PRESS RELEASE

Baker Donelson Earns Top Ten Rankings in Vault's 2018 "Best Law Firms for Diversity"

August 30, 2017

For the sixth consecutive year, Baker Donelson has been ranked among the top ten law firms in the country in the 2018 edition of *Vault, Inc.*'s "Best Law Firms for Diversity."

Baker Donelson ranked tenth in the country on *Vault*'s overall "Best Law Firms for Diversity" list, which includes four separate categories for diversity all weighed evenly to determine the overall ranking. The Firm was ranked third nationally for Diversity for Women, tenth for Diversity for Individuals with Disabilities and received top 25 rankings in the categories of Diversity for Minorities and LGBT Diversity.

Vault's diversity rankings are based on each firm's own associates' ratings of how the firm does at creating, maintaining and fostering a diverse workforce.

This is the latest honor that Baker Donelson has earned for its diversity efforts, recently earning a perfect 100 percent on the 2017 Human Rights Campaign's Corporate Equality Index. The Firm was also certified as a Gold Standard Firm by Women in Law Empowerment Forum and was named one of the 2017 "Best Law Firms for Women" by *Working Mother* magazine.

Launched in 2002, **Baker Donelson's Diversity Initiative** is focused on recruiting, developing and retaining employees from diverse backgrounds, and creating a workplace that respects and values diversity while providing a fair opportunity for all employees to maximize the fullest extent of their abilities. Since the launch of the Diversity Initiative, the increase in Baker Donelson's diverse attorney population and the number of minority shareholders has far outpaced the Firm's overall growth. Recruitment and retention of female attorneys have improved as well and women are strongly represented in leadership roles across the Firm, from the president and chief operating officer to practice group leaders and office managing shareholders.