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For Immediate Release
August 15, 2024

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Katten Attorneys Recognized as *Best Lawyers*® and *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch*® Award Recipients

(CHICAGO) Katten announced today that more than 180 firm attorneys were recognized in the 2025 editions of *The Best Lawyers in America*® and the *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch*® *in America* as a result of their peers identifying them in a wide range of practice areas.

Partner Karen M. Nelson, who also serves as Managing Partner of Katten's Charlotte office, was recognized by Best Lawyers as the "Lawyer of the Year" for Real Estate Law in the Charlotte area. Only one attorney in each practice and in each geographic region is selected as "Lawyer of the Year" by Best Lawyers. This designation is based on high ratings in surveys demonstrating a great level of respect among peers for abilities, professionalism and integrity.

Katten attorneys selected by their peers for the first time in the 2025 edition of the guide are: Michelle Apodaca for Health Care Law; Adam M. Damerow for Trusts and Estates; Alexander T. Deland for Municipal Law and Public Finance Law; William F. Dudine for Public Finance Law; Miriam K. Harwood for International Arbitration — Commercial; Sharon Kantrowitz for Health Care Law; Peter P. Knight for Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law; Jitty Malik, PhD, for Litigation — Patent and Patent Law; Theodore Ryan for Public Finance Law; and Natalie Youkel for Public Finance Law.

Several attorneys were also acknowledged for being named to the Best Lawyers list for a decade: Richard L. Farley for Commercial Litigation; William B. Freeman for Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law; and Charles Harris for Trusts and Estates. Others were recognized for 20 years on the Best Lawyer list: Janet Goelz Hoffman for Public Finance Law; Alvin Katz for Real Estate Law; Stuart P. Shulruff for Banking and Finance Law; Mark C. Simon for Real Estate Law; and Walter S. Weinberg for Corporate Law and Leveraged Buyouts and Private Equity Law.

More than 75 Katten attorneys were named to the *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch* list. This list recognizes attorneys who are early in their careers for outstanding professional excellence in private practice.

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A complete list of Katten attorneys recognized in the 2025 editions of *The Best Lawyers in America* and *The Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in America* can be found here.

Best Lawyers is the oldest and most respected lawyer ranking service in the world. For 40 years, Best Lawyers has assisted those in need of legal services to identify the lawyers best qualified to represent them in distant jurisdictions or unfamiliar specialties. Best Lawyers awards are published in leading local, regional and national publications across the globe.

Lawyers who are nominated for consideration are voted on by currently recognized Best Lawyers working in the same practice area and located in the same geographic region. Best Lawyers awards and recognitions are based purely on the feedback received from these top lawyers. Those who receive high peer reviews undergo a thorough verification process to make sure they are currently still in private practice. Only then can these top lawyers be recognized by Best Lawyers.

Katten is a full-service law firm with approximately 700 attorneys in locations across the United States and in London and Shanghai. Clients seeking sophisticated, high-value legal services turn to Katten for counsel locally, nationally and internationally. The firm's core areas of practice include corporate, financial markets and funds, insolvency and restructuring, intellectual property, litigation, real estate, structured finance and securitization, transactional tax planning, private credit and private wealth. Katten represents public and private companies in numerous industries, as well as a number of government and nonprofit organizations and individuals. For more information, visit katten.com.

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