

## 12 Miller Canfield Lawyers Named by Best Lawyers as "Lawyers of the Year" for 2014

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September 13, 2013

Miller Canfield announces that 12 of its lawyers have been identified as a leading practitioner in their practice area by *Best Lawyers*® 2014. Only a single lawyer in each high-profile legal specialty in each large community is being honored as a "Lawyer of the Year."

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.

The following Miller Canfield lawyers have been named *Best Lawyers*' 2014 "Lawyer of the Year" in the following cities and legal areas:

*Ann Arbor, Michigan "Lawyers of the Year"*

**Thomas C. O'Brien** – Criminal Defense: White-Collar

*Chicago, Illinois "Lawyers of the Year"*

**Michael H. Traison** – Litigation – Bankruptcy

*Detroit, Michigan "Lawyers of the Year"*

**Marjory G. Basile** – Litigation-Intellectual Property

**Beverly Hall Burns** – Education Law

**Douglas M. Kilbourne** – Banking and Finance Law

**Stephen J. Ott** – Mass Tort Litigation/Class Actions - Defendants

**Clarence L. Pozza, Jr.** – Litigation -Securities

*Grand Rapids, Michigan "Lawyers of the Year"*

**John M. Sommerdyke** – Mergers & Acquisitions Law

**Stanley J. Stek** – Litigation-Municipal

**Jack Van Coevering** – Litigation-Tax

*Kalamazoo, Michigan "Lawyers of the Year"*

**Steven Stankewicz** – Real Estate Law

*Lansing, Michigan "Lawyers of the Year"*

**Harvey J. Messing** – Oil and Gas Law

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

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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.”