

**Media contact:**

John Meredith

713.658.1818

[john.meredith@chamberlainlaw.com](mailto:john.meredith@chamberlainlaw.com)**FIVE ATLANTA CHAMBERLAIN HRDLICKA SHAREHOLDERS NAMED  
TO GEORGIA TREND'S 2020 "LEGAL ELITE"**

**ATLANTA, Dec. 1, 2020** – Chamberlain Hrdlicka announces that Atlanta Shareholders [Stephanie Friese Aron](#), [Thomas E. Jones Jr.](#), [J. Scot Kirkpatrick](#), [Scott M. Ratchick](#) and [Christopher A. Steele](#) have been named to [Georgia Trend](#)'s 2020 "Legal Elite" list. Friese is recognized in the Real Estate/Construction category, Jones, Kirkpatrick and Steele are recognized in the Taxes, Estates and Trusts category and Ratchick is recognized in the General Practice/Trial Law category. The complete list is featured in the December print edition of Georgia Trend and is available [here](#).

2020 marks Georgia Trend's 18th annual listing of the state's top attorneys as selected by their peers. To compile the list, members of the State Bar of Georgia were asked to submit the names of lawyers who are among "the best in their field." Georgia Trend received hundreds of nominations across 16 distinct practice areas, which were later culled down into the final list by the publication's editors.

**Stephanie Friese Aron**

Friese advises on commercial real estate transactions including acquisition of land, leasing, construction, financing and disposition. She handles many types of real estate litigation and dispute resolutions, including foreclosures, evictions and federal enforcement actions. Friese earned her undergraduate degree from Stetson University and her law degree from the University of Georgia School of Law.

**Thomas E. Jones Jr.**

Jones counsels banks and other public companies, successful private businesses in a broad range of industries, and individuals and their families in the areas of business law and trust and estates. Jones has over 40 years of experience counseling successful businesses and high net worth individuals in the areas of business law and trust and estates. He earned his undergraduate degree from Emory University and his law degree from the University of Georgia School of Law where he serviced as Editor-in-Chief of the Law Review.

**J. Scot Kirkpatrick**

Kirkpatrick leads Chamberlain's Trusts and Estates Practice in the Atlanta office, and handles matters such as wills, planning for incapacity, including powers of attorney and health care declarations, life insurance planning, trust and estate planning, succession planning for business owners and litigation relating to all aspects of trust and estate disputes. Kirkpatrick earned his undergraduate degree from Emory University, his law degree from Wake Forest University and his Master of Laws in Taxation from New York University.

**Scott M. Ratchick**

Ratchick maintains a nationwide litigation practice with emphasis in the areas of complex commercial, franchise, shareholder and business disputes, and investment-related litigation. In connection with this practice, he represents publicly and privately held companies, officers, directors and principals, registered investment representatives, broker-dealers and banks in state and federal courts and various arbitration forums throughout the country. Ratchick earned his undergraduate degree from Tulane University and his law degree from St. John's University School of Law.

**Christopher A. Steele**

Steele is a member of the firm's Trusts and Estates Practice Group, where he advises individuals, families and business owners. He handles matters including tax and estate planning, asset protection planning and the administration of complex trusts and estates. Steele earned his undergraduate degree from Georgia State University, his law degree from Mercer University School of Law and his Master of Laws in Taxation from the University of Florida. This is his fourth time being named to Georgia Trend's "Legal Elite."

**About Chamberlain Hrdlicka**

[Chamberlain Hrdlicka](#) is a diversified business law firm with offices in Atlanta, Houston, Philadelphia and San Antonio. The firm represents both public and private companies, as well as individuals and family-owned businesses across the nation. The firm offers counsel in appellate law, bankruptcy, commercial and probate litigation, construction law, corporate, employee benefits, energy and maritime law, ERISA, estate planning and administration,

intellectual property, international and immigration law, labor and employment, privacy and data security, real estate, securities and finance, tax controversy and tax planning.

**About Georgia Trend (provided by Georgia Trend)**

[Georgia Trend](#), the magazine of Georgia business, politics and economic development since 1985, is the only statewide business publication in the market. Georgia Trend is published once a month with two extra issues: Business Georgia and Small Business Guide. It is delivered to more than 50,000 subscribers and has become indispensable to the leaders that shape Georgia.

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