

Legal Elite

SmartCEO READERS PICK THE REGION'S TOP ATTORNEYS By Dan Mills

Savvy business leaders understand that trusted strategic partners are critical to the growth and success of a company. The attorney is one such partner who has earned a top spot in any CEO's business arsenal.

The CEO/attorney partnership is one that must have deep roots, honest communication and a shared understanding of the business' vision and goals. Equipped with razor-sharp analytical skills, intellectual creativity and relentless perseverance, the attorney will go to war and back for his or her client's cause.

Each year, SmartCEO calls on its CEO readers to name their go-to attorney. And each year, we amass a formidable list of the region's greatest legal minds. This year's responses resulted in a list of attorneys, from sole practitioners to nationwide firms, that represent myriad practice areas focused on business law.

**Note: This list is based on readers' responses and does not reflect the opinions of SmartCEO magazine.*



Shulman, Rogers, Gandal, Pordy & Ecker, P.A. ("Shulman Rogers") is a full service law firm headquartered in Potomac, Maryland. Today there are nearly 100 attorneys organized into six general operating departments: business and financial services, telecommunications, trusts and estates, real estate, commercial litigation and medical malpractice/personal injury. Within each department of Shulman Rogers are many practice groups concentrating on specific legal areas.

Experience, breadth of knowledge and commitment to excellence enables the firm to provide high quality legal services at a reasonable fee. As a result, the firm is an attractive alternative to larger, higher-priced law firms and to smaller, less diverse firms in the Washington area. You can learn more about Shulman Rogers by visiting our web site at ShulmanRogers.com.

Michael Lichtenstein, recognized in this year's Legal Elite listing, is a shareholder at Shulman Rogers and co-chair of the Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights Group. His practice concentrates in the areas of workouts, bankruptcy litigation and commercial litigation, including the representation

of debtors, creditors' committees, creditors, financial institutions, landlords and equity holders in Chapter 11 proceedings and in commercial litigation in state and federal courts. He has represented several telecommunications companies in large Chapter 11 proceedings with debts ranging from \$25 to \$400 million and has represented companies in a variety of industries in the purchase and sale of assets in bankruptcy proceedings. Recently, Mr. Lichtenstein represented a defense contractor, a high tech company and various furniture retail chains in Chapter 11 proceedings.

Mr. Lichtenstein has represented banks, financial institutions and various creditors in commercial litigation involving contracts, securities, telecommunications, construction, commercial leases and trademarks. He has been involved in contested confirmation hearings related to airlines, shopping centers, the retail industry, health care institutions and office buildings, and was responsible for the real estate issues in a retail bankruptcy involving 1500 stores.

Mr. Lichtenstein has been recognized for his exceptional work in the bankruptcy arena in both the Maryland and District of Columbia Super-Lawyers listings. He has also been named to *Washingtonian Magazine's* Top Bankruptcy Lawyers and, most recently recognized as a Washington D.C. Top Rated Lawyer.

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