#### Best Lawyers

# Best Lawyers® Publicizing Guidelines

Best Lawyers has prepared the following guidelines to comply with most state bar association rules for lawyer advertising. We encourage firms to check their local bar's specific rules to ensure compliance.

## Details To Include When Announcing Rankings



Ex: The Best Lawyers in America® The Best Lawyers in Australia™



Ex: 32<sup>nd</sup> edition 2026 edition



Practice Areas Listed

Ex: Family Law Arbitration and Family Law Mediation

# **Examples of Correct Language**

Approved language clarifies that you are recognized by Best Lawyers® or listed in a Best Lawyers publication, but not that you are a "best lawyer."

#### Firm-wide Announcement:

- Hibbens & McKay, LLC is proud to have 14 lawyers recognized by Best Lawyers® in 2026 in America.
- Hibbens & McKay, LLC is proud to have 14 lawyers awarded in the 2026 editions of The Best Lawyers in America®
  and the Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America.
- Hibbens & McKay, LLC is proud to have 10 lawyers recognized in The Best Lawyers in America® and four lawyers recognized
  in the Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America 2026 editions.
- 10 lawyers from Hibbens & McKay, LLC were recognized in the 32<sup>nd</sup> edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*®.
- Four lawyers from Hibbens & McKay, LLC were recognized in the sixth edition of Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America.
- Elston & Rhoden PLLC is proud to have seven lawyers awarded in the 2026 editions of *The Best Lawyers in Germany™* and the *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in Germany™*.
- Elston & Rhoden PLLC is proud to have three lawyers recognized in *The Best Lawyers in Germany*™ and four lawyers recognized in the *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in Germany*™ 2026 editions.

**PLEASE NOTE** 

Firms must not publicly promote or disclose new Best Lawyers awards during the embargo period before the official public release date for their country, available at <a href="https://www.bestlawyers.com/methodology/timeline">www.bestlawyers.com/methodology/timeline</a>



### **Individual Best Lawyers Announcement:**

- Amelia June was recently included in the 2026 edition of The Best Lawyers in America® for Family Law and Family Law Mediation.
- Julie Martin was recently selected by her peers for inclusion in the 16<sup>th</sup> edition of *The Best Lawyers in France*™ in the fields of Litigation and Tax Law.
- William Wright was included in the 17<sup>th</sup> edition of The Best Lawyers in the Mexico™ for Amparo Law.

### Individual Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch Announcement:

- Susan McDavid was included in the 2026 edition of the Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America for her work in Construction Law.
- Anthony Forsberg received a 2026 Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in Germany™ recognition for Medical Malpractice Litigation.

### Individual Lawyer With "Lawyer of The Year" Award:

- Robert Brown was named the Best Lawyers® 2026 Family Law "Lawyer of the Year" in Atlanta.
- Catherine Neal received the Best Lawyers® 2026 Real Estate "Lawyer of the Year" award in Winnipeg.
- David Potter was recognized by Best Lawyers® as the 2026 Corporate Law "Lawyer of the Year" award winner in Sydney.

#### "I aw Firm of The Year" Award:

#### DOMESTIC EXAMPLES

For more information on Best Law Firms® recognitions, please visit www.bestlawfirms.com.

- Smith & McClean has been named a Tier 1 firm in Los Angeles for Appellate Practice in the 2026 edition of Best Law Firms®.
- Smith & McClean has received a First-Tier ranking in L.A. in Appellate Practice by Best Law Firms® for the 16th edition.
- Smith & McClean has been named in the 2026 edition of Best Law Firms® as a Tier 1 national firm in three practice areas.

#### INTERNATIONAL EXAMPLES

- Elston & Rhoden PLLC was named the 2026 "Law Firm of the Year" for Arbitration and Mediation by Best Law Firms™ Germany.
- Edmonds and Ladd was honored with the 2026 Best Law Firms™ Australia "Law Firm of the Year" award for Corporate Law.

**PLEASE NOTE** 

### Insufficient and/or Incorrect Language:

- Richard Brown is a Best Lawyer.
- Richard Brown is listed in Best Lawyers.
- Richard Brown has been named a Texas Best Lawyer.



### Logo Usage Guidelines

Best Lawyers is not responsible for checking legal advertisements with state or local bar associations. It is the firm's responsibility to comply with jurisdictional guidelines. Permission for use of the Best Lawyers logo begins on the date of purchase and lasts either 12 months after such purchase or until the next publication of the Best Lawyers rankings in your country. Once the Best Lawyers logo has been licensed, the logo may be used in the following ways:



# Lawyer or Firm's Website

Link back to your Best Lawyers profile or www.bestlawyers.com.



#### Footer of Email Messages

Email must originate from the listed lawyer.



# Large Format Licensing

The Best Lawyers logo may be used on billboards, outdoor advertisements and television ads only after the purchase of an additional license.



#### **Marketing Brochures**

Must comply with any applicable state bar legal advertising laws.



# Print and Online Advertisements

Must first be provided to Best Lawyers for approval prior to production.



#### Social Media Platforms

When publicizing Best Lawyers awards on social media, tagging Best Lawyers in your posts is encouraged.

PLEASE NOTE Any display of the Best Lawyers logo should be accompanied by the appropriate verbiage.

The Best Lawyers logo shall only be used in the form and colors indicated, without modifications or alterations.



## Additional Approved Material

Best Lawyers® is an elite global network of legal professionals recognized through trusted, peer-reviewed distinction. For over four decades, our Purely Peer Review® methodology has upheld the principle that recognition should be earned through the opinions of fellow attorneys, not marketing influence or paid listings.

Each year, more than 13 million confidential evaluations are collected worldwide, contributing to one of the legal industry's most rigorous and trusted vetting processes. Only about 5% of lawyers in the United States and 3% globally are recognized, reflecting the selectivity and credibility of the results. Proprietary safeguards are in place to reduce bias and uphold the accuracy of the peer feedback.

For the 2026 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*®, more than 26 million evaluations were analyzed. The *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch*® *in America* recognitions were determined based on more than 5.4 million evaluations.

"Law Firm of the Year" awards are presented to a single firm in each practice area on a national scale. Selection is based on several criteria, including attorney feedback, firm size and presence, prior "Lawyer of the Year" honors, the number of lawyers recognized in the relevant practice area and supporting information submitted by the firms.

"Lawyer of the Year" accolades are reserved for one individual per practice area in each metropolitan region, based on the highest aggregate peer feedback. This designation represents a rare and distinguished honor.

No fees are accepted for consideration or inclusion, maintaining the integrity and independence of all recognitions.

#### Advertisement Approval

Legal advertising is regulated by your state or jurisdiction. It is the sole responsibility of the advertiser to first comply with jurisdictional guidelines. Always refer to your state or local bar society's rules if you have specific questions or concerns.

The Best Lawyers publicizing guidelines contain general recommendations but are not intended to be legal advice. Best Lawyers assumes no responsibility for advertiser compliance with jurisdictional guidelines.

After compliance with your state, provincial and national bar's rules, any promotional material containing the Best Lawyers name must be emailed for approval before release in any public medium to ensure compliance with Best Lawyers' Guidelines. Please send drafts to our team who can provide feedback on any press release, announcement or advertisement.



#### Additional Considerations

Best Lawyers will monitor relevant advertising to ensure that any usage of its trademarked or copyrighted material complies with these guidelines. If any usage is found not to comply with the guidelines, Best Lawyers will inform the advertiser and request that the inappropriate advertising be brought into compliance. If timely and appropriate efforts are not made by the advertiser to bring the non-compliant advertising into compliance with the guidelines, Best Lawyers may temporarily suspend or permanently exclude the advertiser from any or all Best Lawyers databases and publications and take appropriate action to ensure that its trademarks and copyrights are not infringed.

Best Lawyers does not assume, and hereby expressly disclaims, any liability to any person or entity for any loss or damage claimed to arise from the failure by any advertiser using Best Lawyers materials of any kind to comply with these guidelines.

- Best Lawyers rankings shall only be used for the purpose of identifying a lawyer as having been recognized by Best Lawyers and not to imply an endorsement of any product or services.
- Best Lawyers has the right to monitor mentions of the Best Lawyers rankings, and if a lawyers' description of its recognition in the Best Lawyers list is inaccurate, or otherwise unacceptable, Best Lawyers will notify the lawyer and the lawyer agrees that it shall immediately remove or change such materials in accordance with Best Lawyers' request.
- Under no circumstances may the logos of Best Lawyers, or any other creative from Best Lawyers, be used without the express written permission of Best Lawyers.
- These guidelines are subject to change without notice, and Best Lawyers may withdraw or change these guidelines at any time and for any reason.

PLEASE NOTE that in consideration for the limited use of the marks Best Lawyers®, Best Law Firms®, Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® and Purely Peer Review® in connection with publicity or other advertising, all awarded lawyers and/or law firms expressly agree to abide by the terms and conditions of these guidelines AND ANY APPLICABLE STATE BAR LEGAL ADVERTISING LAWS, RULES AND REGULATIONS.

Best Lawyers®, Best Law Firms®, Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® and Purely Peer Review® are registered trademarks of BL Rankings, LLC d/b/a Best Lawyers and Co., LLC. The names, logo and database are protected under the trademark, copyright and fair use laws of the United States of America. Any use of name, including in electronic form, must be made only by permission and under the guidelines of BL Rankings, LLC d/b/a Best Lawyers and Co., LLC.

BL Rankings, LLC d/b/a Best Lawyers and Co., LLC has used its best efforts in assembling material for inclusion in Best Lawyers but does not warrant that the information contained therein is complete or accurate, and does not assume, and hereby disclaims, any liability to any person for any loss or damage caused by errors or omissions in Best Lawyers whether such errors or omissions result from negligence, accident or any other cause.





