

NEWS & INSIGHTS

Collin T. Keyser named ‘Lawyer of the Year’ in Best Lawyers as 45 Saxton & Stump attorneys recognized

FIRM NEWSPRESS RELEASE

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LANCASTER, Pa., August 20, 2026 — Saxton & Stump is pleased to announce that 45 of its attorneys have earned recognition in the 2027 edition of The Best Lawyers in America®, one of the legal profession’s most respected peer-review publications.

Among the 45 honorees, 39 attorneys were named to the Best Lawyers list, while six were recognized in the “Ones

to Watch” category. Together, the firm’s attorneys were honored across 35 distinct practice areas.

Shareholder and Co-chair of our Healthcare Litigation group, Collin T. Keyser, earned the distinction of “Lawyer of the Year” for Medical Malpractice Law – Defendants, an award presented to only one attorney per practice area and region.

“This recognition reflects the dedication our attorneys bring to their clients every day. Being named across so many practice areas speaks to the depth and breadth of talent we have throughout the firm,” said CEO James W. Saxton, who was also named to the 2027 list. “Collin’s recognition as ‘Lawyer of the Year’ is well-earned, a testament to the confidence his clients place in him time and again.”

For more than four decades, Best Lawyers has relied on confidential peer evaluations to identify attorneys who stand out for excellence within their respective practice areas.

Lawyer of the Year

Each year, Best Lawyers awards a “Lawyer of the Year” distinction to the attorney who earns the highest peer review rating in their geographic area within a particular practice category. Collin T. Keyser was awarded the honor this year for Medical Malpractice Law – Defendants.

Keyser is a shareholder in Saxton & Stump’s Lancaster, PA office, where he co-chairs the [Healthcare Litigation](#) practice and is a member of the [Litigation](#), [Senior Care](#), and [Business Litigation and Strategic Solutions](#) groups. He has been recognized as a Best Lawyer in Medical Malpractice Law – Defendants since 2025.

39 Saxton & Stump Attorneys Named to 2027 Best Lawyers in America® List

These are the Saxton & Stump attorneys who made the 2027 Best Lawyers in America® list (practice areas each attorney was recognized for are listed after their name):

[James W. Saxton](#) – Litigation – Health Care; Medical Malpractice Law – Defendants; Health Care Law

[Cherie W. Blackburn](#) – Copyright Law; Employment Law – Management; Labor Law – Management; Litigation – Labor and Employment; Trademark Law

[Mark E. Cedrone](#) – Criminal Defense: White-Collar

[Matthew Chabal III](#) – Commercial Litigation

[David R. Chludzinski](#) – Railroad Law; Transportation Law

[Steven D. Costello](#) – Medical Malpractice Law – Defendants; Professional Malpractice Law – Defendants

[William C. Costopoulos](#) – Criminal Defense: General Practice; Criminal Defense: White-Collar

[Rene Stuhr Dukes](#) – Family Law

[Phillip R. Earnest](#) – Construction Law; Insurance Law; Litigation – Construction; Litigation – Insurance

[Kurt F. Fernsler](#) – Construction Law; Litigation – Construction

[Anthony J. Foschi](#) – Business Organizations (including LLCs and Partnerships); Mergers and Acquisitions Law

[Bijan K. Ghom](#) – Litigation – Trusts and Estates

[Katherine Pandelidis Granbois](#) – Business Organizations (including LLCs and Partnerships); Corporate Law; Mergers and Acquisitions Law

[Douglas C. Hart](#) – Employment Law – Management; Litigation – Labor and Employment

[D. Michael Henthorne](#) – Litigation – Labor and Employment; Employment Law – Management

[Erik M. Hume](#) – Real Estate Law

[Melissa Jabour](#) – Medical Malpractice Law – Defendants

[D. Matthew Jameson III](#) – Construction Law; Litigation – Construction

[David A. Jones II](#) – Real Estate Law

[Thomas J. Kent, Jr.](#) – Franchise Law

[Collin T. Keyser](#) – Medical Malpractice Law – Defendants

[Seth A. Mendelsohn](#) – Utilities Law

[Kenneth J. McDermott](#) – Commercial Litigation

[Stefanie Pitcavage Mekilo](#) – Appellate; Commercial Litigation; Litigation – Environmental

[Scott Alan Mitchell](#) – Trusts and Estates

[Shaun J. Mumford](#) – Medical Malpractice Law – Defendants

[Elizabeth “Beth” J. Palmer](#) – Commercial Litigation; Litigation – Trusts and Estates

[Alice F. Paylor](#) – Bet-the-Company Litigation; Commercial Litigation; Employment Law – Individuals; Employment Law – Management; Litigation – Labor and Employment; Litigation – Trusts and Estates

[Wayne M. Pecht](#) – Corporate Law; Trusts and Estates

[Michael D. Pipa](#) – Medical Malpractice Law – Defendants

[Ronald H. Pollock](#) – Litigation – Insurance; Mediation; Personal Injury Litigation – Defendants

[Benjamin L. Pratt](#) – Construction Law

[Christy L. Rogers](#) – Litigation – Labor and Employment

[Richard W. Saxe Jr.](#) – Construction Law; Litigation – Construction

[Kimberly A. Selemba](#) – Commercial Litigation

[Tonya Sulia](#) – Criminal Defense: General Practice; Criminal Defense: White-Collar

[M. Kelly Tillery](#) – Litigation – Intellectual Property; Litigation – Patent

[Joshua J. Voss](#) – Criminal Defense: White Collar

[Isabelle S. Young](#) – Commercial Litigation

Six Saxton & Stump attorneys named to “Ones to Watch” list

The Best Lawyers “Ones to Watch” list recognizes attorneys practicing for five to nine years who have made a significant impact early in their careers. *The list* is also developed through peer review. The six Saxton & Stump attorneys recognized are:

[Rebecca Johnson Barksdale](#) – Commercial Litigation; Construction Law

[Coulter D. Ebbert](#) – Medical Malpractice Law – Defendants

[Lauren A. Green](#) – Medical Malpractice Law – Defendants

[Daniel M. Maier](#) – Litigation – Construction

[Katherine McBeth](#) – Medical Malpractice Law – Defendants

[Abigail Z. Wenger](#) – Medical Malpractice Law – Defendants

Saxton & Stump’s strategic growth outlook

With nearly 300 professionals, including more than 150 attorneys, Saxton & Stump continues to grow through its innovative, collaborative model that attracts top legal talent. This expanding platform enhances the firm’s ability to serve clients and includes seven growing affiliated companies that extend its business advisory reach nationwide.

Saxton & Stump is a full-service law firm providing solutions to complex legal and business challenges with five-star service and results-focused advice, offering a refreshingly different experience for clients, attorneys, and business professionals alike.

Related People

[James W. Saxton](#)
[Cherie W. Blackburn](#)
[Mark E. Cedrone](#)
[Matthew Chabal, III](#)
[David R. Chludzinski](#)
[Steven D. Costello](#)
[William C. Costopoulos](#)
[Rene Stuhr Dukes](#)
[Phillip R. Earnest](#)
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[D. Michael Henthorne](#)
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[Isabelle S. Young](#)

Related Services and Industries

[Firmwide](#)

Rebecca Johnson Barksdale

Coulter D. Ebbert

Lauren A. Green

Daniel M. Maier

Katherine McBeth

Abigail Z. Wenger