



Kilpatrick Attorneys Earn Outstanding Recognitions in 2026 Edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*®

Kilpatrick Named the “Top Listed” Firm Nationally for Trademark Law (13th Consecutive Year), Information Technology Law, and Securities Regulation

ATLANTA (August 21) – Kilpatrick announced today that **311** attorneys have been honored by their peers in the 2026 editions of ***The Best Lawyers in America*®** and ***Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch*® in America**.

To learn about the **122** Kilpatrick attorneys recognized as *Ones to Watch*, please visit our [separate press release](#).

Highlights from the 2026 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America* include:

- Kilpatrick is the “**Top-Listed**” firm in the United States for the total number of attorneys listed for Trademark Law. This is the 13th consecutive year the Firm has earned this prestigious recognition.
- In addition to being the “**Top-Listed**” firm in the United States for Trademark Law, Kilpatrick was also “Top Listed” nationally for Information Technology and Securities Regulation.
- Kilpatrick was the “**Top-Listed**” firm in Georgia for 10 practice areas, including: Communications Law, Corporate Compliance Law, Corporate Governance Law, Information Technology Law, Leveraged Buyouts and Private Equity Law, Litigation - Intellectual Property, Patent Law, Securities Regulation, Technology Law, Trademark Law.
- Kilpatrick was the “**Top-Listed**” firm in 14 practice areas between the Atlanta and Winston-Salem Metropolitan Regions.
- There were 11 Kilpatrick attorneys who earned 12 “**Lawyer of the Year**” recognitions for their respective practice areas and offices. These individuals received the highest overall peer-feedback for a specific practice area and geographic region in the 2026 edition. Only one lawyer is recognized as the “Lawyer of the Year” for each specialty and location.

The year in parentheses indicates the first-year attorneys were recognized by *Best Lawyers*. An asterisk indicates a new practice area an attorney is recognized for in 2026.

The **189** Kilpatrick attorneys recognized in this edition of *Best Lawyers* include:

ATLANTA, GEORGIA

John W. Alden (2019)

- Employment Law - Management
- Labor Law - Management
- Litigation - Labor and Employment

Hayley R. Ambler (2019)

- Construction Law
- Litigation - Construction

Olivia Maria Baratta (2016)

- Litigation - Intellectual Property
- Trademark Law

Louis Barbieri III (2017)

- Corporate Law
- Leveraged Buyouts and Private Equity Law
- Mergers and Acquisitions Law
- Venture Capital Law

W. Benjamin Barkley (2009)

2026 Atlanta Mergers and Acquisitions Law “Lawyer of the Year”

- Corporate Compliance Law
- Corporate Governance Law
- Corporate Law
- Leveraged Buyouts and Private Equity Law
- Mergers and Acquisitions Law
- Securities / Capital Markets Law
- Securities Regulation

Shannon C. Baxter (2023)

2026 Atlanta Leveraged Buyouts and Private Equity Law “Lawyer of the Year”

- Banking and Finance Law
- Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law
- Commercial Finance Law
- Commercial Transactions / UCC Law
- Corporate Law
- Leveraged Buyouts and Private Equity Law
- Mergers and Acquisitions Law

Colin M. Bernardino (2020)

- Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law
- Litigation – Bankruptcy

Thomas J. Biafore (2008)

- Banking and Finance Law
- Real Estate Law
- Securities / Capital Markets Law
- Securitization and Structured Finance Law
- Tax Law

James F. Bogan III (2009)

- Appellate Practice
- Commercial Litigation
- Information Technology Law
- Litigation - Intellectual Property
- Product Liability Litigation - Defendants
- Technology Law

Michael J. Breslin (2024)

- Artificial Intelligence Law
- Technology Law

Brent W. Brougher (2020)

- Commercial Litigation
- Insurance Law

Amanda N. Brouillette (*)

- Patent Law

Joel D. Bush (2017)

- Commercial Litigation
- Information Technology Law
- Litigation - Banking and Finance
- Litigation - Intellectual Property
- Technology Law

Christopher P. Bussert (2007)

- Franchise Law
- Litigation - Intellectual Property
- Trademark Law

Christopher M. Caiaccio (2023)

- Employment Law - Management
- Labor Law - Management
- Litigation - Labor and Employment

Tamara S. Caldas (2024)

- Civil Rights Law
- Immigration Law

Edgar B. Callaway (2025)

- Corporate Law

S. Joel Cartee (2013)

- Business Organizations (including LLCs and Partnerships)
- Communications Law
- Corporate Governance Law
- Corporate Law
- Mergers and Acquisitions Law

Nichole Davis Chollet (*)

- Litigation - Intellectual Property

Thomas H. Christopher (2010)

- Employment Law - Management
- Labor Law - Management
- Litigation - Labor and Employment

Richard Cicchillo, Jr. (2007)

- Business Organizations (including LLCs and Partnerships)
- Corporate Governance Law
- Corporate Law
- Mergers and Acquisitions Law

Thomas M. Clyde (2006)

2026 Atlanta First Amendment Law "Lawyer of the Year"

2026 Atlanta Communications Law "Lawyer of the Year"

- Appellate Practice
- Commercial Litigation
- Communications Law
- First Amendment Law
- Litigation - First Amendment
- Media Law

Michael J. Cochran (2013)

- Banking and Finance Law
- Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law
- Corporate Law
- Leveraged Buyouts and Private Equity Law
- Mergers and Acquisitions Law
- Venture Capital Law

Brian G. Corgan (2006)

- Construction Law
- Litigation - Construction

Theodore H. Davis Jr. (2008)

2026 Atlanta Litigation - Intellectual Property “Lawyer of the Year”

- Litigation - Intellectual Property
- Trademark Law

Isabelle A. Dinerman (2025)

2026 Atlanta Securities / Capital Markets Law “Lawyer of the Year”

- Securities / Capital Markets Law
- Securities Regulation

Kelsey P. Donnalley (*)

- Mergers and Acquisitions Law

David M. Eaton (2013)

- Corporate Compliance Law
- Corporate Governance Law
- Corporate Law
- Mergers and Acquisitions Law
- Securities / Capital Markets Law
- Securities Regulation
- Venture Capital Law

Meghan K. Farmer (2025)

- Technology Law

Jeffrey H. Fisher (2024)

- Technology Law

Lesli Gaither (2024)

- Communications Law

Joshua S. Ganz (2020)

2026 Atlanta IT Outsourcing Law “Lawyer of the Year”

- Commercial Transactions / UCC Law
- Information Technology Law
- IT Outsourcing Law
- Technology Law

C. Allen Garrett, Jr. (2017)

- Appellate Practice
- Commercial Litigation
- Technology Law

Alisha F. Gibson (2025)

- Communications Law

Randall F. Hafer (2003)

- Arbitration
- Construction Law
- International Arbitration - Commercial
- Litigation - Construction

Justin B. Heineman (2010)

- Corporate Governance Law
- Mergers and Acquisitions Law
- Securities Regulation

R. Charles Henn Jr. (2010)

- Advertising Law
- Litigation - Intellectual Property
- Trademark Law

D. Clay Holloway (2021)

- Litigation - Intellectual Property
- Litigation - Patent

Brenda O. Holmes (2011)

- Patent Law

Charles H. Hooker III (2023)

- Copyright Law
- Litigation - Intellectual Property
- Trademark Law

Stephen E. Hudson (2013)

- Commercial Litigation
- Litigation - Banking and Finance
- Litigation - Securities

Christine P. James (2017)

- Trademark Law

John P. Jett (2021)

- Commercial Litigation
- Franchise Law
- Litigation - Intellectual Property
- Technology Law

Daniel Johnson (2024)

- Construction Law
- Litigation - Construction

Alicia Grahn Jones (2020)

- Trademark Law

Wab Kadaba (2010)

- Litigation - Intellectual Property
- Litigation - Patent
- Patent Law
- Trade Secrets Law

M. Andrew Kauss (2006)

- Real Estate Law

Thomas Kesler (2024)

- Corporate Law
- Mergers and Acquisitions Law

Russell A. Korn (2019)

- Litigation - Intellectual Property
- Litigation - Patent
- Patent Law

Julie Lierly (2023)

- Commercial Litigation
- Insurance Law
- Litigation - Insurance
- Product Liability Litigation - Defendants

Tywanda Harris Lord (2015)

- Food and Beverage Law
- Litigation - Intellectual Property
- Trademark Law

Alfred S. Lurey (1983)

- Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law
- Litigation - Bankruptcy

R. Lee Mann III (2013)

- Construction Law
- Litigation - Construction

M. Lance McCord (2023)

- Information Technology Law
- IT Outsourcing Law

Tina Williams McKeon (2009)

- Biotechnology and Life Sciences Practice
- Patent Law

George L. Murphy, Jr. (2012)

- Commercial Litigation
- Litigation - Intellectual Property
- Mass Tort Litigation / Class Actions - Defendants
- Product Liability Litigation - Defendants

Susan W. Pangborn (2018)

- Employment Law - Management
- Litigation - Labor and Employment

Michael Pavento (*)

- Patent Law

Leah Petersen (*)

- Banking and Finance Law

William R. Poplin, Jr. (2009)

- Construction Law
- International Arbitration - Commercial
- Litigation - Construction

Judith A. Powell (2009)

- Litigation - Intellectual Property
- Trademark Law

Diane L. Prucino (2003)

- Employment Law - Management
- Labor Law - Management
- Litigation - Labor and Employment

Betsy Quinn (2025)

- Real Estate Law

Michael W. Rafter (2007)

- Trademark Law

Ronald L. Raider (2023)

- International Arbitration - Commercial

Lauren Sullins Ralls (2023)

- Trademark Law

Gautam Y Reddy (2024)

- Construction Law
- Litigation - Construction

David A. Reed (2024)

- Litigation - Intellectual Property
- Litigation - Patent

Keith L. Richardson (2017)

- Construction Law
- Litigation - Construction

Susan H. Richardson (2006)

- Environmental Law
- Litigation - Environmental
- Water Law

Paul M. Rosenblatt (2024)

- Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law
- Litigation - Bankruptcy

Dean W. Russell (1997)

- Patent Law

Jennifer Stobie Schumacher (2009)

- Employee Benefits (ERISA) Law

Robert B. Shaw (2023)

- Banking and Finance Law
- Commercial Finance Law

Gary R. Sheehan Jr. (2013)

- Environmental Law
- Litigation - Environmental
- Water Law

Burleigh L. Singleton (2018)

- Commercial Litigation
- Construction Law
- Litigation - Construction
- Litigation - Trusts and Estates
- Product Liability Litigation - Defendants

David A. Stockton (2001)

- Corporate Compliance Law
- Corporate Governance Law
- Corporate Law
- Leveraged Buyouts and Private Equity Law
- Mergers and Acquisitions Law
- Securities / Capital Markets Law
- Securities Regulation

Mitchell G. Stockwell (2008)

- Litigation - Intellectual Property
- Litigation - Patent

Daniel B. Swaja (2018)

- Construction Law
- Litigation - Construction

James A. Trigg (2010)

- Artificial Intelligence Law
- Copyright Law
- Entertainment Law - Music
- Litigation - Intellectual Property
- Media Law
- Trademark Law

Michael J. Turton (2023)

- Litigation - Intellectual Property
- Litigation - Patent

Michael W. Tyler (2013)

- Commercial Litigation
- Franchise Law
- Product Liability Litigation – Defendants

Rex R. Veal (2007)

- Banking and Finance Law
- Litigation - Real Estate
- Real Estate Law
- Securitization and Structured Finance Law

Kathryn H. Wade (2010)

- Biotechnology and Life Sciences Practice

Renae Bailey Wainwright (*)

- Patent Law

J. Henry Walker IV (2013)

2026 Atlanta Technology Law “Lawyer of the Year”

- Commercial Litigation
- Litigation - Regulatory Enforcement (SEC, Telecom, Energy)
- Mass Tort Litigation / Class Actions - Defendants
- Technology Law

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA

Joseph H. Huff (2012)

- Commercial Litigation
- Health Care Law
- Medical Malpractice Law - Defendants
- Qui Tam Law

Mark H. Reeves (2020)

- Commercial Litigation
- Native American Law

R. Perry Sentell III (2010)

- Commercial Litigation
- Personal Injury Litigation - Plaintiffs

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

C. Todd Burbank (2016)

- Real Estate Law

Lois Wagman Colbert (2013)

- Employee Benefits (ERISA) Law

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Jeralyn Baran (2025)

- Employment Law - Management

Keith H. Berk (2024)

- Corporate Law

Jordan M. Goodman (2023)

- Tax Law

Jeffrey A. Hechtman (2022)

- Corporate Law

Richard M. Horwood (2008)

- Family Law
- Litigation - Trusts and Estates
- Trusts and Estates

Eric S. Rein (2020)

- Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law
- Commercial Litigation

David S. Ruskin (2025)

- Commercial Litigation

Jeffrey A. Zaluda (2010)

- Family Law
- Trusts and Estates

DALLAS, TEXAS

Stuart C. Atwell (2024)

- Commercial Litigation

S. Wesley Butler (2024)

- Arbitration

Kirk T. Florence (2023)

- Commercial Litigation
- Product Liability Litigation - Defendants

Jenny L. Gruber (2023)

- Real Estate Law

Christin Jones (2024)

- Banking and Finance Law

Craig A. McDougal (2024)

- Arbitration
- Litigation - Labor and Employment

Cole B. Ramey (2021)

- Arbitration
- Commercial Litigation
- Litigation - Intellectual Property

Timothy E. Taylor (2024)

- Commercial Litigation

Maeghan E. Whitehead (2024)

- Litigation - Intellectual Property

W. Alan Wright (2013)

- Commercial Litigation

DENVER, COLORADO

Betsy P. Bengtson (2025)

- Trademark Law

Darin J. Gibby (2013)

- Patent Law

Charles W. Gray (2023)

- Patent Law

Justin L. Krieger (2024)

- Patent Law

HOUSTON, TEXAS

Sumit K. Arora (2025)

- Litigation - Construction

Steve R. Borgman (2025)

- Litigation - Intellectual Property

Patrick E. Gaas (2010)

- Construction Law
- Litigation - Construction

Brian Gaudet (2024)

- Construction Law
- Litigation - Construction

Edward S. Hubbard (2025)

- Construction Law

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Larry W. McFarland (2023)

- Litigation - Intellectual Property

Mark Mersel (*)

- Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law
- Litigation - Bankruptcy

Dennis L. Wilson (2024)

- Media Law

MENLO PARK, CALIFORNIA

Susan M. Spaeth (2013)

- Litigation - Intellectual Property
- Litigation – Patent

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Barry M. Benjamin (2011)

- Advertising Law

J. David Mayberry (2018)

- Franchise Law
- Litigation - Intellectual Property

Robert N. Potter (2020)

- Copyright Law
- Litigation - Intellectual Property

Jason Vogel (2025)

- Trademark Law

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

F. Daniel Bell III (2024)

- Business Organizations (including LLCs and Partnerships)
- Financial Services Regulation Law
- Litigation - Regulatory Enforcement (SEC, Telecom, Energy)
- Securities Regulation

Brian R. Brown (2024)

- Corporate Governance Law
- Corporate Law

John R. Erwin (2013)

- Biotechnology and Life Sciences Practice
- Corporate Governance Law
- Corporate Law
- Mergers and Acquisitions Law

Brodie D. Erwin (2023)

- Employment Law - Management
- Litigation - Labor and Employment

David R. Fricke (2011)

- Real Estate Law

Jason D. Gardner (*)

- Patent Law

Jennifer Giordano-Coltart Ph.D. (2022)

2026 Raleigh Biotechnology and Life Sciences Practice "Lawyer of the Year"

- Biotechnology and Life Sciences Practice
- Patent Law

John C. Livingston (2021)

- Energy Law
- Real Estate Law

R. Sterling Perkinson (2024)

- Employee Benefits (ERISA) Law

B. Ford Robertson (2016)

- Real Estate Law

Carl E. Sanders (2021)

- Patent Law

Martha L. Sewell (2013)

- Employee Benefits (ERISA) Law
- Health Care Law

Benjamin W. Smith (2025)

- Environmental Law

Clay C. Wheeler (2016)

- Commercial Litigation
- Litigation - Securities

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

Nancy L. Stagg (2008)

- Commercial Litigation
- Information Technology Law
- Litigation - Intellectual Property
- Litigation - Labor and Employment

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Mehrnaz Boroumand Smith (2023)

- Commercial Litigation
- Litigation - Intellectual Property
- Litigation - Patent
- Trademark Law

Michele D. Floyd (2021)

- Mass Tort Litigation / Class Actions - Defendants

Paul C. Haughey (2016)

- Patent Law

April Abele Isaacson (2024)

- Biotechnology and Life Sciences Practice

Anthony J. Malutta (2020)

- Trademark Law

Steven D. Moore (2018)

- Litigation - Intellectual Property
- Litigation - Patent

Evan S. Nadel (2024)

- Commercial Litigation

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Jesse S. Bennett (2024)

- Patent Law

Melissa M. Harwood (2022)

- Biotechnology and Life Sciences Practice
- Patent Law

Dario A. Machleidt (2024)

- Litigation - Intellectual Property
- Litigation - Patent

John R. Neeleman (2021)

- Commercial Litigation
- Professional Malpractice Law - Defendants

Gwendolyn C. Payton (2023)

- Commercial Litigation

John F. Pierce (2025)

- Energy Law
- Environmental Law

Rob Roy Edward Stuart Smith (2013)

- Native American Law

Christopher T. Varas (2023)

- Advertising Law
- Copyright Law
- Trademark Law

Roger D. Wylie (2013)

- Artificial Intelligence Law
- Patent Law

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Sonia Baldia (2022)

- Information Technology Law

John T. Bergin (2025)

- Mediation

Jeffrey Davidson (*)

- Environmental Law

Christina M. Gattuso (2018)

- Banking and Finance Law
- Financial Services Regulation Law

Catherine F. Munson (2021)

- Native American Law

Mark J. Riedy (2023)

- Mergers and Acquisitions Law

Mark D. Wincek (2005)

- Employee Benefits (ERISA) Law

WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA

Alton L. Absher III (2022)

- Litigation - Intellectual Property

Regan Adamson (2025)

- Corporate Law
- Leveraged Buyouts and Private Equity Law
- Mergers and Acquisitions Law

John C. Alemanni (2018)

- Litigation - Intellectual Property
- Patent Law

Stephen R. Berlin (2001)

- Environmental Law
- Litigation - Environmental

Susan H. Boyles (2007)

- Commercial Litigation
- Insurance Law
- Litigation - Banking and Finance
- Litigation - Insurance
- Personal Injury Litigation - Defendants

Mark D. Boynton (2012)

- Construction Law
- Litigation - Construction

William M. Bryner (2011)

2026 Triad Trademark Law "Lawyer of the Year"

- Franchise Law
- Litigation - Intellectual Property
- Trademark Law

Charles W. Calkins (2007)

- Biotechnology and Life Sciences Practice
- Litigation - Intellectual Property
- Litigation - Patent
- Patent Law

Adam H. Charnes (2008)

- Appellate Practice
- Commercial Litigation
- First Amendment Law
- Litigation - First Amendment
- Product Liability Litigation - Defendants

Matias Ferrario (2018)

- Litigation - Intellectual Property
- Litigation - Patent

Steven Gardner (2007)

- Litigation - Intellectual Property
- Litigation - Patent
- Patent Law

Dustin Greene (*)

- Commercial Litigation

Chad D. Hansen (2019)

2026 Triad Health Care Law "Lawyer of the Year"

- Commercial Litigation
- Health Care Law

G. William Joyner III (2013)

2026 Triad Corporate Law "Lawyer of the Year"

- Corporate Compliance Law
- Corporate Law
- Mergers and Acquisitions Law
- Securities / Capital Markets Law
- Securities Regulation
- Venture Capital Law

Richard J. Keshian (2005)

- Commercial Litigation
- Eminent Domain and Condemnation Law
- Mass Tort Litigation / Class Actions - Defendants
- Product Liability Litigation - Defendants

Laura C. Miller (2021)

- Advertising Law
- Copyright Law
- Litigation - Intellectual Property
- Trademark Law

Michael A. Myers (2016)

- Banking and Finance Law
- Commercial Finance Law
- Commercial Transactions / UCC Law
- Mergers and Acquisitions Law
- Real Estate Law

Tiffani D. Otey (2018)

- Trademark Law

Julie Barker Pape (2018)

- Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law

Bradley Roehrenbeck (*)

- Commercial Litigation

Cynthia B. Rothschild (2015)

- Biotechnology and Life Sciences Practice
- Patent Law

Jeffrey T. Skinner (2021)

- Corporate Law
- Financial Services Regulation Law
- Securities / Capital Markets Law
- Securities Regulation

Jason M. Wenker (2019)

- Commercial Litigation

Elizabeth L. Winters (*)

- Commercial Litigation

(Year) — First year the lawyer was listed in any practice area.

(*) — Newly listed in practice area in 2026 edition.

About *Best Lawyers*:

Recognition by *Best Lawyers* is based entirely on peer review. Our process is designed to capture, as accurately as possible, the consensus opinion of leading lawyers about the professional abilities of their colleagues within the same geographical area and legal practice area. *Best Lawyers* employs a sophisticated, conscientious, rational and transparent survey process designed to elicit meaningful and substantive evaluations of the quality of legal services.

For more information about Kilpatrick, please visit: www.ktslaw.com.

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