

PRESS RELEASE

Baker Donelson Achieves High Rankings in Chambers USA

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(Memphis, TN/July 18, 2008) The recently released 2008 edition of *Chambers USA*, a highly regarded directory of America's leading lawyers for business, has ranked 16 practice areas and 38 attorneys with Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC as leading practices and practitioners in their respective states. Of those, six practice areas and twelve attorneys received rankings in Band 1, the top tier in *Chambers USA*.

Baker Donelson's 16 practice area rankings listed by tier are:

- Band 1: Real estate (Alabama), corporate/commercial (Mississippi), banking and finance (Tennessee), banking and finance: regulatory (Tennessee), health care (Tennessee) and real estate (Tennessee);
- Band 2: Corporate/commercial (Alabama), labor and employment (Alabama), energy and natural resources (Louisiana), litigation (Louisiana), litigation (Mississippi), real estate (Mississippi), labor and employment (Tennessee) and litigation (Tennessee); and
- Band 3: Labor and employment (Mississippi) and corporate/mergers and acquisitions (Tennessee).

In individual rankings, 38 of the Firm's attorneys were recognized in *Chambers USA* as among the leaders in their field.

- Band 1: Edward H. "Hank" Arnold III, energy and natural resources: marine finance (Louisiana); Leo Bearman Jr., general commercial litigation (Tennessee); Roy C. Cheatwood, general commercial litigation (Louisiana); Richard G. Cowart, health care (Tennessee); Steven J. Eisen, who achieved the top ranking in both banking and finance and banking and finance: regulatory (Tennessee); H. Chervis Isom, real estate (Alabama); Robert C. Liddon Jr., real estate (Tennessee); Randal S. Mashburn, bankruptcy litigation (Tennessee); Edward P. Meyerson, construction litigation (Alabama); William S. Painter, corporate/commercial (Mississippi); James H. Roussel, energy and natural resources: marine finance (Louisiana); and Fern H. Singer, labor and employment (Alabama)
- Band 2: Mary L. Aronov, real estate (Tennessee); Robert J. DelPriore, corporate/mergers and acquisitions (Tennessee); Stephen Edds, corporate/commercial: municipal finance (Mississippi); Kenneth P. "Pete" Ezell Jr., real estate (Tennessee); John A. Gupton III, real estate (Tennessee); John S. Hicks, general commercial litigation (Tennessee); Walker W. "Bill" Jones III, general commercial litigation (Mississippi); William S. Mendenhall, corporate/commercial (Mississippi); B. G. Minisman Jr., corporate/commercial (Alabama); William N. Norton, corporate/mergers and acquisitions (Louisiana); Daniel L. Singletary, real estate (Mississippi); and W. Scott Welch, general commercial litigation (Mississippi)
- Band 3: Gary M. Brown, corporate/mergers and acquisitions (Tennessee); Ashby Q. Burks, health care (Tennessee); Brooks Eason, labor and employment (Mississippi); Barry W. Ford, general commercial litigation (Mississippi); Thomas O. Kolb, real estate (Alabama); J. Randall Patterson, labor and employment (Mississippi); Charles A. Powell IV, labor and employment (Alabama); William N. Reed, general commercial litigation (Mississippi); J. Carter Thompson Jr., general commercial litigation (Mississippi); Steven H. Trent,

labor and employment (Tennessee); M. Kim Vance, labor and employment (Tennessee); and Edward R. Young, labor and employment (Tennessee)

- Up and Coming: David A. Rueff Jr., real estate (Mississippi)

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 more than 40 full-time researchers, including in-depth interviews with clients and attorneys. For the current *Chambers USA* directory, over 14,000 interviews were conducted over a period of six months.