



Phone: (434) 979-1400
Fax: (434) 977-5109
530 East Main Street
P.O. Box 2057
Charlottesville, Virginia 22902

Phone: (540) 437-3100
Fax: (540) 437-3101
90 North Main Street, Suite 201
P.O. Box 1287
Harrisonburg, Virginia 22803

**NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

CONTACT:

CATHLEEN P. WELSH
FLORA PETTIT
90 N. MAIN STREET, SUITE 201 (P.O. BOX 1287)
HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA 22801
(540) 437-3100
WWW.FPLEGAL.COM

Flora Pettit Attorneys Honored

Flora Pettit is pleased to announce that six of its attorneys have been honored by selection for inclusion in the 2021 Virginia Super Lawyers list, a Thomson Reuters business. Four of Flora Pettit's attorneys have been recognized for inclusion in the "Virginia Super Lawyers" list and two of its attorneys have been named to the "Virginia Rising Stars" list. Super Lawyers annually selects lawyers who have attained a high degree of peer recognition and professional achievement through a rigorous process that includes independent research, peer nominations and peer evaluations. To be selected as a Rising Star, lawyers must either be 40 years old or younger, or have been in practice for 10 years or fewer.

The selected lawyers and the area of law for which they were recognized are:

MICHAEL E. DERDEYN (GENERAL LITIGATION) – Mike Derdeyn has a diverse business and real estate litigation practice representing clients in litigation before federal and state courts, including the Virginia Supreme Court and in dispute resolution proceedings. Mike's litigation experience includes litigating claims for individuals and for businesses in the areas of commercial litigation, real estate, construction, landlord-tenant law, employment, shareholder and other commercial disputes.

BILL SHMIDHEISER (BUSINESS LITIGATION) – Bill Shmidheiser specializes in complicated financial messes, including disputes among shareholders and partners in businesses, divorces, real estate disputes, and representation of creditors in foreclosures, difficult collections, bankruptcies and workouts. Bill has substantial trial experience as lead counsel in scores of commercial cases, both jury and non-jury trials

MARC A. PERITZ (INSURANCE COVERAGE) – Marc Peritz maintains a varied practice in several areas of civil litigation, devoting a substantial portion of his practice to insurance coverage litigation and counseling, trucking litigation, medical malpractice defense, insurance defense litigation, and other types of complex litigation and commercial matters. He has practiced extensively in many state and federal courts throughout Virginia and has also been involved in litigation in several other jurisdictions around the country.

CATHLEEN P. WELSH (EMPLOYMENT & LABOR) – Cathy Welsh has concentrated her practice in employment law for the last twenty-eight years. She helps clients work through complicated employment situations including investigating employee misconduct; understanding and managing employee leaves of absence and requests for accommodation; I-9 and immigration law compliance, exempt/nonexempt classification and pay procedures; and employee discipline and termination. She has assisted clients of all sizes from small businesses not covered by most federal employment laws to healthcare, manufacturing and hospitality clients with thousands of employees. She has also represented governmental employers and federal contractors who have additional compliance obligations.

SETH J. RAGOSTA (VIRGINIA RISING STARS – FAMILY LAW) – Seth Ragosta focuses his practice on family law, litigation compliance and commercial litigation. His work in family law includes all issues related to separation or divorce matters including division of assets, custody and support. Seth uses his familiarity with litigation and personal privacy matters to counsel institutional clients regarding subpoena responses, privacy and privilege protection, government investigations and other corporate litigation-related needs. His commercial litigation experience includes contract disputes, property boundary issues and will contests. Seth has considerable trial experience before state and federal courts as well as all levels of appellate courts. Seth is admitted to practice before all federal and state trial courts in Virginia and Massachusetts as well as the Courts of Appeals for the First and Fourth Circuits.

ANDREW B. STOCKMENT (VIRGINIA RISING STARS – INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY) – Andrew Stockment focuses his practice on corporate and business law, intellectual property and technology, and cybersecurity and data privacy. He advises clients regarding the preparation and negotiation of contracts and the formation, operation, purchase, finance, and sale of businesses and non-profit organizations. Andrew enjoys working with startups and established companies to form and grow their businesses and develop, protect, and license their intellectual property and technology assets. Andrew counsels clients regarding information governance and data security and privacy issues, and he assists organizations with cybersecurity incident response and data breach notification compliance.



Michael E. Derdeyn



Marc A. Peritz



Bill Shmidheiser



Cathleen P. Welsh



Seth J. Ragosta



Andrew B. Stockment