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**NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**FLORA PETTIT ATTORNEYS NAMED IN 2023 *BEST LAWYERS IN AMERICA*®
AND JOHN W. FLORA NAMED *BEST LAWYERS*® 2023 “LAWYER OF THE YEAR”**

Flora Pettit announces that nine of its lawyers were recently selected by their peers for inclusion in the 2023 edition of *Best Lawyers in America*®. (COPYRIGHT 2013 BY WOODWARD/WHITE, INC., OF AIKEN, SC). The attorneys listed include Michael E. Derdeyn, John W. Flora, Richard H. Howard-Smith, Donald D. Long, Marc A. Peritz, Jennifer E. Shirkey, Bill Shmidheiser, Cathleen P. Welsh and J. Page Williams.

Mr. Derdeyn was selected in the practice area of Commercial Litigation; Mr. Flora was selected in the practice area of Tax Law, and Trusts and Estates; Mr. Howard-Smith was selected in the practice areas of Tax Law, and Trusts and Estates; Mr. Long was selected in the practice area of Securities/Capital Markets Law; Mr. Peritz was selected in the practice area of Professional Malpractice Law–Defendants; Ms. Shirkey was selected in the practice area of Employee Benefits (ERISA) Law; Mr. Shmidheiser was selected in the practice areas of Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law, and Litigation–Bankruptcy; Ms. Welsh was selected in the practice areas of Employment Law–Management, Litigation–Labor and Employment, and Workers’ Compensation Law–Employers; and Mr. Williams was selected in the practice of Banking and Finance Law, and Real Estate Law.

In addition, the firm is pleased to announce that John Flora was named as a *Best Lawyers*® 2023 “Lawyer of the Year” in Tax Law in the Charlottesville metropolitan area which includes the Shenandoah Valley.

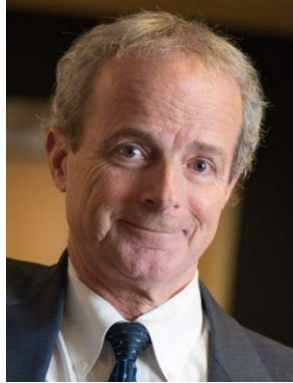
Since it was first published in 1983, *Best Lawyers*® has become universally regarded as the definitive guide to legal excellence. *Best Lawyers* lists are compiled based on an exhaustive peer-review evaluation. More than 116,000 industry leading lawyers are eligible to vote (from around the world), and we have received more than 17 million evaluations on the legal abilities of other lawyers based on their specific practice areas around the world. For the 2023 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*®, more than 12.2 million votes were analyzed, which resulted in more than 71,000 leading lawyers honored in the new edition.

"Lawyer of the Year" honors are awarded annually to only one lawyer per practice area in each region with extremely high overall feedback from their peers, making it an exceptional distinction. Lawyers are not required nor allowed to pay a fee to be listed; therefore, inclusion in *Best Lawyers* is considered a singular honor.





Michael E. Derdeyn



John W. Flora



Richard Howard-Smith



Donald D. Long



Marc A. Peritz



Jennifer E. Shirkey



Bill Shmidheiser



Cathleen P. Welsh



J. Page Williams