACT**

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The full list of Shumaker's recognized lawyers include:

**Best Lawyers in America®**

**Akron**

- Stacy R.C. Berliner: Insurance Law, Litigation – Insurance
- P. Wesley Lambert: Insurance Law, Commercial Litigation
- Amanda M. Leffler: Commercial Litigation, Insurance Law, Litigation – Insurance

**Charleston**

- J. Bennett Crites, III: Personal Injury Litigation – Defendants
- G.P. Diminich: Corporate Law, Tax Law, Trusts and Estates
- Katie Hinson Lewis: Real Estate Law
- Laura Johnson Evans: Health Care Law
- Felix C. Pelzer: Tax Law, Trusts and Estates

**Charlotte**

- Lynn F. Chandler: Trusts and Estates
- Philip S. Chubb: Mergers and Acquisitions Law
- David H. Conaway: Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law
- Andrew S. Culicerto: Construction Law, Litigation – Construction
- Lucas D. Garber: Commercial Litigation
- Christopher T. Hood: Commercial Litigation
- Warren P. Kean: Business Organizations (including LLCs and Partnerships), Litigation and Controversy – Tax, Tax Law
- John D. Kocher: Medical Malpractice Law – Defendants
- S. Alex Long, Jr.: Patent Law
- Moses Luski: Real Estate Law
- Steven A. Meckler: Commercial Litigation
- John H. Northey III: Real Estate Law
- Terence S. Reynolds: Insurance Law,

Personal Injury Litigation – Defendants

- Joseph J. Santaniello: Franchise Law
- Scott M. Stevenson: Medical Malpractice Law – Defendants, Personal Injury Litigation – Defendants
- Karen H. Stiles: Medical Malpractice Law – Defendants
- Frederick M. Thurman, Jr.: Employment Law – Individuals, Employment Law – Management, Litigation – Labor and Employment
- Christina Davidson Trimmer: Litigation – Intellectual Property

**Columbus**

- David F. Axelrod: Corporate Compliance Law
- Michael E. Born: Environmental Law, Litigation – Environmental
- Michael J. O'Callaghan: Environmental Law

**Sarasota**

- Steven J. Chase: Commercial Litigation, Mediation
- Douglas A. Cherry: Copyright Law, Litigation – Intellectual Property, Patent Law, Trademark Law
- Daniel J. DeLeo: Commercial Litigation, Litigation – Construction
- Cheryl L. Gordon: Tax Law, Trusts and Estates
- Benjamin R. Hanan: Mergers and Acquisitions Law
- Gregory M. Marks: Tax Law
- Hunter G. Norton: Commercial Litigation
- Jan W. Pitchford: Real Estate Law
- Malcolm J. Pitchford: Real Estate Law
- Meghan O. Serrano: Commercial Litigation
- Juan C. Villaveces: Real Estate Law

**Tampa**

- Jaime Austrich: Commercial Litigation
- Steven M. Berman: Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law

- Willard A. Blair: Corporate Law, Mergers and Acquisitions Law
- C. Philip Campbell, Jr.: Commercial Litigation, Litigation – First Amendment, Litigation – Intellectual Property, Litigation – Mergers and Acquisitions Law
- Ronald A. Christaldi: Health Care Law
- Duane A. Daiker: Appellate Law
- Grant P. Dearborn: Health Care Law
- Hugo S. deBeaubien: Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law, Commercial Litigation, Employment Law – Management
- Julio C. Esquivel: Corporate Governance Law, Mergers and Acquisitions Law
- Michele Leo Hintson: Commercial Litigation
- W. Kent Ihrig: Banking and Finance Law, Real Estate Law
- Ernest J. Marquart: Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law, Commercial Litigation
- Andrew J. Mayts: Banking and Finance Law, Construction Law
- Peter P. Murnaghan: Personal Injury Litigation – Defendants, Personal Injury Litigation – Plaintiffs
- W. Jan Pietruszka: Employment Law – Individuals, Employment Law – Management, Litigation – Labor and Employment
- Samuel P. Queirolo: Real Estate Law
- Mindi M. Richter: Copyright Law, Litigation – Intellectual Property, Litigation – Patent, Trademark Law
- Darrell C. Smith: Banking and Finance Law, Corporate Law, Mergers and Acquisitions Law, Securities / Capital Markets Law, Securities Regulation
- J. Todd Timmerman: Copyright Law, Litigation – Intellectual Property, Litigation – Patent, Patent Law, Trademark Law
- Seth P. Traub: Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and

#### Reorganization Law

- Thomas M. Wood: Commercial Litigation
- Gregory C. Yadley: Banking and Finance Law, Corporate Compliance Law, Corporate Law, Leveraged Buyouts and Private Equity Law, Mergers and Acquisitions Law, Securities / Capital Markets Law, Securities Regulation

### Toledo

- M. Scott Aubry: Corporate Law, Mergers and Acquisitions Law
- John C. Barron: Commercial Litigation, Medical Malpractice Law – Defendants
- Thomas C. Blank: Banking and Finance Law, Mergers and Acquisitions Law, Securities / Capital Markets Law, Securities Regulation
- Cheri A. Budzynski: Environmental Law
- John H. Burson: Litigation – Trusts and Estates, Trusts and Estates
- James R. Carnes: Commercial Litigation, Litigation – Labor and Employment, Personal Injury Litigation – Defendants, Railroad Law
- David J. Coyle: Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law, Litigation – Bankruptcy
- Gary R. Diesing: Employee Benefits (ERISA) Law
- Thomas P. Dillon: Commercial Litigation, Litigation – Antitrust, Litigation – Intellectual Property, Litigation – Labor and Employment
- Michael E. Dockins: Litigation – Patent
- Robert H. Eddy: Legal Malpractice Law – Defendants
- William H. Gosline: Trusts and Estates
- W. Reed Hauptman: Real Estate Law
- Douglas G. Haynam: Environmental Law, Litigation – Environmental
- John W. Hilbert, II: Banking and Finance Law, Corporate Law, Real Estate Law
- Regina M. Joseph: Corporate Law
- Peter E. Krebs: Corporate Law
- Timothy C. McCarthy: Employment Law – Management

- Michael S. McGowan: Business Organizations (including LLCs and Partnerships), Closely Held Companies and Family Business Law, Corporate Law, Tax Law
- Brian N. McMahon: Franchise Law
- J. Douglas Miller: Litigation – Patent
- John K. Nelson: Commercial Litigation, Insurance Law, Litigation – Mergers and Acquisitions
- Scott D. Newsom: Employee Benefits (ERISA) Law, Litigation – ERISA
- Thomas G. Pletz: Commercial Litigation, Litigation – First Amendment, Litigation – Labor and Employment
- David J. Rectenwald: Trusts and Estates
- Joseph A. Rideout: Real Estate Law
- Gregory S. Shumaker: Real Estate Law
- John J. Siciliano: Product Liability Litigation – Defendants, Workers' Compensation Law – Employers
- Peter R. Silverman: Arbitration, Commercial Litigation, Franchise Law, Litigation – Intellectual Property, Litigation – Securities, Mediation
- Joseph S. Simpson: Environmental Law
- Bennett H. Speyer: Employee Benefits (ERISA) Law, Tax Law
- Nicholas T. Stack: Appellate Practice, Commercial Litigation
- John L. Straub: Family Law
- David P. Strup: Commercial Litigation
- Gregory H. Wagoner: Commercial Litigation, Litigation – Banking and Finance
- Mark D. Wagoner: Appellate Practice, Commercial Litigation, Franchise Law
- David F. Waterman: Corporate Law, Mergers and Acquisitions Law, Tax Law
- James F. White, Jr.: Corporate Law, Mergers and Acquisitions Law, Securities / Capital Markets Law
- David W. Wicklund: Commercial Litigation, Litigation – Antitrust, Litigation – Intellectual Property

## Lawyer of the Year

### **Akron**

- Amanda M. Leffler: Insurance Law

### **Sarasota**

- Gregory M. Marks: Tax Law

### **Tampa**

- Mindi M. Richter: Copyright Law

### **Toledo**

- John C. Barron: Medical Malpractice Law – Defendants
- Douglas G. Haynam: Environmental Law
- Peter E. Krebs: Corporate Law
- Joseph A. Rideout: Real Estate Law
- Nicholas T. Stack: Appellate Practice
- David F. Waterman: Mergers and Acquisitions Law

## **Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in America™**

### **Charleston**

- Kevin R. Horton: Medical Malpractice Law – Defendants
- Nicholas C.C. Stewart: Commercial Litigation, Litigation – Construction, Personal Injury Litigation – Defendants

### **Charlotte**

- Tom BenGera: Patent Law, Technology Law
- Ronald D.P. Bruckmann: Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law, Commercial Litigation
- Rhett N. Butler: Health Care Law

### **Columbus**

- Ali W. Latif: Commercial Litigation
- Marcus A. Miller: Commercial Litigation

### **Sarasota**

- James E. Fanto: Litigation – Securities
- David B. Heedy: Tax Law, Trusts and Estates

- James D. O'Donnell: Commercial Litigation
- Andrew J. Oppenheim: Commercial Litigation
- Raven K. Peters: Commercial Litigation
- Charles A. Wood: Commercial Litigation

## Tampa

- Jillian Askren: Commercial Litigation, Litigation – Environmental, Mass Tort Litigation / Class Actions – Defendants
- Sean P. Bevil: Commercial Litigation, Criminal Defense – General Practice
- Michelina D. Carbone: Real Estate Law
- Hannah M. Compton: Labor and Employment Law – Management, Litigation – Labor and Employment
- Nicholas D. Horner: Business Organizations (including LLCs and Partnerships), Corporate Law, Mergers and Acquisitions Law, Venture Capital Law
- Haley D. Kole: Labor and Employment Law – Management, Litigation – Labor and Employment
- Thomas F. McDonnell, Jr.: Corporate Governance and Compliance Law
- Christina C. Nethero: Business Organizations (including LLCs and Partnerships)
- Ashley B. Norus: Corporate Law
- Samantha R. Peckham: Insurance Law
- Julianne M. Servetas: Corporate Law

## Toledo

- Joseph K. Cole: Commercial Litigation, Insurance Law
- Katherine S. Decker: Labor and Employment Law – Management
- Nicholas A. Huckaby: Commercial Litigation, Labor and Employment Law – Management, Litigation – Labor and Employment, Medical Malpractice Law – Defendants
- Matthew T. Kemp: Commercial Litigation
- Nicolas A. Linares: Litigation – Trusts and Estates, Trusts and Estates
- Matthew C. Spaulding: Commercial Litigation

Since it was first published in 1983, *Best Lawyers* has become regarded as the definitive guide to legal excellence. *Best Lawyers* honors the professional accomplishments of the top legal talent based on an exhaustive peer-review evaluation. Lawyers are not required or allowed to pay a fee to be listed; therefore, inclusion in

*Best Lawyers* is considered a singular honor.