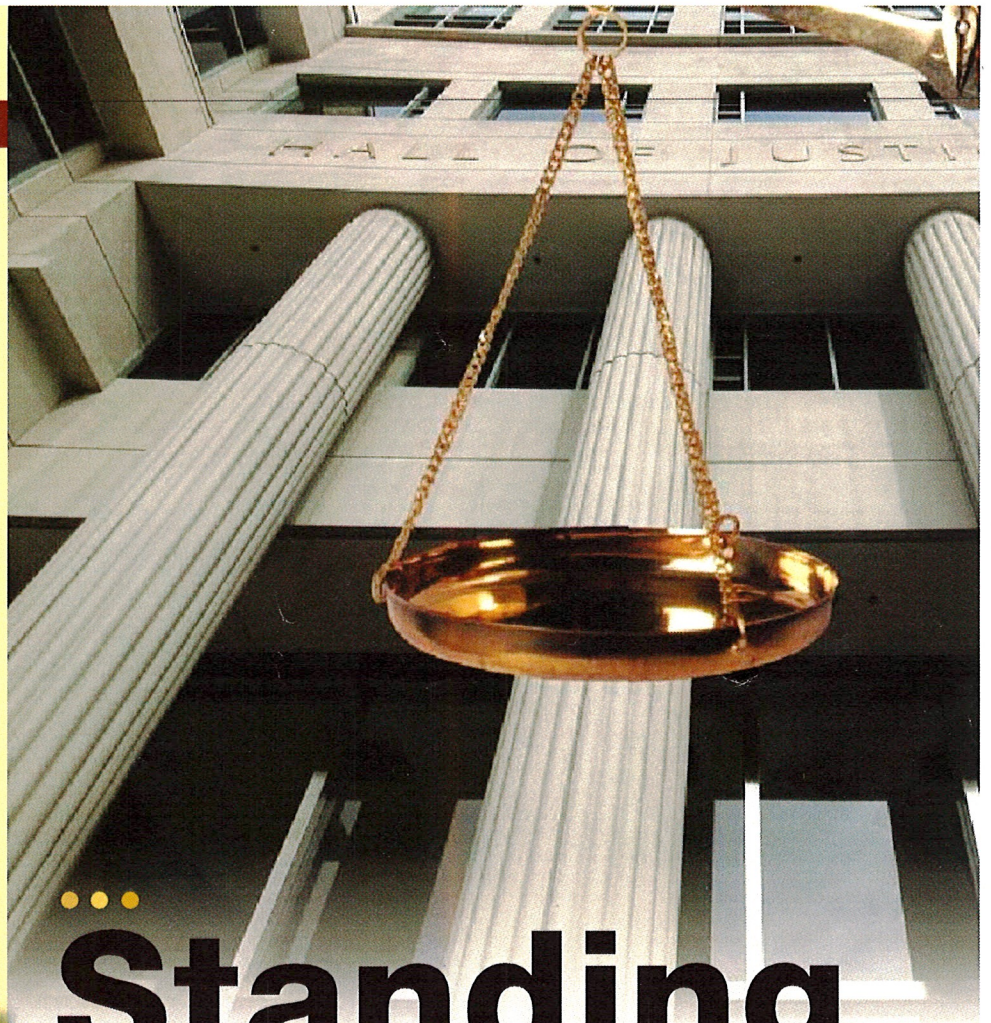


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Visit [www.ambest.com/legal](http://www.ambest.com/legal) to access information about 5,000 insurance defense firms whose credentials have been verified and approved by A.M. Best. Listings include a statement of practice, firm profile, client list and attorney biographies.



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**Standing  
the Test  
of Time** by Kate Fry

Sixty-nine law firms with insurer defense practices have been recommended for at least 75 years by the insurance companies they have represented.

**W**hen A.M. Best Co. began rating the financial strength of insurance companies in 1906, subscribers began requesting information on insurance attorneys who were competent to handle their litigation, adjustments and investigations. As the frequency of these requests increased, the company began, in February 1929, to publish the reference work now known as *Best's Directories of Recommended Insurance Attorneys and Adjusters*.



In the beginning, the listing contained the names of attorneys who were qualified and experienced in handling the needs of insurance companies. A select group of these law firms has been recommended continuously since that first edition, including four that were recommended in an earlier A.M. Best publication in the mid-1920s.

The process for a law firm to become recommended has not changed much since the 1920s. Over time, A.M. Best has conducted research and gathered information from insurance companies to determine potential listees. Once a firm has been selected as a potential listee, the firm is contacted once a year and asked to submit an application to A.M. Best. The firm must provide names of their insurance company clients. A.M. Best contacts these companies for feedback on the firm's work and services. If the feedback from these clients is positive, the firm can be listed and recommended in the publication.

Sixty-nine law firms that have been recommended by their insurance company clients for at least 75 years are recognized here as a group for the first time. Additionally, six law firms that have been listed and recommended beyond this milestone are examined in one-page news articles as a part of this feature.

## Insurance Defense Firms Recommended for at Least 75 Years

Ainsworth, Sullivan, Tracy, Knauf, Warner and Ruslander, P.C.	Albany, N.Y.	Nilles Law Firm	Fargo, N.D.
Albrittons, Clifton, Alverson, Moody & Bowden, P.C.	Andalusia, Ala.	Paulling & James	Darlington, S.C.
Baker, O'Kane, Atkins & Thompson	Knoxville, Tenn.	Pender & Coward	Virginia Beach, Va.
Barrett & McNagly, LLP	Fort Wayne, Ind.	PennStuart	Abingdon, Va.
Betts, Patterson & Mines, P.S.	Seattle, Wash.	Pitts, Pitts & Williams	Selma, Ala.
Betty Outhier Williams Law Office	Muskogee, Okla.	Raggio, Cappel, Chozen & Bernard	Lake Charles, La.
Boehl Stopher & Graves, LLP	Louisville, Ky.	Rice, Dolan & Kershaw	Providence, R.I.
Butler, Snow, O'Mara, Stevens & Cannada, PLLC	Jackson, Miss.	Robinson & Cole, LLP	Hartford, Conn.
Christian & Barton, LLP	Richmond, Va.	Rushton, Stakely, Johnston & Garrett, P.A.	Montgomery, Ala.
Connors & Corcoran, LLP	Rochester, N.Y.	Sands Anderson Marks & Miller	Richmond, Va.
Creason, Moore & Dokken, PLLC	Lewiston, Idaho	Semmes, Bowen & Semmes	Baltimore, Md.
Crowe & Dunlevy	Oklahoma City, Okla.	Shaffer & Shaffer, PLLC	Madison, W. Va.
Dickie, McCamey & Chilcote	Pittsburgh, Pa.	Siemer, Austin, Fuhr & Totten	Effingham, Ill.
Fenchel, Doster & Buck, PLC	Algona, Iowa	Spain & Gillon, LLC	Birmingham, Ala.
Gabert, Williams, Konz & Lawrynk, LLP	Appleton, Wis.	Steptoe & Johnson, PLLC	Clarksburg, W. Va.
Garlitz & Williamson, PLLC	Charlotte, N.C.	Swisher & Cohrt, PLC	Waterloo, Iowa
Hampton & Royce, L.C.	Salina, Kan.	Theus, Grisham, Davis & Leigh, LLP	Monroe, La.
Hanft Fride, A Professional Association	Duluth, Minn.	Thompson & Colegate, LLP	Riverside, Calif.
Heyl, Royster, Voelker & Allen	Peoria, Ill.	Thompson & Knight, LLP	Dallas, Texas
Hornthal, Riley, Ellis and Maland	Elizabeth City, N.C.	Touchstone, Bernays, Johnston, Beall, Smith & Stollenwerck, LLP	Dallas, Texas
Jelliffe, Ferrell, Doerge & Phelps	Harrisburg, Ill.	Trevett, Cristo, Salzer & Andolina, P.C.	Rochester, N.Y.
Johnstone, Adams, Bailey, Gordon & Harris, LLC	Mobile, Ala.	Turner, Padget, Graham & Laney, P.A.	Columbia, S.C.
Jones, Cork & Miller, LLP	Macon, Ga.	Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease, LLP	Columbus, Ohio
Kiley, Harker & Certain	Marion, Ind.	Walstead Mertsching, P.S.	Longview, Wash.
Lamson, Dugan and Murray, LLP	Omaha, Neb.	Warren and Young, PLL	Ashtabula, Ohio
Lang Michener LLP	Toronto, Ontario	Webb, Burnett, Combrooks, Wilber, Vorhis, Douse & Mason, LLP	Salisbury, Md.
Levene Gouldin & Thompson, LLP	Vestal, N.Y.	Wells Marble & Hurst, PLLC	Ridgeland, Miss.
Logee, Hostetler, Stutzman & Lehman, LLC	Wooster, Ohio	Whelchel & Carlton, LLP	Moultrie, Ga.
Lyne, Woodworth & Everts LLP	Boston, Mass.	Wiggin & Nourie, P.A.	Manchester, N.H.
Mangum, Wall, Stoops & Warden, PLLC	Flagstaff, Ariz.	Wilkinson, Goeller, Modesitt, Wilkinson & Drummy	Terre Haute, Ind.
Manier & Herod	Nashville, Tenn.	Willcox, Buyck & Williams, P.A.	Florence, S.C.
McMillan, McCorkle, Curry & Bennington, LLP	Arkadelphia, Ariz.	Woods Rogers, PLC	Roanoke, Va.
McNeal, Schick, Archibald & Biro Co., LPA	Cleveland, Ohio	Woodward, Hobson & Fulton, LLP	Louisville, Ky.
Menn Law Firm, Ltd.	Appleton, Wis.	Young, Thagard, Hoffman, Smith & Lawrence	Valdosta, Ga.
Mound Cotton Wollan & Greengrass	New York, N.Y.		