



Lathrop Gage Practice Areas Receive Top Tier Rating from U.S. News' Best Law Firms Rankings

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U.S. News Media Group and Best Lawyers have released the 2010 Best Law Firms rankings, and Lathrop Gage received top-tier status for 38 practice areas within their respective metropolitan areas. 2010 marks the inaugural publication of these rankings of 8,782 law firms in 81 practice areas. The national first-tier rankings will be announced in the October print issue of *U.S. News & World Report*, which will go on sale September 27.

The firm received top billing in the following practice areas and regions:

- Environmental Law (Columbia, Mo., and Kansas City, Mo.)
- Education Law (Overland Park, Kan.)
- Health Care Law (Overland Park, Kan.)
- Intellectual Property Law (Overland Park, Kan.)
- Land Use & Zoning Law (Overland Park, Kan.)
- Real Estate Law (Overland Park, Kan., Kansas City, Mo., and Springfield, Mo.)
- Tax Law (St. Louis, Overland Park, Kan., Kansas City, Mo.)
- Banking and Finance Law (Kansas City, Mo., and Springfield, Mo.)
- Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law (Kansas City, Mo., Springfield, Mo.)
- Construction Law (Kansas City, Mo.)
- Corporate Law (Kansas City, Mo.)
- Employee Benefits (ERISA) Law (Kansas City, Mo.)
- Employment Law - Management (Kansas City, Mo.)
- Gaming Law (Kansas City, Mo.)
- Government Relations Practice (Kansas City, Mo.)
- Health Care Law (Kansas City, Mo.)
- Insurance Law (Kansas City, Mo.)
- Mass Tort Litigation/Class Actions (Kansas City, Mo.)
- Media & First Amendment Law (Kansas City, Mo.)



Mergers & Acquisitions Law (Kansas City, Mo.)
Non-Profit/Charities Law (Kansas City, Mo.)
Professional Malpractice Law (Kansas City, Mo.)
Railroad Law (Kansas City, Mo.)
Trusts & Estates Law (Kansas City, Mo.)
Alternative Dispute Resolution (Springfield, Mo.)
General Commercial Litigation (Springfield, Mo.)
Land Use & Zoning Law (Springfield, Mo.)
Mass Tort Litigation / Class Actions (Springfield, Mo.)
Personal Injury Litigation - Defendants (Springfield, Mo.)
Land Use & Zoning Law (St. Louis)

The firm also received commendation for its St. Louis office in the areas of construction law, trusts and estates law, and corporate law.

According to Best Lawyers and *U.S. News*, who conducted the survey, "9,514 clients - including every Fortune 100 company and 587 of the Fortune 1000 companies - provided 194,370 firm practice-area evaluations; 6,190 clients provided 11,181 comments about law firm practice areas and individual lawyers; and 8,842 lawyers provided 594,012 firm practice-area evaluations. (...) Achieving a high ranking is a special distinction that signals a unique combination of excellence and breadth of expertise."

The U.S. News Media Group is a digital publisher of news and analysis, which includes the monthly *U.S. News & World Report* magazine, the digital-only *U.S. News Weekly* magazine, www.usnews.com, and www.rankingsandreviews.com. Best Lawyers is the oldest peer-review publication in the legal profession. The 2011 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America* includes 41,385 lawyers covering all 50 states and the District of Columbia and is based on more than 3.1 million detailed evaluations of lawyers by other lawyers.

About Lathrop Gage:

A leading full-service law firm, Lathrop Gage LLP has 300 attorneys in 11 offices nationwide - from Los Angeles to New York. In 2010, *Chambers USA* ranked Lathrop Gage's corporate, environmental, intellectual property, litigation, real estate and labor and employment teams among the best in their region. For more information, visit www.lathropgage.com.