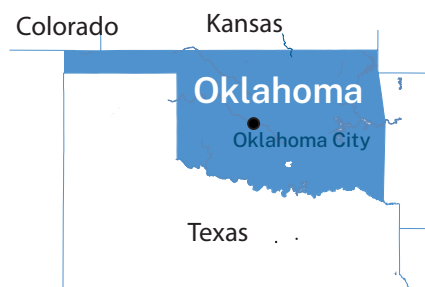

CHAMBERS USA 2024

The Leading Lawyers and Law Firms in the USA

Oklahoma





How lawyers are ranked

Every year we carry out thousands of in-depth interviews with clients in order to assess the reputations and expertise of business lawyers worldwide. The qualities we look for (and which determine rankings) include technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/astuteness, diligence, commitment, and other qualities most valued by the client.

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Corporate/Commercial

Corporate/Commercial
Leading Firms
Band 1
Conner & Winters, LLP
Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional Corporation
GableGotwals
McAfee & Taft
Band 2
Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden & Nelson, PC
Hartzog Conger Cason LLP
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Curry Robert A. Conner & Winters, LLP
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Derrick Gary W. Derrick & Briggs, LLP (ORL) ◇
Stong Roger Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional Corporation
Band 2
Coleman W Chris McAfee & Taft
Hassell Jeffrey GableGotwals
Lake Stephen GableGotwals
Larimore James Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional Corporation
Melgaard Robert J. Conner & Winters, LLP
Sacra J. Ryan Conner & Winters, LLP
Smith Joshua D. McAfee & Taft
Band 3
Cooper H Wayne Doerner, Saunders, Daniel (ORL) ◇
Coutant Jason B. GableGotwals
Jackson Betsy G. Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden
Ray Stephen Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden
Up-and-coming individuals
Grace Danae V. McAfee & Taft
Hutchison Thomas J. GableGotwals
Wilson Christopher R. Conner & Winters, LLP
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Conner & Winters, LLP

What the team is known for Conner & Winters boasts a versatile bench covering a comprehensive range of corporate and commercial issues, including large and complex mandates with regional or national dimensions. The law firm is especially noted for its handling of oil and gas deals, high-value financings and transactional and compliance assignments in the healthcare

sector. Its services range from high-value transactions to day-to-day advising.

Work highlights Conner & Winters represented Empire Petroleum Corporation in relation to the acquisition of oil and gas assets and related financings.

Notable practitioners

Robert Curry is well respected for his extensive experience advising on a range of matters, including M&A, corporate governance concerns and compliance issues. He draws on deep experience when acting for clients in a variety of sectors, such as aviation and energy. **Robert Melgaard** is held in high regard for his wide-ranging corporate practice, which includes advising on capital markets transactions, corporate governance and securities matters. He regularly acts for clients from the energy and manufacturing sectors, among others. **Ryan Sacra's** practice covers securities matters, M&A and corporate governance issues. He regularly represents clients in the energy, technology and manufacturing sectors and is noted in the market for his depth of experience in oil and gas-related acquisitions. **Christopher Wilson** is chair of Conner & Winters' corporate and securities group. He boasts recent experience advising on corporate restructurings and private equity transactions.

Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional Corporation

What the team is known for Crowe & Dunlevy has a full corporate and commercial offering with notable expertise in the representation of financial institutions, the handling of securities transactions and the management of M&A deals in the oil and gas sector. The law firm also acts extensively on healthcare-related transactions and is continuing to develop its niche expertise in the aviation and commercial transportation sectors. The team acts for clients on a range of capital raising activities including note offerings, as well as advising on credit facilities and refinancings. It represents both state and national banks as part of its notable client base.

Strengths

"They are very responsive and attentive to time-sensitive matters."

Work highlights Crowe & Dunlevy represented

Flywheel Energy in its bid to acquire oil and gas assets from a privately held company, in a deal worth \$555 million.

Notable practitioners

Roger Stong has a plethora of experience in corporate matters, including M&A, joint venture transactions and securities law compliance. He also offers notable expertise in bankruptcy-related issues. **Strengths:** *"Roger does an amazing job."* **James Larimore** handles a wide range of corporate matters, including M&A, capital raisings and joint venture transactions. He regularly acts for a broad range of corporates, including clients in the energy, construction and real estate sectors. **Strengths:** *"He is overall a good attorney."* *"He is our starting point and our go-to on business law matters."*

GableGotwals

What the team is known for GableGotwals has a full-service offering covering M&A and securities transactions, financings and both transactional and contentious healthcare and tax-related mandates. The law firm is regularly sought out for its advice on a wide range of matters, including the sale and purchase of sizable assets, debt fundraising, strategic recapitalizations and private placements. The team frequently acts for Oklahoma's leading oil and gas companies.

Strengths

"We appreciate their solid work and their stepping up in any situation."

"They are reliable and tactful."

Work highlights GableGotwals represented Oklahoma Gas and Electric in the issuance of USD450 million in aggregate principal amount of 5.4% senior notes.

Notable practitioners

Jeffrey Hassell is well versed in a wide range of corporate and finance matters, including M&A, the formation of joint ventures and corporate governance. He offers significant experience advising financial institutions and banks as lenders. **Stephen Lake** is recognized for his corporate practice, which includes advising clients on sales, M&A and securities matters. He regularly advises clients in the oil and gas sector. **Jason Coutant** is highlighted for his substantial expertise in complex securities matters, including regulation

and compliance issues. He also advises on real estate-related transactions. **Strengths:** “We are very happy with the level of service Jason provides.”

Thomas Hutchison advises on a mix of M&A deals and corporate finance matters, acting for both banks and borrowers. **Strengths:** “Thomas provided experienced help in our corporate matters.”

McAfee & Taft

What the team is known for McAfee & Taft have a substantial bench that is well equipped to handle the full range of practice area services for Oklahoma’s foremost corporates and organizations, including key energy companies, financial services providers and medical institutions. The law firm is also known for its large and sophisticated healthcare and taxation groups and ability to handle structurally or technologically complex issues in those spheres. The team offers experience of making use of various forms of government incentive programs.

Strengths

“McAfee & Taft’s responsiveness has been top-tier.”

“They have strong technical capabilities, good depth and broad coverage areas.”

“Because they are the major player in the business transaction space in Oklahoma, they have great regional and national commercial awareness.”

“There is no issue with attorneys directing us to the right attorney within the firm to handle specific issues.”

“They are very detail-oriented.”

Work highlights McAfee & Taft represented Love’s Travel Stops & Country Stores in a 22-site acquisition of EZ GO from Carey Johnson Oil Company.

Notable practitioners

Chris Coleman is highly regarded for his handling of complex corporate transactions,

including M&A, financings and securities offerings. **Strengths:** “He is a great lawyer.” **Joshua Smith** focuses his practice on transactional work, including mergers, acquisitions and financings. His broad clientele includes healthcare and medical device companies, professional sports organizations and teams, as well as aerospace companies. **Strengths:** “Joshua has a broad base of experience and brings in additional resources as needed. He is wonderful to work with and very responsive.” “Joshua is top-tier. He consistently does not only what is expected, but he reaches beyond expectation for the benefit of his client. He’s willing to speak up, and when he speaks, I listen.”

Danae Grace is recognized as an up-and-coming figure in the market who frequently assists clients with substantial corporate transactions. She operates in a wide range of industries, including manufacturing and retail. **Strengths:** “Danae is extremely talented and responsive. She looks for solutions and opportunities to help.”

Band 2

Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden & Nelson, PC

What the team is known for Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden & Nelson boasts a large and widely experienced practice, drawing on the full resources of the firm to deal with transactions for a regional, national and international clientele. The law firm acts extensively for players in the oil and gas space, and offers clients deep expertise in M&A transactions.

Strengths

“As our relationship goes back many years, they understand our needs.”

Notable practitioners

Betsy Jackson handles a range of transactions and capital raisings, regularly advising target entities in M&A matters, as well as equity investors.

Strengths: “There’s never a conversation where I don’t learn something.” **Stephen Ray** comes recommended for his expertise in corporate governance and compliance matters. He also advises clients on acquisitions and IPOs. **Strengths:** “Stephen is an excellent attorney!”

Hartzog Conger Cason LLP

What the team is known for Hartzog Conger Cason is a respected Oklahoma City boutique, offering local businesses in particular the full range of corporate transactional and organizational services, including assistance with M&A and private placement securities offerings. The law firm is well reputed for its expertise in taxation matters, boasting a tax credit incentive advisory capability which transcends state boundaries.

Notable practitioners

John Robertson is a key contact for clients.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Wayne Cooper of Doerner, Saunders, Daniel & Anderson focuses his practice on the representation of clients in acquisitions and sales, as well as assisting with public and private offerings. His varied client base includes corporations in the oil and gas, construction and energy sectors.

Gary Derrick of Derrick & Briggs remains a strong choice for clients seeking counsel on complex transactional matters, including M&A and debt financings.

Energy & Natural Resources

Energy & Natural Resources
Leading Firms
Band 1
Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional Corporation
GableGotwals
Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden & Nelson, PC
McAfee & Taft
<i>Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.</i>

Band 1

Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional Corporation

What the team is known for Crowe & Dunlevy is highly reputed for its handling of key litigation mandates, including royalty payment, title and fracking-related disputes for energy sector clients. The law firm also provides extensive transactional support, particularly on wind projects. The team is equipped to advise on joint developments

and other agreements and attracts an impressive roster of national and global energy companies, advising on Oklahoma-based mandates and those further afield.

Strengths

“We are very impressed with the firm’s knowledge and capabilities with regard to complex matters.”

“They bring technical expertise in the oil and gas arena that is second to none in our market.”

“They quickly respond with a breadth of information in regard to any question or need.”

Work highlights Crowe & Dunlevy represented Devon Energy Production Company in induced seismicity litigation in Oklahoma.

Notable practitioners

Dale Cottingham is known for his ability to handle complex energy and natural resources disputes, including earthquake litigation and gas-related concerns. This is bolstered by his expertise in environmental law and his in-depth understanding of

groundwater pollution. **Strengths:** “He is diligent and plugged in, with a wealth of experience he brings to bear. Dale is ticking every box.” “He has a strong technical background and is very strategic when it comes to litigation.”

GableGotwals

What the team is known for GableGotwals draws on over 60 years’ experience in the handling of oil and gas-related issues, not only in Oklahoma, but also in Texas and Kansas, providing both litigation services and specialist support on transactions. The law firm also offers niche expertise concerning title examinations, royalty disputes and regulatory compliance issues, particularly matters considered by the Oklahoma Corporation Commission.

Strengths

“They are very responsive and accommodating.”

“Every attorney we collaborated with was top-notch

Energy & Natural Resources	
Senior Statespeople	
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners	
Hardwick James C T	Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden
Hayes J Kevin	Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden
Smith Michael E	Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden
Leading Individuals	
Band 1	
Bomhoff Timothy J	McAfee & Taft
Band 2	
Banner Mark	Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden
Brown L. Vance	Elias, Books, Brown & Nelson (ORL) ◇
Lees C Ray	Porter Hedges LLP (ORL) ◇
Ragsdale Terry D	GableGotwals
Redwine R Kevin	Conner & Winters, LLP (ORL) ◇
Woolery Todd	McAfee & Taft
Band 3	
Brown Travis	Mahaffey & Gore (ORL) ◇
Cottingham Dale E	Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional
Robertson Rob F.	GableGotwals
Up-and-coming individuals	
Stein Patrick L.	McAfee & Taft
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.	
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.	

and easy to work with."

"I have been happy with their work product."

Work highlights GableGotwals acted for BP America Production Company as lead counsel in an action for breach of gas processing agreement.

Notable practitioners

Terry Ragsdale comes recommended for his longstanding energy industry expertise, often advising utilities and oil and gas producers. His strength in class actions and single-plaintiff suits is complemented by notable transactional experience. **Rob Robertson** is an experienced litigator who brings significant trial strength to his representation of energy companies. His practice includes handling administrative mandates such as rate-making cases.

Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden & Nelson, PC

What the team is known for Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden & Nelson boasts a large practice with a longstanding reputation for representing energy industry clients in contentious and transactional matters, the former increasingly including class actions, as well as royalty disputes and environmental issues. The team also advises extensively on alternative energy and utility regulatory mandates, and is noted for its representation of companies in the midstream oil and gas

sector. The practice makes use of experts across the firm to offer a full service to energy sector clients.

Strengths

"The firm always has someone with experience to help out."

"The attorneys I've dealt with always answer my questions and return my calls. They are top-notch."

Notable practitioners

James Hardwick is highly respected by peers for his sophisticated oil and gas practice, which benefits from a significant depth of industry experience. He provides counsel on regulatory matters and disputes, as well as issues affecting transactions. **Kevin Hayes** is a well-regarded litigator whose impressive civil disputes practice includes notable strength in class actions arising from the energy industry. He draws on broader strength in commercial litigation and telecommunications matters. **Michael Smith** is a longstanding practitioner in the energy industry, as well as an experienced environmental attorney. He acts on a range of courtroom disputes, as well as drawing praise for his expert work as a mediator. **Mark Banner's** practice is centered on oil and gas litigation. His impressive caseload includes contract disputes and torts, as well as handling real estate-related issues such as land use concerns and leases. **Strengths:** "More than capable and responsive, Mark is an excellent attorney!" "Mark is a great resource, knowledgeable in his field and always available when I need him."

McAfee & Taft

What the team is known for McAfee & Taft is well equipped to handle the largest of transactional or contentious mandates for leading regional and national players in the oil and gas and other energy industries. The law firm is frequently involved in royalty and underpayment cases, as well as late payment interest class actions. The team is particularly noted for handling the fullest range of energy litigation issues, including an increasing number of seismicity-related cases, and for representing clients in the upstream, midstream and downstream spaces. The team is also equipped to handle multistate projects such as pipeline constructions.

Strengths

"McAfee has practitioners that are very strong on knowledge of royalty law in Oklahoma."

"McAfee covers all necessary disciplines for our needs."

"They are always quick to email or call anytime I

have a question and are always on top of the issues arising in cases."

Work highlights McAfee & Taft advised IEA Constructors, who acted as a general contractor in constructing the Boiling Springs Wind Farm project in Woodward, Oklahoma, on handling a lawsuit filed by two groups of landowners.

Notable practitioners

Timothy Bomhoff is a fine choice of counsel for wide-ranging oil and gas mandates, while offering particular expertise in earthquake litigation. **Strengths:** "Timothy has a lot of legal horsepower and a level of charm which has led to precedent-setting wins for him. He can adapt to any jurisdiction." "He is an excellent lawyer who is very responsive to our needs." **Todd Woolery** is head of the McAfee & Taft energy and natural resources team and advises oil and gas clients on a range of class action and mass tort claims. He is additionally experienced with seismicity-related disputes. **Strengths:** "Todd has wonderful client management skills and the ability to get to the heart of an issue quickly." "He is very talented and highly motivated." **Patrick Stein** is recognized as an up-and-coming lawyer with notable experience acting for clients on contentious matters in the oil and gas space. He counts large energy and resources companies amongst his clientele. **Strengths:** "Patrick knows Oklahoma royalty law better than any other lawyer I have worked with. He is my go-to in that space."

Other Ranked Lawyers

Vance Brown of Elias, Books, Brown & Nelson focuses primarily on acting for oil and gas clients on a variety of contentious matters.

Travis Brown of Mahaffey & Gore is focused on oil and gas disputes, with additional experience advising on environmental issues and general commercial disputes. **Strengths:** "He's fantastic at litigation."

Ray Lees of Porter Hedges is held in high esteem for his longstanding oil and gas practice. He is well versed in wide-ranging transactions arising from the industry, including joint ventures and acquisitions.

Kevin Redwine of Conner & Winters acts on a range of transactions arising from the oil and gas industry, including financings, acquisitions and private equity deals.

Environment

Environment
Leading Firms
Band 1
Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional Corporation
GableGotwals
McAfee & Taft
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Burnett LeAnne Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional
Crook Martin Linda Doerner, Saunders, Daniel (ORL) ◇
Joyce Robert McAfee & Taft
Landreth Lloyd GableGotwals
Shandy Donald Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional
Ternes Mary Ellen Earth & Water Law, LLC (ORL) ◇
Band 2
Hardberger Derek McAfee & Taft
Keele Garry McAfee & Taft
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional Corporation

What the team is known for Crowe & Dunlevy is highly reputed for its handling of environmental litigation mandates, including administrative proceedings, CERCLA disputes and citizen suits. The law firm also provides extensive transactional support and advises comprehensively on environmental permitting and compliance requirements, offering expert advice on air and water quality regulations. The team also has notable experience in wind farms.

Strengths

"Crowe & Dunlevy has a reputation for high-quality work that is timely and thoughtful."

"Crowe & Dunlevy has had the expertise to handle whatever we ask of them, from simple to complex matters."

"They have a good feel for us as a company and understand our culture and our appetite for risk."

"The firm was able to provide attorneys with expertise in a wide range of legal matters."

Work highlights Crowe & Dunlevy acted as legal counsel for Dale Hardesty before the Oklahoma

Water Resources Board, concerning the building of a dam. Crowe & Dunlevy also handled a lawsuit aimed at stopping the dam's construction and addressing claims for damages related to water usage loss and environmental damage.

Notable practitioners

LeAnne Burnett is an impressive environmental expert whose contentious practice is complemented by wider experience in regulatory compliance. She also advises on issues arising from transactions such as financings. **Strengths:** "She is a scholar of environmental law." **Donald Shandy** is renowned for his handling of regulatory environmental and energy issues arising from a range of complex projects. He is particularly noted for his handling of administrative proceedings involving bodies such as the EPA. **Strengths:** "He helps us think through strategy to meet our corporate goals in addition to obtaining and maintaining regulatory compliance." "Donald has been a great asset to us when navigating environmental matters." "He is very committed to his clients. He has always been accessible, always willing to help and can explain to the client why he cannot do something; we don't need a 'yes' man."

GableGotwals

What the team is known for GableGotwals offers a well-regarded regional practice with strength in both contentious and noncontentious environment matters. The law firm acts for a broad client base in proceedings involving the Oklahoma Corporation Commission, as well as defending against class actions. The team's experience includes advising on regulatory issues stemming from a range of corporate transactions.

Notable practitioners

Lloyd Landreth's environmental practice includes federal and state litigation such as CERCLA actions, as well as regulatory proceedings. His broad client base includes waste disposal companies and utilities.

McAfee & Taft

What the team is known for McAfee & Taft boasts an impressive bench of regulatory environmental experts able to draw on previous agency experi-

ence. The law firm's broad regional and national client base includes a number of wind farm developers. The team regularly acts on disputes involving claims of pollution and other environmental damages, as well as advising on the regulatory elements of transactions and conducting environmental audits.

Notable practitioners

Robert Joyce is a market-leading attorney in environmental law. His impressive practice includes advising on enforcement proceedings, regulatory compliance and toxic tort litigation. **Derek Hardberger** offers clients more than two decades' experience in environmental law, drawing on his time with the US Environmental Protection Agency. He handles environmental audits, as well as advising on waste remediation and the renovation of waste treatment facilities. **Strengths:** "Derek is an excellent environmental attorney with good agency and stakeholder skills." **Garry Keele** is a highly sought-after attorney whose practice includes environmental due diligence, issues arising from corporate transactions and disputes such as enforcement proceedings. He also advises clients on internal audits and regulatory matters.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Linda Crook Martin of Doerner, Saunders, Daniel & Anderson is a highly skilled attorney who advises on a range of environmental matters, including cross-border mandates involving issues such as groundwater contamination and hazardous waste. She is held in high regard for her longstanding experience in regulatory compliance, disputes and transactions.

Mary Ellen Ternes of Earth & Water Law is renowned for her expert handling of environmental matters, which is complemented by her former chemical engineering experience. She draws on notable regulatory strength in areas such as air quality when advising on both disputes and transactions.

Healthcare

Healthcare
Leading Firms
Band 1
Conner & Winters, LLP
Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional Corporation
McAfee & Taft
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Brennan Elise Conner & Winters, LLP
Dalton Elizabeth L. Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional Corporation
Rieger Karen Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional Corporation
Rogers Patricia A. McAfee & Taft
Band 2
Burkett Teresa M. Conner & Winters, LLP
Loomis Cori H. Christensen Law Group, P.L.L.C. (ORL) ♦
Band 3
Fisher Eric S. Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional Corporation
Gordon Kevin D. Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional Corporation
Parten Terra Lord McAfee & Taft
Ramzel Russell C. Conner & Winters, LLP
Velandia Hilary Conner & Winters, LLP
♦ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Conner & Winters, LLP

What the team is known for Conner & Winters boasts a substantial team offering clients informed and specialist advice, drawing on experience gained by several team members having worked in healthcare settings. The law firm regularly acts for a range of hospitals, insurers, physician groups and care facilities before federal and state regulators, as well as on a range of transactions.

Strengths

"All staff we interact with are very experienced and helpful."

"Emails are replied to rapidly, and meetings are scheduled promptly as needed."

Work highlights Conner & Winters represented Bristow Endeavor Healthcare, overseeing the complete process of selling multiple clinics and a hospital to three distinct buyers.

Notable practitioners

Elise Brennan is head of the Conner & Winters healthcare practice and is renowned for her impressive healthcare expertise. She advises health systems and pharmaceutical companies on a broad range of matters, including M&A and compliance issues. **Strengths:** *"It is very clear that Elise possesses a deep level of understanding of our industry."* **Teresa Burkett** offers broad experience in healthcare matters, including compliance

issues, litigation and Medicare reimbursement. Her clients range from healthcare providers and pharmaceutical companies to individual professionals. **Russell Ramzel** is well regarded for handling a range of healthcare mandates, including regulatory advice and transactions. **Strengths:** *"He is well thought of, smart and a well-rounded healthcare lawyer."* *"It was a difficult project, but Russell performed his duties in an excellent fashion."* **Hilary Velandia** focuses her practice on healthcare law, regularly assisting clients with the full range of matters, including transactions, regulatory issues and litigation. She acts for a variety of clients, such as hospitals, long-term care facilities and companies in the pharmaceutical sector.

Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional Corporation

What the team is known for Crowe & Dunlevy offers a dedicated practice group with a deep well of experience acting for hospitals, individual physicians and physician groups, as well as smaller clinics and healthcare providers. The law firm regularly advises on transactions involving physicians' practices and healthcare properties. The team also handles compliance and policy advice, including compliance audits and insurance disputes.

Strengths

"They have very talented attorneys in many complex regulatory areas."

"They understand healthcare and the federal landscape in which we operate. They provide great insight and advice on issues as they arise."

"The team was available any time we needed them."

Work highlights Crowe & Dunlevy represented INTEGRIS Health in conducting due diligence for the acquisition of two hospitals in Ponca City, Oklahoma and Woodward, Oklahoma.

Notable practitioners

Elizabeth Dalton is recognized for her vast experience in healthcare matters, including regulatory proceedings and transactional work. She also leads the firm's medical marijuana industry group.

Karen Rieger is co-head of the Crowe & Dunlevy healthcare practice and a market-leading expert who advises clients on a wide range of matters, including HIPAA compliance and Medicare reimbursement, as well as acquisitions and the creation of joint ventures. **Strengths:** *"Karen Rieger has really shaped the landscape of healthcare in Oklahoma."* *"She is one of the best healthcare attorneys in the region."* **Eric Fisher** is experienced in assisting clients in responding to inquiries from government committees and federal investigations. His clients include companies and organi-

zations in diagnostic services and donor services.

Strengths: *"He is pretty well-rounded and has a good reputation."* *"Eric has been wonderful to work with over the years."* **Kevin Gordon** brings deep experience in handling a range of healthcare disputes as the former chair of Crowe & Dunlevy's litigation practice group. Of late, he has advised on significant healthcare class action litigation.

McAfee & Taft

What the team is known for McAfee & Taft has a sizable practice spanning the full range of transactional and contentious healthcare work. The law firm advises on a broad array of transactions, as well as joint ventures and partnerships. The team also regularly offers compliance advice, including in relation to pharmaceutical regulations, physician referral laws and antikickback matters, as well as on marijuana issues. The team additionally advises healthcare clients on reorganizations and tax and governance matters.

Strengths

"They have a very deep roster of attorneys who can handle anything."

"They are always responsive and helpful."

Work highlights McAfee & Taft advised healthcare organizations, including a blood center, physician practices, a sleep lab and a durable medical equipment company, regarding compliance with the Oklahoma State Health Information Exchange.

Notable practitioners

Patricia Rogers is well regarded for her significant experience in healthcare matters, including regulatory issues and transactional work. She is noted for her expertise in HIPAA compliance.

Strengths: *"She is one of the most knowledgeable lawyers in the healthcare and hospital field."* *"She is a strong attorney with top-level expertise and delivers great service."* **Terra Lord Parten** is head of the McAfee & Taft healthcare group, and her work spans the full spectrum of healthcare legal matters, including transactions, HIPAA compliance, antikickback issues, staffing and employee matters and the implementation of new technologies. **Strengths:** *"Terra has provided good counsel on contract matters and Medicare regulations."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Cori Loomis of Christensen Law Group is mainly focused on representing healthcare providers in the full spectrum of transactional and regulatory issues.

Insurance

Insurance
Leading Firms
Band 1
GableGotwals
Mansell & Engel
Band 2
Atkinson, Brittingham, Gladd, Fiasco & Edmonds
Marr Law Firm
Merlin Law Group
Rhodes, Hieronymus, Jones, Tucker & Gable PLLC
Richards & Connor PLLP
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Engel Mark Mansell & Engel
Mansell Steven Mansell & Engel
Richards Philip Richards & Connor PLLP
Stewart Leasa GableGotwals
Band 2
Dickerson Jessica McAfee & Taft (ORL) ◇
Leffel Lance GableGotwals
Rother Timila Crowe & Dunlevy, a (ORL) ◇
Up-and-coming individuals
McNeer Carrie GableGotwals
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

GableGotwals

What the team is known for GableGotwals is a go-to firm for notable insurer clients faced with a wide array of complex coverage claims as well as litigation involving allegations of bad faith and fraud. The firm has experience handling cases involving property damage, personal injury and life insurance policies.

Strengths

"They handle higher risk litigation to the company. They do an excellent job and have great writing and analytical skills."

Work highlights GableGotwals obtained summary judgment on behalf of State Farm in bad faith litigation related to a hail damage claim.

Notable practitioners

Leasa Stewart is highlighted for her expertise representing insurance industry clients in complex coverage claims as well as litigation alleging bad faith and fraud. **Strengths:** *"She is very strategic and thinks about how arguments will play out."* **Lance Leffel** is an experienced litigator with notable expertise assisting insurers with coverage disputes and bad faith litigation, such

as those arising from property damage. **Carrie McNeer** has experience representing insurers in bad faith litigation as part of a broad based civil disputes practice.

Mansell & Engel

What the team is known for Mansell & Engel is a specialist insurance firm focused primarily on the representation of policyholders in bad faith litigation, with notable experience taking cases to trial. The firm has handled cases spanning the full spectrum of policy lines, from health, life and disability to commercial property.

Notable practitioners

Mark Engel focuses his practice on representing policyholders in insurance bad faith litigation, including at trial. **Steven Mansell** is an experienced litigator and trial lawyer with considerable expertise in bad faith litigation and coverage claims. He is a founding member of Mansell & Engel.

Band 2

Atkinson, Brittingham, Gladd, Fiasco & Edmonds, P.C.

What the team is known for Atkinson, Brittingham, Gladd, Fiasco & Edmonds, P.C. is a Tulsa-based litigation firm with highly regarded expertise in the insurance space. The firm acts for insurance companies in a wide range of matters, including bad faith disputes and coverage litigation, and has the capacity to advise on the full range of issues arising in the sector.

Strengths

"They have really good coverage lawyers."

Notable practitioners

Galen Brittingham is a key contact at the firm for insurance.

Marr Law Firm

What the team is known for Marr Law Firm is a boutique policyholder-side insurance firm that specializes in bad faith litigation arising from a number of contexts. The firm has particular experience in property damage related claims, including those involving flood, fire, tornado and earthquake damage.

Notable practitioners

Jeff Marr is a key contact at the firm.

Merlin Law Group

What the team is known for Merlin Law Group is recognized for its expertise assisting policyholders in complex coverage claims in a wide range of contexts as well as bad faith litigation. The firm has experience advising on hurricane, water damage and wildfire-related cases, among others.

Notable practitioners

Founder and president William Merlin is a key contact at the firm.

Rhodes, Hieronymus, Jones, Tucker & Gable PLLC

What the team is known for Rhodes, Hieronymus, Jones, Tucker & Gable PLLC is a Tulsa and Oklahoma City-based litigation firm with notable strength assisting insurance industry clients with complex disputes. The team has handled coverage claims, bad faith litigation and subrogation actions.

Notable practitioners

Randall Long is a key contact at the firm for insurance.

Richards & Connor PLLP

What the team is known for Richards & Connor PLLP possesses an experienced team of litigators well equipped to handle insurance coverage and bad faith litigation, including representing clients at trial. The team adeptly acts for both businesses and insurance industry clients.

Notable practitioners

Philip Richards is an experienced trial lawyer with notable expertise representing businesses and insurers in a wide array of insurance coverage claims as well as bad faith litigation. **Strengths:** *"I think very highly of Phil Richards."*

Other Ranked Lawyers

Jessica Dickerson is a litigation partner at McAfee & Taft noted for her experience defending insurance sector clients against bad faith claims as well as providing advice on a range of coverage issues.

Timila Rother has notable experience defending first-party cases involving insurance coverage and bad faith claims as part of a broad commercial litigation practice. She is chair of the insurance practice group and the litigation department at Crowe & Dunlevy.

Intellectual Property

Intellectual Property
Leading Firms
Band 1
Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional Corporation
Dunlap Coddling
McAfee & Taft
Band 2
GableGotwals
Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden & Nelson, PC
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Watt Terry L. Fellers, Snider, Blankenship, Bailey (ORL) ◇
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Blue Rachel McAfee & Taft
Brockhaus Marc A. Dunlap Coddling
LaBrie Michael J. McAfee & Taft
McCarthy Randall K. Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden
Nelson Todd A. GableGotwals
Rouse Nicholas D. Dunlap Coddling
Sorocco Douglas J. Dunlap Coddling
Sullivan David. Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional
Band 2
Brown Dennis D. Brown Patent Law, PLLC (ORL) ◇
Campbell Emily. Dunlap Coddling
Dellegar Shawn. Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional
Dougherty, III Clifford C. McAfee & Taft
Free Jr Phillip L. OKC IP Law (ORL) ◇
Rahhal Anthony. McAfee & Taft
Band 3
Harvey Derrick. Harvey Law (ORL) ◇
Lea III James F. GableGotwals
McQuigg Tynia. Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional
Oubre Zachary. McAfee & Taft
Smith Michael H. Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden
Woodral David G. GableGotwals
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional Corporation

What the team is known for Crowe & Dunlevy has a full-service practice, catering to the transactional and contentious IP requirements of a regional and national clientele, notably including several leading players in the oil and gas sector. Highly experienced in the licensing of IT assets and, with the support of an international network of partner firms, the management of global patent and trademark portfolios. Also known for its litigation capability, and currently expanding its ability to handle hi-tech IP issues from the Tulsa office, while also drawing additional support from its Dallas presence. Acts for a broad range of clients, including academic institutions, manufacturing and energy companies.

Strengths

"They are always prompt."

"They have deep expertise in my industry and how their specialty areas show up in my industry."

"It's a very knowledgeable team that comes prepared with in-depth research when needed."

"They are always available for urgent needs."

Work highlights Crowe & Dunlevy advised Leman Micro Devices on portfolio management, patent prosecution and strategy for its biomonitoring technologies, including coordinating patent prosecution in foreign jurisdictions.

Notable practitioners

David Sullivan offers significant experience in IP matters, including patent issues, licensing and trademark prosecution. He is noted for his particular expertise acting for clients in the energy and oil and gas sectors. **Strengths:** "David does a phenomenal job of working to provide creative solutions for complex problems." "He has a way of understanding a product's market value and how to structure patent documents to focus on those potentials using both written and image formats." "David is first-class in terms of knowledge and service. I would highly recommend David to anyone who needs assistance with IP-related projects." **Shawn Dellegar** is frequently sought after by clients in the energy and oil and gas sectors for assistance with patent prosecution. He is also experienced in handling IPR challenges. **Strengths:** "I appreciate Shawn's careful thinking and responsiveness." "Shawn is amazing to work with. He always makes time for us and always has clear questions and a clear timeline for all of our work." "In every dealing with Shawn, I am impressed with his breadth of knowledge and his ability to express complex ideas in easy-to-understand language." **Tynia Watson** draws on her experience as an electrical engineer to offer clients informed advice on copyright and trademark lawsuits, in addition to a range of other IP disputes. **Strengths:** "We appreciate Tynia's always practical and thoughtful advice." "She is fantastic to work with, attentive and meticulous with the details." "Tynia has been a pleasure to work with. She is always responsive and very knowledgeable. She helps me stay on top of all of our trademarks and IP."

Dunlap Coddling

What the team is known for Dunlap Coddling is a respected boutique with a global clientele, partnering with companies of all sizes to provide long-term strategic and holistic IP portfolio management. Particularly noted for its high level of patent prosecution activity and representation of clients seeking to protect IP assets in the healthcare, life sciences, engineering and entertainment sectors. Also active on licensing, trade secrets and rights of publicity issues.

Strengths

"They are detail-oriented and proficient."

"They have excellent responsiveness and consideration of strategy."

"I believe every member of the team has a significant knowledge in their area and stays up to date on trends."

"Dunlap Coddling always goes the extra mile to understand our needs and wants and advises or acts accordingly."

Work highlights Dunlap Coddling represented Bed Wood and Parts and Jeffrey Major in a trademark infringement case relating to Bed Wood's use of the mark "BEDWOOD" and secured a

favorable settlement for them before trial.

Notable practitioners

Marc Brockhaus handles both contentious and transactional matters, with a noted specialty in electrical engineering matters. **Strengths:** "He is an excellent practitioner who always offers a practical solution." "He is great to work with." **Nicholas Rouse** remains a leading IP practitioner with significant expertise in mechanical engineering matters. He also acts as Dunlap Coddling's managing director. **Strengths:** "He is creative and insightful and has excellent technical capabilities." "He is very easy to work with and always responsive." "His answers help guide how we would approach a problem." Head of department **Douglas Sorocco** is respected for his IP practice, which includes patent prosecution and transactional matters. **Strengths:** "He provides great service, responsiveness and strategic communications." "Douglas has been outstanding to work with in all respects." **Emily Campbell** has vast experience handling a wide variety of IP matters, including licensing issues and enforcement strategies. **Strengths:** "She has great service, responsiveness and strategic communications." "Emily is incredibly knowledgeable on many areas and is able to explain complex issues to a layperson quite easily." "We trust her expertise and know that she has our company's best interest in mind."

McAfee & Taft

What the team is known for McAfee & Taft has a deep bench of experienced IP specialists representing a substantially blue-chip clientele from, among others, the chemical, financial, engineering, and oil and gas sectors. Able to draw on expertise from across the firm to provide a holistic service, including in relation to trade secret and misappropriation cases against former employees. Further noted for its excellent balance of transactional and contentious capabilities, and well equipped to support increased activity on foreign protection issues through ready access to leading IP practices worldwide.

Strengths

"We never had something fall through the cracks. Their work has been flawless."

"We always receive prompt and practical advice."

"There is wealth of knowledge within the team."

"They are very responsive to us, act very quickly and they do a great job."

Work highlights McAfee & Taft defended Redline Automotive Accessories and Maciej Szleminski in a federal court action in Oklahoma in relation to alleged patent infringement.

Notable practitioners

Rachel Blue is highly regarded in the market for her extensive experience in IP matters, with particular expertise in trademark issues. **Strengths:** "Rachel's style suits me completely - commercial and clear; her advice is always on point." **Michael LaBrie** focuses his practice on advising corporations on various patent issues. He also leads McAfee & Taft's biotech industry group. **Clifford Dougherty** maintains a broad IP practice, spanning transactional matters and litigation. He

offers significant experience representing clients before the PTAB as well as in federal court.

Anthony Rahhal offers wide-ranging experience in IP matters, including patent applications and prosecution. He also advises on trademark issues and is adept at handling cross-border mandates.

Strengths: “Anthony is very strong technically and takes a practical approach. He is easy to work with and responsive.” **Zachary Oubre** is an increasingly prominent member of McAfee & Taft’s IP practice who is regularly sought out for his advice on copyright and patent infringement disputes. He is also co-head of the firm’s cybersecurity and data privacy group. **Strengths:** “Zachary is knowledgeable, responsive and fantastic to work with.” “Zachary has the ability to explain the nuances of law.”

Band 2

GableGotwals

What the team is known for GableGotwals has a full-service IP practice offering both litigation and transactional services, including patent oppositions and trademark infringement disputes. Offices serve both the Oklahoma City and Tulsa markets. Able to draw support from the firm’s sophisticated energy and corporate commercial groups, complementing its strength in matters such as complex patent prosecutions. Acts on behalf of an impressively broad clientele on both a domestic and an international platform.

Strengths

“They have been extremely helpful and completed everything quickly and efficiently. I couldn’t ask for a lot more.”

“They are very accessible and responsive. More

importantly, they are also proactive.”

“They are knowledgeable and efficient.”

Work highlights GableGotwals advised Vacuworx on managing its portfolio of US and foreign patents in the field of vacuum lifters and on the prosecution of filed applications.

Notable practitioners

Todd Nelson offers vast experience dealing with a variety of IP issues, including litigation and transactional work. He regularly acts for clients in TTAB proceedings, as well as representing them in patent and trademark disputes in federal courts. **James Lea** is a former mechanical engineer whose technical expertise informs his patent prosecution practice. He assists with the preparation, filing and prosecution of US and foreign patents and trademarks. **Strengths:** “He is extremely knowledgeable about the technical and legal issues.” **David Woodral** is co-head of GableGotwals’ IP department and frequently handles a range of patent prosecution mandates.

Strengths: “David has been great to work with and a real asset to our organization.” “He has high legal competency, deep engineering knowledge of our inventions and a 100% patent grant success rate.”

Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden & Nelson, PC

What the team is known for Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden & Nelson has a comprehensive offering, well equipped to handle intellectual property mandates, with a notably high capability for the representation of clients from the IT, electronics and bioscience sectors. Regularly deals with prosecutions of patents for computer software, hardware and data storage systems. Draws on good relationships with international firms to service client needs on a global basis and is

actively developing its offering to hi-tech startup companies operating both within and outside Oklahoma.

Work highlights Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden & Nelson advised Valyant AI on patent and trademark preparation and prosecution in the area of artificial intelligence-based communication and control systems.

Notable practitioners

Randall McCarthy has a wealth of experience in the management of IP portfolios, licensing issues and patent prosecution. **Michael Smith** is recognized for being well versed in all areas of trademark law, handling patent prosecution and assisting clients with ongoing trademark advice.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Dennis Brown of Brown Patent Law is well regarded for his capabilities in the IP space. He handles patent infringement claims as well as advising on transactional matters.

Phillip Free of OKC IP Law is noted in the market for his impressive IP litigation practice, which includes patent disputes and trademark cases. He also advises clients on portfolio management.

Derrick Harvey of Harvey Law offers an in-depth understanding of the full range of IP matters, which is complemented by his prior in-house experience. He advises on the IP aspects of M&A, as well as licensing issues.

Terry Watt of Fellers, Snider, Blankenship, Bailey & Tippens comes highly recommended for his skilled handling of IP matters. He is an experienced patent attorney and acts for clients in the technology sector.

Labor & Employment

Labor & Employment
Leading Firms
Band 1
Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional Corporation
McAfee & Taft
Band 2
Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden & Nelson, PC
Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C.
Band 3
Fuller Tubb Bickford Warmington & Panach PLLC
GableGotwals
Hammons, Hurst & Associates
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional Corporation

What the team is known for Crowe & Dunlevy pro-

vides full coverage of employment law issues for employers, with key strengths in courtroom litigation and the representation of hospitals and other healthcare providers. Also handles administrative agency actions, immigration-related mandates and workers’ compensation issues. Increasingly sought out by clients from the wider region to handle cases in states such as Arkansas and Texas. Handles matters including discrimination, harassment and wrongful termination suits.

Strengths

“They provide a thorough legal opinion.”

“They were very responsive to our questions and concerns and walked us through the process of what to expect at every turn.”

“This firm is a large firm with a lot of depth in terms of legal staff so there is always someone available to help. Their scope of knowledge and level of expertise are very good!”

Work highlights Crowe & Dunlevy defended INTEGRIS Health in an alleged discrimination case. INTEGRIS Health, along with Aerotek, a staffing company that provided temporary staff to INTEGRIS Health, were sued by a former Aerotek employee for alleged discrimination.

Notable practitioners

Adam Childers leads Crowe & Dunlevy’s labor and employment team and handles a broad range of employment disputes. He is held in particularly high esteem for his expertise in trade secret and noncompete matters. **Strengths:** “Adam is highly respected in his field and normally available when we reach out to him. If not, he will return calls or emails in a timely manner.” “His knowledge of employment law has helped us avoid many pitfalls that other organizations experience.” **Randall Snapp** is a veteran labor and employment litigator with diverse experience across the spectrum of

Labor & Employment	
Senior Statespeople & Eminent Practitioners	
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners	
Petrikin Ronald <i>Petrikin Law (ORL)</i> ◇	
Eminent Practitioners	
Lauderdale Michael F <i>McAfee & Taft</i>	
Leading Individuals	
Band 1	
Broussard Steven <i>Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden</i>	
Childers Adam W <i>Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional</i>	
Band 2	
Fulkerson Sam <i>Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak</i>	
Long Brandon P. <i>McAfee & Taft</i>	
Plumb Charles S <i>McAfee & Taft</i>	
Puckett Tony G <i>McAfee & Taft</i>	
Snapp Randall J <i>Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional</i>	
Tubb Jeremy <i>Fuller Tubb Bickford Warmington & Panach</i>	
Turner W Kirk <i>McAfee & Taft</i>	
Warmington Courtney K <i>Fuller Tubb Bickford</i>	
Band 3	
Adams Ellen <i>GableGotwals</i>	
Albert Victor <i>Porter Hedges LLP (ORL)</i> ◇	
Aspan Molly A. <i>Practus, LLP (ORL)</i> ◇	
Bowling Michael <i>Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional</i>	
Bru Courtney <i>McAfee & Taft</i>	
Hammons Mark E. <i>Hammons, Hurst & Associates</i>	
Hurst Amber <i>Hammons, Hurst & Associates</i>	
Thrutchley Chris <i>GableGotwals</i>	
Turner Elaine R <i>Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden</i>	
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.	
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.	

employment work. **Michael Bowling** offers expertise in handling immigration, on-the-job injury, and discrimination-related claims. He regularly advises clients from the healthcare and energy sectors. **Strengths:** “Michael has former human resources management experience, so he not only understands the legal side of issues but also the practical and usage side as well.” “Michael is very knowledgeable in his work. He responds in a timely and professional manner.” “His advice is always well researched and well explained. He understands our needs and guides us to a result that is both compliant and cost-effective for our business model.”

McAfee & Taft

What the team is known for McAfee & Taft is a full-service firm noted for its bench strength and depth. Well equipped to provide comprehensive coverage of all labor and employment questions and offering particular depth of knowledge in employee benefits, ERISA and executive compensation questions and union-related matters for a range of clients. Regularly active on wrongful termination disputes and trade secrets litigation. Also noted for coupling respected litigation skills with an emphasis on strategies to resolve disputes and for initiatives such as the JurisIQ online training service.

Strengths

“We always received timely and quality responses from everyone at McAfee & Taft.”

“They have a strong understanding of business and contract law.”

“McAfee & Taft is fully capable of handling any complex issue.”

“They have the personnel to handle all of our

needs.”

Work highlights McAfee & Taft represented Tronox in a lawsuit filed by its former employee alleging discrimination and retaliation.

Notable practitioners

Michael Lauderdale combines his role as McAfee & Taft’s managing director with an active labor and employment practice, with particular expertise in defending employers in litigation matters.

Strengths: “He is very responsive to us.” “He is an excellent attorney who knows his audience and delivers great leadership.” **Brandon Long** is an acknowledged expert in employee benefits and executive compensation matters, with clients regularly turning to him to advise on retirement, health and welfare plans. He acts for both public sector entities and local and regional businesses.

Strengths: “Brandon is the best. He is very responsive and knowledgeable.” **Charles Plumb** is a highly respected and deeply experienced labor and employment attorney who excels in a broad array of contentious and noncontentious employment matters, including regulatory compliance, litigation, union negotiations and administrative proceedings. **Strengths:** “He is a high-level professional.” **Tony Puckett** is often called upon for his abilities in defending employers facing discrimination, wage and hour, and termination disputes, alongside additional expertise in administrative proceedings involving the EEOC, OSHA and NLRB. His clients include both private businesses and public sector organizations. **Kirk Turner** is particularly well versed in litigation, arbitration and administrative proceedings. He draws on over three decades of experience in this field to act for clients facing discrimination, wrongful discharge, health and safety, and wider civil rights matters. **Courtney Bru** offers solid strengths in advising clients on compliance and litigation prevention strategies, as well as representing clients in contentious matters.

Band 2

Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden & Nelson, PC

What the team is known for Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden & Nelson acts for employers on a regional basis from offices in three states, handling all labor and employment issues with an emphasis on providing the best defense against litigation through strategic policy design and assistance with compliance. Notably active on wage and hour and discrimination claim mandates and in tackling sexual harassment issues as well as Americans with Disabilities Act matters. Represents a range of clients including insurance, food and healthcare organizations.

Strengths

“They are very knowledgeable and responsive.”

Notable practitioners

Steven Broussard’s clients seek him out for his well-honed skills in employment disputes, including his significant expertise in defending employers against discrimination issues, wage and hour matters, and wrongful discharge claims.

Strengths: “We were very impressed by him.”

Elaine Turner lends her considerable experience

in this sector to employers facing litigation and disputes heard before administrative bodies.

Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C.

What the team is known for Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart fields an esteemed Oklahoma branch of the nationwide labor and employment boutique. Provides sophisticated counsel on both contentious and noncontentious matters, fielding significant capabilities in litigation and arbitration. Specific expertise acting in jury trials for both local and regional employers from a variety of industries including the energy, utilities and healthcare markets.

Notable practitioners

Sam Fulkerson draws from significant litigation experience to counsel employers facing a broad scope of employment disputes and administrative proceedings.

Band 3

Fuller Tubb Bickford Warmington & Panach PLLC

What the team is known for Fuller Tubb Bickford Warmington & Panach is an Oklahoma City-based firm known for advising on a host of labor law matters, including discrimination claims, wage and hour disputes, pension and salary negotiations, and workplace safety issues. The team is also equipped to advise on class action employment litigation.

Notable practitioners

Jeremy Tubb is valued by clients for his experience in complex employment litigation and arbitration matters, where he offers expertise in areas such as wage and hour disputes, discrimination claims and workplace investigations. **Courtney Warmington** boasts significant strength in workplace investigations, advising on training programs and defending wage and hour claims.

Strengths: “Courtney is a fantastic lawyer.”

GableGotwals

What the team is known for GableGotwals advises employers on a variety of employment law issues, including wrongful termination disputes, wage and hour law violations and a host of discrimination matters. Well equipped to handle employment arbitrations. Clientele spans the construction, food and beverage, oil and gas, and healthcare sectors.

Work highlights GableGotwals defended Kirk Hilbig in a lawsuit wherein the president and owner of Ultimate Service Associates brought an action against Kirk Hilbig for alleged breach of his employment agreement and failure to pay earned and due wages.

Notable practitioners

Ellen Adams has solid expertise in handling lawsuits related to discrimination, retaliation and wrongful termination. Her clientele revolves around insurance companies, retailers, employment agencies and more. **Chris Thrutchley** is held in high regard by his clients for handling claims relating to allegations of wrongful termination, harassment and discrimination, unpaid overtime

and a host of other contentious employment matters. **Strengths:** “Chris is a great lawyer. He is a very impressive litigator and strategic thinker.”

Hammons, Hurst & Associates

What the team is known for Hammons, Hurst & Associates boasts a highly regarded employment law practice that is widely recognized for its strength in acting for plaintiffs. The firm regularly acts for plaintiffs facing illegal discrimination, harassment, denial of employee benefits and retaliation, as well as representing employees in administrative hearings.

Notable practitioners

Mark Hammons remains a popular choice for employees bringing discrimination, wage and hour, and wrongful discharge claims against businesses. **Amber Hurst** enjoys a burgeoning reputation for her abilities in employee-side litigation matters.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Victor Albert regularly defends employers against trade secrets, restrictive covenants and discrimination claims, as well as handling regulatory proceedings and advising on risk mitigation.

Molly Aspan of Practus is regularly called on to defend employers in employment litigation and administrative proceedings. She also offers experience in regulatory advice, policy development and implementation, and investigations.

Ronald Petrikin of Petrikin Law is a Tulsa-based sole practitioner who is held in high esteem for his longstanding experience in the labor and employment field. He excels in traditional labor matters.

Litigation

Litigation: General Commercial	Litigation: General Commercial	Litigation: Mediators
Leading Firms	Senior Statespeople	Leading Individuals
Band 1	Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners	Band 1
Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional Corporation	Bryant David L. GableGotwals	Burrage Michael Whitten Burrage
GableGotwals	Meyers D Kent Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional	Corbyn George Corbyn Law Firm (ORL) ◇
McAfee & Taft	Muchmore Clyde A Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional	Geister III Charles E Hartzog Conger Cason LLP
Band 2	Ryan Patrick M Ryan Whaley Coldiron Jantzen Peters	Hampton Joe M Hampton Barghols Pierce, PLLC (ORL) ◇
Hartzog Conger Cason LLP	Leading Individuals	Martin Tim Durbin, Larimore & Bialick PC
Ryan Whaley Coldiron Jantzen Peters & Webber	Band 1	
Whitten Burrage	Burrage Michael Whitten Burrage	
Band 3	Cooper Mary Quinn McAfee & Taft	
Baum Glass Jayne & Carwile	Corbyn George Corbyn Law Firm (ORL) ◇	
Conner & Winters, LLP	Geister III Charles E Hartzog Conger Cason LLP	
Durbin, Larimore & Bialick PC	Neville Drew McAfee & Taft	
Franden Farris Quillin Goodnight Roberts +	White, Jr. Joe E. White & Weddle, PC. (ORL) ◇	
Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden & Nelson, PC	Whitten Reggie N Whitten Burrage	
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.	Band 2	
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.	Bialick Mark Durbin, Larimore & Bialick PC	
Band 1	Carwile John J. Baum Glass Jayne & Carwile	
	Chaney James James Chaney Law (ORL) ◇	
	Donchin David Durbin, Larimore & Bialick PC	
	Farris Joseph R. Franden Farris Quillin Goodnight	
	Kirk James Kirk Law Firm (ORL) ◇	
	McConnell-Corbyn Laura Hartzog Conger Cason LLP	
	Rother Timila Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional	
	Tucker John H Rhodes, Hieronymus, Jones (ORL) ◇	
	Webber Daniel Ryan Whaley Coldiron Jantzen Peters	
	Whaley Phillip G Ryan Whaley Coldiron Jantzen Peters	
	Band 3	
	Bocock Joseph H Bocock Law PLLC (ORL) ◇	
	Fogleman Amelia GableGotwals	
	Leach William S McAfee & Taft	
	Love Richard Conner & Winters, LLP	
	Luthey Dean GableGotwals	
	McBride III Michael Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional	
	McCampbell Robert G GableGotwals	
	Nelson Robert D Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden	
	Up-and-coming individuals	
	Vincent Evan G. Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional	
	Environmental in a product liability lawsuit in which the plaintiff alleged a design defect of a grinder that was designed and manufactured by JWC Environmental.	
What the team is known for Crowe & Dunlevy is one of Oklahoma's oldest and largest litigation practices, offering comprehensive dispute resolution coverage, with key expertise in the energy, environmental, financial services and healthcare spheres. Further noted for its regional and international cross-jurisdictional reach and appellate capability. Offers experience handling contentious antitrust matters arising out of large-scale mergers. Significant capabilities in the area of intellectual property litigation, acting for a roster of multinational clients.		Notable practitioners
Strengths		Kent Meyers has a broad commercial litigation practice, complemented by notable expertise in antitrust mandates, as well as arbitration proceedings. Clyde Muchmore maintains a strong reputation for his long-standing appellate practice, while also handling cases of first instance. He is a fine choice of counsel for disputes involving issues of constitutional law and First Amendment mandates, as well as acting on commercial litigation. Timila Rother chairs the firm's litigation department and is noted for her strong trial skills. She can handle an array of commercial disputes, but has particular strength on insurance matters. Strengths: “I am very pleased with Timila and her knowledge in handling the matter.”
“They are able to explain complex issues in layman's terms.”		Michael McBride enjoys a strong reputation for his expertise in Native American law. He actively represents tribes in cases related to the recognition and continued existence of historic Indian reservations. He is also noted for his capacity to counsel national class actions. Strengths: “Michael has been most helpful, especially in the area of tribal law.” “He is a very competent lawyer in the area of Indian Law and has a great demeanor and affect.”
“They have great depth and breadth.”		Evan G. Vincent of Crowe & Dunlevy is highlighted for his expertise in handling lawsuits related to product liability and breaches of fiduciary duty. He is singled out by sources for his legal expertise, commercial acumen, and client-friendly demeanor. Strengths: “Evan is a very competent trial attorney who has a good demeanor and is very thoughtful about his actions.” “He is a top litigator. He has a firm grasp on how to analyze facts, organize them and present them to a court.”
“Crowe & Dunlevy is an exceptional law firm with outstanding lawyers and the resources to handle complex and sophisticated matters.”		
“They are always attentive and responsive.”		
Work highlights Crowe & Dunlevy acted for JWC		

He is excellent on his feet and understands how to advance the goals of the client." "He has always invited, welcomed and carefully considered client inputs, including inputs for documents filed with the court."

GableGotwals

What the team is known for GableGotwals is a full-service dispute resolution offering, including the handling of appellate cases to US Supreme Court level, arbitration and mediation. Acts for Oklahoma-based clients across the country and national companies with Oklahoma interests. Maintains key strengths in oil and gas royalty and class action, construction, financial services and product liability issues. Further noted for its electronic discovery expertise.

Strengths

"They are very responsive. If I have a question or seek information, typically I get a response the same day."

Work highlights GableGotwals represented Ruchir Kadakia, the defendant in a lawsuit in the US District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma alleging that he breached a guaranty to pay a USD6 million promissory note.

Notable practitioners

David Bryant is well versed in a range of commercial disputes, as well as handling antitrust, insurance and malpractice claims. **Amelia Fogleman** is a well-regarded lawyer in Oklahoma who is noted for her practice acting on commercial litigation cases as well as her appellate work. Her clientele includes publicly traded companies as well as privately held businesses. **Dean Luthey** is a fine choice of litigator for Native American tribes and gaming manufacturers, offering impressive experience in state and federal proceedings. **Robert McCampbell** is a go-to for commercial litigation and administrative actions. He also offers deep experience in white-collar crime, drawing on his time as a US Attorney. **Strengths:** *"He is my go-to when people look for big-case attorney."*

McAfee & Taft

What the team is known for McAfee & Taft fields a large, multi-talented group equipped to advise on the management of large, complex disputes both within and outside Oklahoma. Versatile skill set includes specialized expertise in supporting the representation of clients from the medical and insurance sectors and the handling of product liability litigation and bad faith claims. Praised for its excellence in commercial defense matters and readiness to try cases. Well versed in providing representation for clients in the transportation market.

Strengths

"They are fantastic. You don't mess with them in the courtroom – they all have great demeanor and exceptional ways of communicating."

"They are fantastic for any litigation in Oklahoma. They are the go-to firm and you can't find any firm better than them in the state."

"They always provide a response at the committed time."

"They have good litigation skills and client communications."

Work highlights McAfee & Taft defended Amer-

ican Airlines and Mesa Airlines in a negligence action filed by the plaintiffs, alleging multiple injuries as a result of an in-flight incident on 7 June 2022.

Notable practitioners

Mary Quinn Cooper is a go-to litigator for clients such as automotive companies facing large-scale product liability claims, offering notable experience in class actions. She is also well equipped to handle insurance-related disputes. **Drew Neville** is widely renowned for his leading civil and white-collar criminal defense litigation practice. **William Leach** is well regarded for his handling of personal injury claims and class action litigation. He often acts on behalf of insurers. **Strengths:** *"He has a good understanding of how Oklahoma courts and juries will rule on matters."*

Band 2

Hartzog Conger Cason LLP

What the team is known for Hartzog Conger Cason has a respected Oklahoma business-focused practice with key offerings in the oil and gas, antitrust, insurance, securities and tax controversy spheres. Also active on appellate mandates and in the representation of high net worth individuals in family and trust-related disputes.

Notable practitioners

Charles Geister is held in high regard for his wide-ranging civil litigation practice, which includes notable strength in appellate work as well as ADR proceedings. **Strengths:** *"He is fantastic and excellent in mediation."* **Laura McConnell-Corbyn** is an experienced trial lawyer whose commercial practice is complemented by additional strength in employment law and family disputes. **Strengths:** *"She is tremendous; one of these lawyers that is just so great in the courtroom."*

Ryan Whaley Coldiron Jantzen Peters & Webber

What the team is known for Ryan Whaley Coldiron Jantzen Peters & Webber has a boutique practice with an emphasis on the litigation of energy and environmental issues for local, regional and national clients. Also acts on a broad range of contentious issues, including insurance, personal injury and product liability disputes for a varied commercial and financial services clientele.

Strengths

"A strong firm."

Notable practitioners

Patrick Ryan is noted for his long-standing trial practice, which sees him regularly appear in big-ticket state and federal disputes. He draws on previous prosecutorial experience when handling a range of civil and criminal cases. **Daniel Webber** is a highly regarded litigator who comes particularly recommended for his white-collar criminal defense practice. He also advises on civil disputes. **Strengths:** *"He is very talented."* **Phillip Whaley** has a broad civil practice including product liability mandates, insurance claims and commercial litigation.

Whitten Burrage

What the team is known for Whitten Burrage is a very good Oklahoma boutique which attracts recognition for its representation of plaintiffs in class action suits. Fields highly experienced litigators with extensive expertise in insurance tort and bad faith cases.

Strengths

"The firm is good at bringing plaintiff cases against large entities, and it has been very successful."

Notable practitioners

Michael Burrage represents clients in large-scale disputes such as product liability claims, as well as serving as a mediator in a range of mandates. **Reggie Whitten** is particularly commended for his track record of success in big-ticket class actions, including those involving issues of product liability.

Band 3

Baum Glass Jayne & Carwile

What the team is known for Baum Glass Jayne & Carwile is a Tulsa-based firm highlighted for its handling of commercial litigation. Particularly strong on insurance defense matters, while also able to handle employment, personal injury and medical malpractice disputes. Experienced in state and federal courts.

Notable practitioners

John Carwile is a go-to for both litigation and arbitration proceedings arising from a range of civil disputes. **Strengths:** *"He is a talented lawyer."* *"John is very reasonable and smart."*

Conner & Winters, LLP

What the team is known for Connor & Winters handles an impressive range of contentious matters for clients in the energy, insurance and transportation sectors. Strong group of litigators with experience in defending matters such as product liability claims, personal injury suits and discrimination actions. Also noted for its broad commercial litigation practice.

Strengths

"It's an excellent firm with excellent lawyers."

Notable practitioners

Richard Love is highlighted for his expert handling of both commercial disputes and government investigations into allegations such as healthcare fraud, as well as securities regulatory proceedings. **Strengths:** *"He evaluates cases very quickly and does a nice job."*

Durbin, Larimore & Bialick PC

What the team is known for Durbin, Larimore & Bialick fields a well-regarded team for advising on complex insurance disputes and a range of commercial litigation. Also handles personal injury claims and various claims for damages.

Notable practitioners

Tim Martin is recognized as a notable practitioner in Oklahoma, particularly praised for his work acting as a mediator. **Mark Bialick's** practice covers commercial disputes as well as matters involving insurance and mass tort claims. **David Donchin** maintains a broad civil trial practice which includes environmental litigation, insurance

disputes and personal injury claims.

Franden | Farris | Quillin | Goodnight | Roberts + Ward

What the team is known for Franden | Woodard | Farris | Quillin + Goodnight offers extensive experience in litigation. The provide expertise in product liability, and malpractice cases alongside commercial disputes.

Notable practitioners

Joseph Farris of Franden | Woodard | Farris | Quillin + Goodnight is an expert trial lawyer whose broad civil practice includes product liability actions and malpractice claims, as well as family law disputes.

Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden & Nelson, PC

What the team is known for Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden & Nelson has a broad bench with good regional and national connections, particularly noted for establishing excellent attorney-client relationships. Impressive industry sector coverage includes the regular handling of class action and royalty cases for energy companies and strengths in the areas of creditors' rights and trust-related disputes and fiduciary litigation. Also displays skills in handling medical malpractice cases and other healthcare-related disputes.

Strengths

"They are solid across the board."

Notable practitioners

Robert Nelson has a wealth of experience in First Amendment disputes that sees him act for both regional and national media companies in high-stakes courtroom proceedings.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Joseph Bocock of Bocock Law takes on single-plaintiff and class actions at both trial and appellate level for a broad client base. His recent caseload includes construction disputes, condemnation cases and embezzlement investigations. **Strengths:** *"Joseph is reliable, prompt and attentive." "Joseph has handled all levels of sophistication to our utmost satisfaction."*

James Chaney of James Chaney Law is particularly noted for his handling of disputes in the energy industry, which forms part of his broader civil disputes practice. He is a fine choice of counsel for both state and federal proceedings. **Strengths:** *"James Chaney is one of the best litigators in the region. In front of a jury he is unmatched. His breadth of knowledge on all subjects is unsurpassed."*

George Corbyn of Corbyn Law Firm maintains

his reputation as a leading trial lawyer who acts on a range of civil claims, including those involving financial institutions and energy companies, as well as complex malpractice claims. He is also recognized as an experienced mediator. **Strengths:** *"He is fabulous."*

Joe Hampton of Hampton Barghols Pierce is highly recommended for his expertise as a mediator, while also offering experience in arbitration proceedings. He brings long-standing civil trial experience to bear when advising on a range of disputes.

James Kirk of the Kirk Law Firm draws on significant trial experience in areas such as oil and gas litigation, insurance disputes and securities litigation. He is also a go-to litigator for family law mandates. **Strengths:** *"He is an excellent lawyer."*

John Tucker of Rhodes, Hieronymus, Jones, Tucker & Gable covers appellate proceedings as well as trial proceedings across Oklahoma, drawing on long-standing experience in civil disputes.

Joe White of White & Weddle is noted for his strong trial capabilities, which he brings to a range of state and federal disputes. **Strengths:** *"Joe is a very effective litigator."*

Native American Law

Native American Law
Leading Firms
Band 1
Conner & Winters, LLP
Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional Corporation
GableGotwals
Hobbs Straus Dean & Walker LLP
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Luthey Dean GableGotwals
McBride III Michael Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional
Ward Stephen R Conner & Winters, LLP
Band 2
Burrage Michael Whitten Burrage (ORL) ◇
Carter R. Daniel Foster Garvey PC (ORL) ◇
Gomez Daniel E. Conner & Winters, LLP
Williams John John T Williams LLC (ORL) ◇
Band 3
Fogleman Amelia GableGotwals
Green Nancy Green Law Firm, PC. (ORL) ◇
Lamirand Jennifer N. Steptoe & Johnson PLLC (ORL) ◇
Mansinghani Mithun Lehotsky Keller Cohn LLP (ORL) ◇
Posey Tim Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden (ORL) ◇
Shores Trent GableGotwals
Williams O Joseph O. Joseph Williams Law Office (ORL) ◇
◇ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Conner & Winters, LLP

What the team is known for Conner & Winters offers an Oklahoma-based practice operating on a national level for Native American tribes and household-name companies with Indian country clients. The law firm handles transactional, governance and contentious mandates, with key strengths in the areas of lending and financings, energy sector deals and litigation to US Supreme Court level. It is notable for its ability to handle matters within tribal legal systems, and is securing increasing recognition outside state borders. The team also offers counsel on legal infrastructure and tribal governance.

Work highlights Connor & Winters advised the Muscogee Nation Gaming Enterprises regarding a \$500 million financing of its operating and development capital.

Notable practitioners

Stephen Ward maintains a multifaceted practice which spans financings, gaming matters, tribal land rights and litigation. **Strengths:** *"Steve is proactive and always looks for potential issues and gets on top of them when they arise."* **Daniel**

Gomez is an experienced litigator with a wide-ranging practice that includes bankruptcy and insurance disputes involving Native American law.

Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional Corporation

What the team is known for Crowe & Dunlevy acts for Indian tribes on a comprehensive range of transactional and high-stakes litigation mandates. The law firm is well known for its expertise in gaming matters including related hospitality projects, and also advises entities doing business in Indian country, including banks involved in the provision of financial support to significant tribal business and infrastructure projects. The team is actively involved in a number of tribal jurisdiction, sovereignty and immunity issues, as well as healthcare and pharmaceutical-related disputes. The team is also experienced at the intersection of the internet gaming space and Indian law.

Strengths

"Crowe & Dunlevy's attorneys are excellent and skilled and have a breadth of experience."

"It is a top-tier firm in the area of Native American law in Oklahoma."

Work highlights Crowe & Dunlevy represented

Softek Management Services in a contract and fraud dispute involving claims, counterclaims and cross claims with allegations regarding tribal economic development companies and certain federal contracts.

Notable practitioners

Michael McBride maintains a stellar reputation for his extensive experience in regulatory matters, complex disputes and gaming issues. **Strengths:** "Michael is a very good strategic thinker with timely communication and excellent judgment." "He is a very skilled attorney."

GableGotwals

What the team is known for GableGotwals is a well-established Oklahoma firm with expertise in all areas of legal disputes. The law firm represents Indian tribes, vendors, their leaders and organizations in federal, state and tribal courts. The team is active in areas of commercial law, gaming issues, governmental relations and environmental concerns. It regularly deals with dispute proceedings before the US Supreme Court.

Strengths

"GableGotwals' team is very strong at handling complex matters. They are professional and knowledgeable."

"The firm has a very experienced practice group."

Work highlights GableGotwals is defending a tribal hospital, tribal health clinic, and 12 officers and employees of the Cherokee Nation in a case brought by a plaintiff who claims he was denied dental services during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Notable practitioners

Dean Luthey has impressive expertise in Native American law as well as a considerable amount of experience in commercial litigation and gaming

matters. He is also equipped to advise on utilities disputes. **Strengths:** "Dean has a meticulous nature combined with years of experience." **Amelia Fogleman** is noted for her expertise and experience advising Native American tribes on a range of contentious matters, including those relating to the breach of commercial agreements, as well as land disputes. **Trent Shores** is noted for his impressive experience in handling tribal sovereignty matters, criminal prosecutions and civil litigation for Native American tribes and organizations. **Strengths:** "He is very timely at delivering work and very creative regarding solutions."

Hobbs Straus Dean & Walker LLP

What the team is known for Hobbs Straus is a highly regarded boutique with a distinguished practice in the space. The team has considerable experience of handling a range of issues on behalf of tribes, including housing, gaming and child welfare matters. The group has further experience of providing counsel on the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act.

Notable practitioners

Other Ranked Lawyers

Michael Burrage of Whitten Burrage is a former district judge who brings a wealth of experience when handling tribal issues. **Strengths:** "Michael is a fantastic lawyer and an excellent litigator."

Daniel Carter of Foster Garvey PC is recognized for his impressive experience in Native American law, encompassing transactional matters and litigation. He has notable expertise in the energy sector and gaming matters.

Nancy Green of Green Law Firm is recognized for her expertise on a range of tribal law matters, most notably with regard to gaming-related issues. **Strengths:** "Nancy is a strong lawyer."

Jennifer Lamirand is an associate justice for the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and is able to advise on a wide range of Native American issues. She often assists on environmental and oil and gas-related disputes. **Strengths:** "Jennifer is a great lawyer."

Mithun Mansinghani of Lehotsky Keller Cohn is recognized for his considerable experience in Native American Law, representing non-tribal parties in appellate work. **Strengths:** "Mithun is very smart with excellent judgment and extraordinary skills." "He is incredibly intelligent, analytical and creative."

Tim Posey leads Hall Estill's Indian law practice and is well versed in a wide range of matters, including litigation and commercial transactions. He also advises on regulatory issues.

John Williams is sought out for his vast experience advising on a variety of Native American matters. He is also noted for his particular expertise in the energy sector.

Joseph Williams comes recommended for his skilled handling of Native American law matters. He is a well-regarded litigator and offers notable experience representing tribal leaders. **Strengths:** "Joseph is a solid lawyer in the space."

Real Estate

Real Estate
Leading Firms
Band 1
Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional Corporation
McAfee & Taft
Band 2
The Center for Economic Development Law
GableGotwals
Phillips Murrah P.C.
Band 3
Conner & Winters, LLP
Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden & Nelson, PC
Hartzog Conger Cason LLP
Williams, Box, Forshee & Bullard, P.C.

Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

Band 1

Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional Corporation

What the team is known for Crowe & Dunlevy offers the full range of real estate legal services, utilizing the wider firm's resources for comprehensive multidisciplinary support. The team frequently advises on acquisitions and development of properties, in addition to finance matters, including tax credit programs and tax-exempt bonds. Its roster of clients includes corporations active in the healthcare, manufacturing and energy sectors. The team also offers expertise in zoning and land use, including condemnation and eminent domain matters, while regularly handling complex construction litigation. The firm offers additional expertise in alternative dispute resolution techniques.

Strengths

"We are very impressed with the firm's knowledge and capabilities with regard to complex matters."

"There is a breadth of experience within the firm."

"The commercial real estate team is very experienced with the background and depth necessary to handle these types of transactions."

Work highlights Crowe & Dunlevy represented A-Cross in its sale of a 9,000-acre ranch in eastern Oklahoma.

Notable practitioners

Michael Laird is practice head of Crowe & Dunlevy's Oklahoma City real estate team and is recognized for his significant experience advising on complex real estate transactions, including financing, leasing and development matters. His broad clientele spans multinational energy corporations, private equity firms and healthcare clients. **Strengths:** "Michael is an excellent real estate attorney. He is one of the best." **Malcolm Rosser** is head of Crowe & Dunlevy's Tulsa-based real estate practice and is noted for his experience handling a wide range of commercial real estate matters. His areas of expertise include development, financing and acquisitions, as well

Real Estate
Senior Statespeople
Senior Statespeople: distinguished older partners
Hardin Lloyd McAfee & Taft
Hill Frank McAfee & Taft
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Garbrecht Robert L. McAfee & Taft
Laird Michael S. Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional
Latham Myrna McAfee & Taft
Rosser IV Malcolm E. Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional
Band 2
Alberty Gregory W. Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden
Allen Zachary W. Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional
Hasenfratz Sally A. Phillips Murrah P.C.
Marshall Cole McAfee & Taft
Band 3
Batchelor Dan The Center for Economic Development
Berry Jennifer L. Ivester Ivester Law (ORL) ♦
Box David Williams, Box, Forshee & Bullard, P.C.
Box Dennis R. Williams, Box, Forshee & Bullard, P.C.
Hoffhines Kari Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional
Pomeroy Emily The Center for Economic Development
Schuller Stephen A. GableGotwals
Sorem Gentra Conner & Winters, LLP
Spradling T. Scott Hartzog Conger Cason LLP
♦ (ORL) = Other Ranked Lawyer.
Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.

as zoning and land use issues. **Strengths:** “He is a great lawyer for commercial real estate.” “Malcolm is an excellent asset for our work in Oklahoma.” **Zachary Allen** is well regarded for his considerable experience advising clients across real estate development, leasing and transactions. He is also well equipped to advise both borrowers and lenders on real estate finance matters. **Strengths:** “It has been a pleasure to work with Zachary. He is very knowledgeable, capable and accommodating. Zachary is also creative in offering alternative approaches.” “He is one of the most thorough and thoughtful lawyers I have ever worked with.” **Kari Hoffhines** is highlighted for her expertise in a wide range of real estate transactions and lease negotiations. She is particularly noted for her handling of financing and renewable energy matters. **Strengths:** “Kari is well equipped to handle all aspects of the commercial real estate space.” “We have the highest level of confidence and respect for Kari’s quality of work.”

McAfee & Taft

What the team is known for McAfee & Taft is well equipped to handle the fullest range and most sophisticated types of real estate transactions for developers, owners, lenders and investors. The team regularly deals with tax incentive transactions and continues to receive regular mandates from energy companies to assist with property transactions pertaining to the expansion of renewable energy projects. The team is also noted for its expert handling of real estate deals in the healthcare space, including acquisitions, developments, leasing and reorganizations for a range of healthcare clients.

Strengths

“It’s never an issue waiting on responses or getting what we need in a timely fashion.”
“They are strong and proficient.”

“They have a good bench of lawyers to handle a variety of matters.”

Work highlights McAfee & Taft represented OSUMC Professional Services, in connection with the Oklahoma State University Medical Center, in the purchase of unimproved real property and leasing of build-to-suit commercial space across Oklahoma.

Notable practitioners

Lloyd Hardin is well versed in a broad array of real estate matters including commercial leasing, acquisitions, development and financing transactions. **Frank Hill** is highly regarded for his expertise in the real estate market, offering considerable experience in handling commercial real estate development matters. **Robert Garbrecht** is an experienced real estate practitioner, highlighted for his extensive knowledge of acquisition, leasing and development projects. He is head of McAfee & Taft’s real estate practice in Oklahoma.

Myrna Latham exhibits significant experience handling a wide range of sophisticated real estate transactions, including the sale of office towers, hotels and project developments, as well as joint venture advice and reorganizations. **Strengths:** “Myrna is very detailed-oriented.” **Cole Marshall** offers experience handling a variety of real estate transactions. He is particularly noted for his expertise in the agriculture sector, along with additional expertise in advising healthcare and energy sector clients. **Strengths:** “Cole is an absolutely trusted resource when it comes to real estate matters. He can always be counted on for efficient and practical advice.” “Cole is a great lawyer who knows how to handle client relationships with care and high levels of service.” “Cole Marshall is a seasoned legal expert who smooths our path with his charm and wit.”

Band 2

The Center for Economic Development Law

What the team is known for The Center for Economic Development Law is a respected boutique focused on assisting public bodies from local to state level with the realization of community development or redevelopment projects. Acts extensively on public-private collaborations, and well versed in tax increment and other financing incentives, as well as associated environmental, regulatory and potentially contentious issues.

Notable practitioners

Dan Batchelor is very well regarded for his considerable experience in the real estate sphere, particularly regarding private and public development projects. **Emily Pomeroy** demonstrates extensive experience advising a wide range of public sector clients and public-private partnerships on significant development and redevelopment projects.

GableGotwals

What the team is known for GableGotwals is regularly sought out by banks and developers, as well as real estate groups and investors, for a broad range of real estate sales, acquisitions and financings. Also well equipped to advise on

commercial agreements and partnerships, lease agreements and private placements. Frequently handles transactions involving shopping centers and industrial properties.

Work highlights GableGotwals represented the Wagoner County Board of County Commissioners in a lawsuit filed by a residential developer and supported from the Home Builders Association. The lawsuit aimed to challenge the county’s decision to deny permission for a suburban-style subdivision in the unincorporated area of Wagoner County.

Notable practitioners

Stephen Schuller is highly experienced in representing a range of clients across real estate acquisition, leasing and financing transactions. He is also noted for his strength in handling land use and zoning matters.

Phillips Murrah P.C.

What the team is known for Phillips Murrah represents developers, owners, lenders and contractors in all areas of transactional support, and in real estate-related litigation. Acts on the construction of a range of commercial, industrial and residential properties. Also offers advice to REITs and other investors on contentious issues pertaining to title insurance as well as tort and conveyancing claims.

Notable practitioners

Sally Hasenfratz is highly regarded in the market for her considerable experience in handling an array of complex real estate transactions. She is especially noted for her expertise in advising on financing issues.

Band 3

Conner & Winters, LLP

What the team is known for Conner & Winters has a long history of achievement in the real estate area. The attorneys carry out a range of real estate transactions including the purchase, sale, leasing and development of real property, and represent a broad variety of clients, such as Fortune 100 companies, industrial developers, real estate investment trusts, mortgage bankers and individual entrepreneurs.

Notable practitioners

Gentra Sorem is noted for her experience handling a range of complex real estate transactions including leasing, acquisitions and developments. She is further highlighted for her considerable expertise in advising on financing matters.

Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden & Nelson, PC

What the team is known for Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden & Nelson offers the full range of real estate services with ready access to the wider firm’s resources for comprehensive multidisciplinary support. Areas of activity include the acquisition and construction of hotels as well as multifamily residential properties. Adept at handling financings, loans and tax credit programs. Represents a diverse client base ranging from financial institutions to property management companies, with a particular focus on acting for

developers.

Work highlights Hall, Estill, Hardwick, Gable, Golden & Nelson advised Palace Building and Palace Building Master Tenant on an acquisition by Rose Rock Development Partners. The acquisition involved real estate consisting of an apartment building and warehouse.

Notable practitioners

Gregory Alberty has extensive experience advising a range of clients on complex real estate transactions. He is noted for his particular expertise in multifamily property matters.

Hartzog Conger Cason LLP

What the team is known for Hartzog Conger Cason LLP has a notable team of real estate attorneys who assist on transactions and financings of real estate projects across the state. The firm

regularly advises owners, developers and both capital and tax-credit investors.

Strengths

"The firm provided outstanding representation."

Notable practitioners

Scott Spradling of Hartzog Conger Cason is well versed in advising clients across a wide range of commercial real estate transactions. **Strengths:** *"One of the preeminent real estate lawyers in Oklahoma City."*

Williams, Box, Forshee & Bullard, P.C.

What the team is known for Williams, Box, Forshee & Bullard is noted for advising a range of clients, including developers, tenants and landlords, on a variety of real estate transactions and disputes.

Notable practitioners

David Box is recognized for his growing reputation in the market, and highlighted in particular for his expertise in handling an array of complex real estate transactions. **Dennis Box** is a highly regarded real estate practitioner. He focuses his practice on advising clients on a range of complex transactions and land use issues.

Other Ranked Lawyers

Jennifer Ivester Berry of Ivester Law handles a wide array of real estate matters including financing, development and leasing. She has particular expertise in representing clients in the energy sector.

Tax

Tax
Leading Firms
Band 1
Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional Corporation
GableGotwals
Hartzog Conger Cason LLP
McAfee & Taft
Leading Individuals
Band 1
Blake T Michael <i>McAfee & Taft</i>
Davis Steven C. <i>Hartzog Conger Cason LLP</i>
Hickey Matthew <i>McAfee & Taft</i>
Band 2
Cason Len <i>Hartzog Conger Cason LLP</i>
Field Jordan <i>Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional Corporation</i>
Gonzalez Bonner <i>McAfee & Taft</i>
Guzzy J. Christian <i>Hartzog Conger Cason LLP</i>
Mastin Tony <i>McAfee & Taft</i>
Scears James <i>GableGotwals</i>
<i>Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is highest.</i>

Band 1

Crowe & Dunlevy, a Professional Corporation

What the team is known for Crowe & Dunlevy offers longstanding expertise in state and federal taxation. The law firm routinely advises on tax planning, acting for a variety of clients, including tax-exempt entities.

Notable practitioners

Jordan Field is a director in the firm's Oklahoma City office and his practice encompasses aviation and commercial space, corporate and securities, employee benefits and ERISA, healthcare, and particularly taxation. His tax practice includes both tax planning and tax controversy matters relating to federal and state income taxes for entities and individuals.

GableGotwals

What the team is known for GableGotwals' Tulsa-based tax team handles a range of tax planning matters, as well as tax structuring. The team is also experienced advising on tax exemption statuses.

Strengths

"GableGotwals has a robust group of attorneys that can handle many types of matters."

"They are always available and extremely helpful, plus they follow through on all commitments and deadlines."

"They understood our issues and researched the statutes to gain a better understanding on how to proceed."

Work highlights GableGotwals obtained private letter rulings from the Internal Revenue Service, approving the consolidation of commonly controlled private foundations without negative tax consequences.

Notable practitioners

James Scears is well versed in handling tax planning and tax structuring matters, regularly assisting clients with obtaining favorable tax incentives. **Strengths:** *"James was great to work with and explained our appeal process to determine the best way to proceed."* *"He is an outstanding counsel and trusted partner to our team."*

Hartzog Conger Cason LLP

What the team is known for Hartzog Conger Cason is an Oklahoma City-based firm with notable capabilities in the full range of tax matters. The team advises on tax credits and development incentives, as well as handling controversy work, regularly appearing on behalf of clients in Oklahoma state courts. Clients also benefit from the expertise of the firm's dedicated charitable organizations group.

Notable practitioners

Steven Davis is a highly regarded tax attorney

with extensive experience advising a broad array of clients on all aspects of tax law. **Le n Cason** has a broad practice area which includes tax controversies and litigation, the administration of trusts and estates, asset protection, corporate law, estate planning, and mergers and acquisitions.

Christian Guzy is a well-regarded tax attorney with notable expertise in transactional matters. He has additional expertise in environmental law.

McAfee & Taft

What the team is known for McAfee & Taft boasts a strong team with the ability to handle a variety of tax matters, ranging from tax planning to controversy work. The team regularly advises on the tax aspects of corporate transactions, including acquisitions, dispositions and reorganizations. The law firm also offers additional expertise in trusts and estates.

Notable practitioners

Michael Blake is well versed in the tax aspects of complex transactions, including private equity matters and the structuring of investments. His clients include corporates and their owners.

Strengths: *"He has a great tax mind."* **Matthew Hickey** regularly advises corporate and individual clients on a wide range of tax matters, including retirement plan issues and tax exemption concerns. **Strengths:** *"Matthew has helped with numerous types of tax matters. His depth of knowledge and practical experience have helped us resolve open items. He is responsive and efficient in getting work done."* **Bonner Gonzalez** is a skilled adviser on tax planning strategies, in addition to offering tax advice on corporate transactions. **Tony Mastin** is well noted for his experience advising clients on tax controversy matters and is particularly well regarded for his expertise with regard to state and local tax issues.