

# PRESS RELEASE

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## Baker Donelson Achieves High Rankings in Chambers USA 2013

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(Memphis, TN / May 24, 2013) Seventy-eight attorneys from Baker Donelson have been ranked as leading practitioners in the recently released 2013 edition of *Chambers USA*, a highly regarded directory of America's leading lawyers for business. Of these attorneys, 17 attorneys were included in Band 1, the top tier in *Chambers USA*, two were ranked as "Star Individuals," a ranking given to attorneys with exceptional recommendations in their field, and one was ranked nationally in Band 2.

Chambers also recognized 25 of the Firm's practice areas as leading statewide practices, with seven being ranked in Band 1. The Firm's health care practice was also ranked as a leading practice in the country.

Considered a cornerstone directory whose listings are given much weight among business leaders selecting legal counsel, *Chambers USA* ranks law firm practice areas and individual attorneys based on research conducted by the directory's team of researchers, including in-depth interviews with clients and attorneys.

### Attorney Rankings

#### Star Individuals

- Construction: Danny G. Shaw (Louisiana)
- Gaming and Licensing: Paul S. West (Louisiana)

#### Band 1

- Antitrust: Hal K. Litchford (Florida)
- Banking and Finance (Marine Finance): Edward H. "Hank" Arnold III (Louisiana) and James H. Roussel (Louisiana)
- Banking and Finance (Regulatory): Steven J. Eisen (Tennessee)
- Bankruptcy/Restructuring: Timothy M. Lupinacci (Alabama)
- Bankruptcy Litigation: E. Franklin Childress Jr. (Tennessee)
- Construction Litigation: Edward P. Meyerson (Alabama)
- Corporate/Commercial: William S. Painter (Mississippi)
- Corporate/Commercial (Gaming and Licensing): Dan M. McDaniel Jr. (Mississippi)
- General Commercial Litigation: Leo Bearman Jr. (Tennessee); Roy C. Cheatwood (Louisiana); Walker W. "Bill" Jones III (Mississippi); and W. Scott Welch (Mississippi)
- Health Care: Richard G. Cowart (Tennessee)
- Health Care (Regulatory): Thomas E. Bartrum (Tennessee)
- Medical Malpractice Defense Litigation: Buckner Wellford (Tennessee)
- Real Estate: Robert C. Liddon Jr. (Tennessee)

#### Band 2

- Banking and Finance: Steven J. Eisen (Tennessee) and Jackie Prester (Tennessee)
- Bankruptcy/Restructuring: Jan M. Hayden (Louisiana)

- Construction: Linda A. Klein (Georgia) and David Kurtz (Louisiana)
- Corporate/Commercial: William S. Mendenhall (Mississippi); B. G. Minisman Jr. (Alabama); and D.J. Simonetti (Alabama)
- Corporate/Commercial (Municipal Finance): Stephen Edds (Mississippi)
- Corporate/Mergers and Acquisitions: Matthew S. Heiter (Tennessee) and William N. Norton (Louisiana)
- Environment: Gary C. Shockley (Tennessee) and Robert M. Steele (Tennessee)
- Gaming and Licensing: Paul S. West (Nationwide)
- General Commercial Litigation: John S. Hicks (Tennessee) and William N. Reed (Mississippi)
- Health Care: Ashby Q. Burks (Tennessee) and Philip S. McSween (Tennessee)
- Labor and Employment: Phyllis G. Cancienne (Louisiana); Brooks Eason (Mississippi); and Edward R. Young (Tennessee)
- Real Estate: Mary L. Aronov (Tennessee); Kenneth P. "Pete" Ezell Jr. (Tennessee); John A. Gupton III (Tennessee); Denise Killebrew (Alabama); and William R. Sylvester (Alabama)

### Band 3

- Bankruptcy/Restructuring: Eric L. Pruitt (Alabama)
- Corporate/Commercial: Cliff Hodge
- Energy and Natural Resources (Oil and Gas): Kenneth Klemm (Louisiana)
- Environment: Michael T. Dawkins (Mississippi)
- General Commercial Litigation: Nancy Scott Degan (Louisiana); Barry W. Ford (Mississippi); Kent A. Lambert (Louisiana); Gary C. Shockley (Tennessee); and J. Carter Thompson Jr. (Mississippi)
- Health Care: Thomas William Baker (Georgia)
- Immigration: Robert N. Johnson (Georgia)
- Labor and Employment: Steven F. Griffith Jr. (Louisiana); Jennifer P. Keller (Tennessee); Amelia "Mimi" Williams Koch; Timothy B. McConnell (Tennessee); J. Randall Patterson (Mississippi); William G. Somerville III (Alabama); Steven H. Trent (Tennessee); and M. Kim Vance (Tennessee)
- Real Estate: Jon F. "Chip" Leyens (Louisiana); Murphy McMillan (Alabama); William S. Mendenhall (Mississippi); and David A. Rueff Jr. (Mississippi)
- Tax: Nedom A. Haley (Georgia)

### Band 4

- Corporate/Mergers and Acquisitions: Mark A.B. Carlson (Georgia); Michael K. Rafter (Georgia)
- General Commercial Litigation: Sheryl Bey (Mississippi) and Linda A. Klein (Georgia)
- Intellectual Property: Michael J. Powell (Georgia)
- Labor and Employment: David Gevertz (Georgia)

### Senior Statesmen

- Construction: J. Ben Shapiro (Georgia)
- Real Estate: H. Chervis Isom (Alabama)

### Up and Coming

- Bankruptcy/Restructuring: W. Patton Hahn (Alabama)
- Construction: Mark Mercante (Louisiana)

### **Practice Group Rankings**

## Band 1

- Construction: Louisiana
- Corporate/Commercial: Mississippi (includes Gaming and Licensing and Municipal Finance)
- Gaming and Licensing: Louisiana
- General Commercial Litigation: Louisiana and Mississippi
- Real Estate: Alabama and Tennessee

## Band 2

- Banking and Finance: Tennessee (includes Regulatory)
- Bankruptcy/Restructuring: Alabama
- Corporate/Commercial: Alabama
- Corporate/Mergers and Acquisitions: Tennessee
- Energy and Natural Resources: Louisiana (includes Oil and Gas)
- Environment: Tennessee
- Health care: Tennessee
- General Commercial Litigation: Tennessee (includes Bankruptcy and Medical Malpractice Defense)
- Intellectual Property (Patent Prosecution): Washington, D.C.
- Labor and Employment: Louisiana and Tennessee
- Real Estate: Mississippi

## Band 3

- Antitrust: Florida
- Corporate/Mergers & Acquisitions: Louisiana
- Environment: Mississippi
- Health Care: Georgia
- Labor and Employment: Alabama and Mississippi