

## **173 Baker Donelson Attorneys Named to *The Best Lawyers in America*® 2010 Listing**

*Firm Ranks Eighth Overall Nationally; First in the Nation in Five Practice Areas; First in Tennessee*

One hundred seventy-three attorneys with Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC were recently selected by their peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*® 2010 (copyright 2009 by Woodward/White, Inc. of Aiken, SC), a well-respected attorney listing that is widely regarded as a definitive guide to legal excellence. Four attorneys in the Firm's Johnson City office were among those named to *Best Lawyers*.

Baker Donelson's results this year are notable for several reasons.

- Based on the number of attorneys named to the list, Baker Donelson is ranked eighth in the country among all law firms with attorneys included in *Best Lawyers*.
- Among the firms ranked in the top 10 nationally in *Best Lawyers*, Baker Donelson has by far the highest percentage of attorneys included, with 32% of the Firm's attorneys listed in the 2010 edition of *Best Lawyers*.
- The Firm is ranked first in the nation in five practice areas: Mass Tort Litigation, Personal Injury Litigation, Product Liability Litigation, Professional Malpractice Law and Transportation Law.
- With 97 of its Tennessee attorneys on the list, Baker Donelson had more attorneys in the state named to the list than any other law firm, giving the Firm the number one ranking in Tennessee.
- Baker Donelson is also ranked number one in Johnson City.

"With nearly as many attorneys listed as firms that are three and four times our size, Baker Donelson is once again proud to be so well-represented in this prestigious listing," said Ronald S. Range Jr., managing shareholder of Baker Donelson's Tri-Cities office. "It is a testament to the outstanding reputation of our attorneys that so many of them continue to be identified by their peers as leaders in their field."

The attorneys with the Firm's Johnson City office who were named to the list are:

- Linda M. Crouch-McCreadie: Corporate Governance and Compliance Law, Corporate Law, Mergers and Acquisitions Law, and Securities Law
- Jennifer P. Keller: Labor and Employment Law and Workers' Compensation Law
- Steven H. Trent: Labor and Employment Law
- Robert D. Van de Vuurst: Corporate Law and Mergers and Acquisitions Law

*The Best Lawyers in America* is produced by Woodward/White Inc., a professional research firm in Aiken, South Carolina. First published in 1983, *Best Lawyers* is based on an exhaustive annual peer-review survey. For the new U.S. edition, more than 24,126 leading attorneys cast more than 2.8 million votes on the legal abilities of other lawyers in the same and related specialties. Because of the rigorous and transparent methodology used by *Best Lawyers*, and because lawyers are not required or allowed to pay a fee to be listed, 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."

*Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC is one of the 100 largest law firms in the country. Through strategic acquisitions and mergers over the past century, the Firm has grown to include more than 540 attorneys, and public policy and international advisors. Baker Donelson represents clients across the U.S. and abroad from offices in Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee and Washington, D.C.*