

## Miller Canfield a “Highly Recommended” Litigation Firm in Michigan, Says Benchmark Litigation

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January 14, 2013

The law firm of Miller Canfield announces that it has been “highly recommended” once again as a leading litigation firm in Michigan, according to *Benchmark Litigation: The Guide to America’s Leading Litigation Firms and Attorneys*, published by Legal Media Group.

The guide recognizes Miller Canfield “Local Litigation Stars,” **Thomas W. Cranmer** (Commercial Litigation and White-Collar Crime); **Donna J. Donati** (Civil Litigation); **Michael W. Hartmann** (Commercial Litigation); **A. Michael Palizzi** (Commercial Litigation); **Clarence L. Pozza, Jr.** (Commercial Litigation and Securities); and **Carl H. von Ende** (Antitrust, Intellectual Property and Securities).

Miller Canfield’s Litigation and Trial team was honored in a new, national litigation report as an “**Awesome Opponent**” among an elite group of U.S. law firms known for their litigation prowess. The *BTI Litigation Outlook 2013* report from The BTI Consulting Group asked over 300 general counsel and in-house litigation heads at top-spending organizations in over 20 industries to identify the best litigation firms.

In addition, the legal referral guide, *Best Lawyers* honored 23 Miller Canfield lawyers as “Lawyer of the Year” in their respective community and legal specialty; 10 of the 23 were in litigation areas, including: **James L. Allen** (Detroit) Banking & Finance Litigation; **Michael P. Coakley** (Detroit) Securities Litigation; **Thomas W. Cranmer** (Detroit) Criminal Defense: Non-White-Collar; **Joseph M. Fazio** (Ann Arbor) Real Estate; **Michael W. Hartmann** (Detroit) Legal Malpractice Law-Defendants; **Kurt P. McCamman** (Kalamazoo) Labor & Employment Litigation; **Thomas C. O’Brien** (Ann Arbor) Bet the Company Litigation; **A. Michael Palizzi** (Detroit) Intellectual Property Litigation; **Clarence L. Pozza, Jr.** (Detroit) Regulatory Enforcement (SEC, Telecom, Energy) Litigation; and **Clifford W. Taylor** (Lansing) Appellate.

“We are truly honored to be named by corporate counsel and peers in top referral guides and surveys as one of the best and well-respected litigation teams in Michigan and the U.S.,” said Michael P. Coakley, leader of Miller Canfield’s Litigation and Trial Group and a Detroit “Lawyer of the Year” in Securities Litigation.

### About Benchmark

According to Benchmark, “highly recommended” firms received the most mentions and were held as dominant in their particular jurisdiction. Benchmark is the only publication on the market to focus exclusively on litigation in the U.S. The guide’s results are the culmination of a six-month research period that allows researchers to conduct extensive interviews with litigators and their clients within their state or national practice areas.

### About Best Lawyers

Only a single lawyer in each high-profile legal specialty in each large community is honored as a “Lawyer of the Year” by Best Lawyers, published by Woodward/White, Inc. The lawyers being honored as “Lawyers of the Year” received particularly high ratings in surveys by earning a high level of respect among their peers for their abilities, professionalism, and integrity. Since its inception in 1983, Best Lawyers has become universally regarded as the definitive guide to legal excellence. Because Best Lawyers is based on an exhaustive peer-review survey in which more than 39,000 leading attorneys cast almost 3.1 million votes on the legal abilities of other lawyers in their practice areas, and because lawyers are not required or allowed to pay a fee to be listed, inclusion in Best Lawyers is considered a

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singular honor. Corporate Counsel magazine has called Best Lawyers “the most respected referral list of attorneys in practice.”

### **About BTI Litigation Outlook**

In addition to Miller Canfield, the “Awesome Opponent” list included Quinn Emanuel; Latham & Watkins; Alston & Bird LLP; Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar & Scott LLP; Cravath Swaine & Moore LLP; Sullivan & Cromwell LLP; Fish & Richardson PC; Munger Tolles & Olson LLP; Goodwin Procter LLP; Wachtell Lipton Rosen & Katz; Williams & Connolly LLP; Robins Kaplan Miller & Ciresi LLP; Jenner & Block LLP and Herbert Smith LLP. The analysis contained in the 2013 BTI outlook study is based on interviews with top legal counsel at major companies conducted between late March and early August of 2012.