

KMK Ranked #1 in Cincinnati by *Best Lawyers in America*; 30 KMK Attorneys Selected for Inclusion

August 13, 2009

Keating Muething & Klekamp PLL (KMK®) is ranked #1 in Cincinnati in *The Best Lawyers in America*® 2010 in six areas of law: Corporate, Employee Benefits, Land Use & Zoning, Municipal Finance, Project Finance, and Real Estate Law.

Notably, KMK also is ranked #1 in the state of Ohio in Project Finance Law.

This is the third consecutive year that KMK ranked #1 in Cincinnati in Corporate Law, and the second consecutive year that KMK ranked #1 in Cincinnati in Land Use & Zoning Law, Municipal Finance Law, and Real Estate Law. This is the first year that KMK ranked #1 in Cincinnati in Employee Benefits Law and Project Finance Law.

Thirty attorneys from KMK were selected by their peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America* 2010. The lawyers are listed below, along with the practice area for which he/she is recognized:

Brian M. Babb – Environmental Law

James E. Burke – Bet-the-Company Litigation, Commercial Litigation, Corporate Law

Robert E. Coletti – Corporate Law

Paul D. Dorger – Labor & Employment Law

Alan S. Fershtman – Tax Law

Louis F. Gilligan – Personal Injury Litigation, Product Liability Litigation

Stephen M. Goodson – Employee Benefits Law

Patricia B. Hogan – Intellectual Property Law

Kevin E. Irwin – Bankruptcy & Creditor-Debtor Rights Law

James M. Jansing – Corporate Law

William J. Keating, Jr. – Corporate Law

Donald P. Klekamp – Corporate Law

Gary P. Kreider – Corporate Law, Mergers & Acquisitions Law

Kenneth P. Kreider – Real Estate Law

Timothy B. Matthews – Banking Law, Venture Capital Law

Robert W. Maxwell II – Labor & Employment Law

Lisa Wintersheimer Michel – Employee Benefits Law

David K. Montgomery – Labor & Employment Law

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Paul V. Muething – Corporate Law, Securities Law

Joseph P. Rouse – Trusts & Estates

Rachael A. Rowe – Commercial Litigation

Robert G. Sanker – Bankruptcy & Creditor-Debtor Rights Law

Mark E. Sims – Tax Law

Richard D. Spoor – Municipal Finance Law

Edward E. Steiner – Corporate Law, Mergers & Acquisitions Law

Joseph L. Trauth, Jr. – Land Use & Zoning Law, Real Estate Law

Gregory M. Utter – Commercial Litigation, Personal Injury Litigation

Mark J. Weber – Real Estate Law

Herbert B. Weiss – Project Finance Law (*ranked #1 in Ohio*), Real Estate Law

Mark A. Weiss – Corporate Law

KMK's **Corporate** Group handles business law matters for all types and sizes of business organizations, including public and private corporations, limited and general partnerships, limited liability companies, and sole proprietorships. KMK lawyers frequently serve as outside general counsel to clients and also serve as special counsel for specific needs or projects. The group offers business formation and counseling services, mergers and acquisitions services, and counsel on joint ventures, franchising, and other business expansion alternatives. They have decades of experience in private placements and public offerings and all aspects of securities regulations compliance. **With a total of nine attorneys listed, *The Best Lawyers in America 2010* ranked KMK #1 in Cincinnati in Corporate Law.**

KMK's **Employee Benefits** Group provides sophisticated and practical legal advice to clients regarding a broad spectrum of matters including qualified retirement plans, nonqualified deferred compensation, and health and welfare benefits. KMK's diverse group of clients includes large publicly-traded companies, smaller privately-held businesses, non-profit organizations, and individuals. **With a total of two attorneys listed, *The Best Lawyers in America 2010* ranked KMK #1 in Cincinnati in Employee Benefits Law.**

KMK's **Land Use & Zoning** lawyers are attuned to the nuances of zoning in the region. They assist with governmental land-use regulation, including zoning codes, applications to change zoning regulations, building codes, eminent domain, and regulatory takings. They offer assistance with historic preservation and other special land use overlay issues, and they provide assistance with governmental and public utility easements. They also have experience litigating cases in trial court, appellate court, and in the Ohio Supreme Court. **KMK partner, Joseph L. Trauth, Jr., was selected by his peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America 2010* in the area of Land Use & Zoning Law. *The Best Lawyers in***

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America 2010 ranked KMK #1 in Cincinnati in Land Use & Zoning Law.

KMK's **Municipal Finance** lawyers handle all aspects of public finance involving traditional issuers of municipal securities such as state agencies, cities, counties, townships, schools, colleges, and universities as well as special districts such as port authorities and utility (water and sewer) districts in both Ohio and Kentucky. They also serve as underwriters or placement agent counsel, letter of credit bank counsel, and bond counsel for taxable variable rate note issues. **KMK partner, Richard D. Spoor, was selected by his peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America 2010* in the area of Municipal Finance Law. *The Best Lawyers in America 2010* ranked KMK #1 in Cincinnati in Municipal Law.**

KMK's **Project Finance** group has experience representing local and national banks, savings and loans, insurance companies, and other lenders in connection with commercial real estate financing, construction/permanent loan packages, leasebacks, air rights structures, Industrial Development Boards (IDB), Tax Increment Financing (TIF), and public/government debt issues. They also have experience representing owners, developers, entrepreneurs, and investors with regard to commercial and residential projects, including financing, sales, acquisitions, leasing, land use and zoning, real estate taxation, title insurance, construction and development, Tenancy in Common (TIC) or membership syndication of real estate properties, and institutions that provide real estate venture financing for development. **KMK partner, Herbert B. Weiss, was selected by his peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America 2010* in the area of Project Finance. This is Mr. Weiss' 26th consecutive year of being selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*. *The Best Lawyers in America 2010* ranked KMK #1 in the state of Ohio and #1 in Cincinnati in Project Finance Law.**

KMK's **Real Estate** Group is comprised of a cross-section of attorneys with collective experience in all aspects of real property law including development, leasing and transactional work, zoning and land use, sales and acquisitions, real estate taxation, project finance, public assisted finance, environmental issues, economic development, and government affairs. **With a total of four attorneys listed, *The Best Lawyers in America 2010* ranked KMK #1 in Cincinnati in Real Estate Law.**

About *The Best Lawyers in America*

First published in 1983, *Best Lawyers* is based on an exhaustive annual peer-review survey. For the 2010 edition, more than 24,000 attorneys cast more than 2.8 million votes on the legal abilities of other lawyers in the same and related specialties. Because of the rigorous and transparent methodology used by *Best Lawyers*, and because lawyers are not 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."

About Keating Muething & Klekamp PLL

The law firm of Keating Muething & Klekamp PLL (KMK), based in Cincinnati, was founded in 1954. KMK has approximately 115 lawyers and a support staff of 150 employees. For the past 55 years, KMK has contributed to the success of many businesses, from Fortune 500 corporations to small start-up companies. KMK's mission is to provide high quality legal counsel to business clients by meeting their identified needs and developing appropriate solutions.

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KMK's vision is to excel as a law firm and community leader by recruiting and retaining the highest quality attorneys and personnel with diverse social, ethnic, and political backgrounds.