

Best Lawyers®

# Publication Guidelines

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Congratulations on your listing in *Best Lawyers*®. The guidelines below provide you with the tools you need to publicly showcase your honors.

## How to Cite a Listing

### GENERAL RULES:

- You are permitted to mention in advertisements that you are recognized by Best Lawyers® or in *The Best Lawyers in America*®, but not that you are a “best lawyer” or to suggest that a listing in *Best Lawyers* guarantees a desired result.
- Do not include any language the viewer may misconstrue as the listed lawyer being more skilled than lawyers who are not listed in the publication.
- *Best Lawyers* is always plural.
- The *Best Lawyers* methodology is annual, national/regional, and practice area based. All compliant announcements contain the year, country, and awarded practice area. The only exception to this rule is a firm-wide announcement, which should contain the year, country, and total number of attorneys included in the associated edition.
- When referring to Best Lawyers as an organization, use Best Lawyers®.
- The registered trademark and copyright symbol should be included in the first mention of *Best Lawyers* or *The Best Lawyers in America*. All following mentions of *Best Lawyers* or *The Best Lawyers in America* in the same document must be italicized, but do not need to include the registered trademark or copyright symbol.
- Use of the registered trademark and copyright symbol are only required for firms in the United States.
- When publicizing Best Lawyers awards online, a hyperlink to your Best Lawyers profile or [www.bestlawyers.com](http://www.bestlawyers.com) is required.

## **ADVERTISING RULES:**

- When publicizing Best Lawyers awards using a group photo from the firm, the specific attorneys listed in *Best Lawyers* must be identified by name in a caption.
- Advertisers should check their state or jurisdictional bar associations' rules on specialty certification before including specialties and subspecialties in any advertisement.

## **Example Announcement Formats**

### **INDIVIDUAL LAWYER:**

- When referring to Best Lawyers as a list or publication use *The Best Lawyers in America*®. For all other countries, use *The Best Lawyers™ in [CountryName]*. Be sure to include the year or edition number.
  - Julie Martin was recently selected by her peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers™ in France 2018* in the fields of Litigation and Tax Law.
  - William Wright was included in the Sixth Edition of *The Best Lawyers™ in the United Kingdom* for Social Housing Law.

### **FIRM-WIDE ANNOUNCEMENT:**

- 47 lawyers from Hibbens & McKay, LLC were recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America*® 2018.
- 23 attorneys from Elston & Rhoden PLLC were included in the 12th Edition of *The Best Lawyers™ in Canada*.

### **INDIVIDUAL LAWYER WITH “LAWYER OF THE YEAR” RECOGNITION:**

- Any display of Best Lawyers “Lawyer of the Year” images or text referencing a lawyer’s recognition(s) must be accompanied by the appropriate specialty, metropolitan area and year in which the award was given.
  - Robert Brown was named the *Best Lawyers*® 2018 Family Law “Lawyer of the Year” in Atlanta.
  - Catherine Neal received the *Best Lawyers*™ 2018 Real Estate “Lawyer of the Year” award in Winnipeg.
  - David Potter was recognized by *Best Lawyers*™ as the 2019 Superannuation Law “Lawyer of the Year” award winner in Sydney.

## “LAW FIRM OF THE YEAR” AWARDS:

- Any display of Best Lawyers “Law Firm of the Year” awards must be accompanied by the appropriate specialty, country, and year in which the award was given.
- Permission for use of the “Law Firm of the Year” logo begins on the date that this agreement is fully signed and lasts either 12 months after or until the next edition of *Best Lawyers* in your country, whichever comes first.
- For more information on the *U.S. News–Best Lawyers* “Best Law Firms” rankings, please see the “Best Law Firms” website.

## LOGO USAGE GUIDELINES

- To be eligible to use the Best Lawyers logo, the attorney must appear in the print or online version of the *Best Lawyers* rankings. The Best Lawyers logo shall only be used in the form and colors indicated, without modifications or alterations. Such logo(s) will not be used in a way that would reflect poorly on Best Lawyers. Permission for use of the Best Lawyers logo begins on the date that this agreement is fully signed and lasts either 12 months after such signing or until the next publication of the Best Lawyers rankings in your country.
- The Best Lawyers logo must be officially licensed prior to being used. The logo may be used in the following ways:
  - Lawyer or firm’s website
  - Footer of email messages
    - Email must originate from the listed lawyer.
  - Print or online marketing
    - The Best Lawyers logo may be used on billboards, outdoor advertisements, and television ads only after the purchase of an additional license.
  - Marketing brochures
  - Print and online advertisements
    - Must first be provided to Best Lawyers for approval prior to production.
  - Social media websites
- Any display of the Best Lawyers logo should be accompanied by the appropriate verbiage.

## ADDITIONAL APPROVED MATERIAL

- Since it was first published in 1983, *Best Lawyers*<sup>®</sup> has become universally regarded as the definitive guide to legal excellence. *Best Lawyers* lists are compiled based on an exhaustive peer-review evaluation. 83,000 industry leading attorneys are eligible to vote (from around the world), and we have received almost 10 million evaluations on the legal abilities of other lawyers based on their specific practice areas around the world. For the 2018 Edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*<sup>®</sup>, 7.4 million votes were analyzed, which resulted in more than 58,000 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.”
- For any questions related to our Publicizing Guidelines, contact Katie Morgan at [kmorgan@bestlawyers.com](mailto:kmorgan@bestlawyers.com).

## 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.
- Send materials to Katie Morgan, Public Relations Manager, at [kmorgan@bestlawyers.com](mailto:kmorgan@bestlawyers.com). Please allow at least one full business day for approval from *Best Lawyers*.

## 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 of 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 products or services.
- Best Lawyers has the right to monitor mentions of the Best Lawyers rankings, and if a lawyers' description of its recognition in 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*<sup>®</sup>, *Best Law Firms*<sup>™</sup> and *U.S. News*<sup>®</sup> in connection with publicity or other advertising, all listed 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**. Failure to comply with any or all of these guidelines may result in temporary or permanent revocation of listing, civil liability for misappropriation or trademark infringement, and/or report to the appropriate lawyer disciplinary authorities.

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