

## **Eight of Roetzel's Attorneys Named "Lawyer of the Year" by *Best Lawyers*<sup>®</sup>**

**August 15, 2017** – Roetzel & Andress LPA is pleased to announce that eight of the firm's attorneys have been named as *Best Lawyers*<sup>®</sup> 2018 "Lawyer of the Year." **Only one lawyer in each practice area from each community is honored as "Lawyer of the Year," making these attorneys top in their field.** *Best Lawyers*<sup>®</sup> compiles its lists of outstanding attorneys by conducting thousands of confidential peer-review surveys. Lawyers honored as "Lawyers of the Year" have received particularly high ratings by earning a high level of respect among their peers for their abilities, professionalism, and integrity.

### **Roetzel Attorneys Named *Best Lawyers*<sup>®</sup> 2018 "Lawyer of the Year" are:**

- **Akron**
  - [G. Frederick Compton, Jr.](#) - Education Law
  - [Steven St. L. Cox](#) - Litigation - Trusts and Estates
  - [Terrence S. Finn](#) - Environmental Law
  - [Ronald B. Lee](#) - Product Liability Litigation - Defendants
  - [Christopher P. Reuscher](#) - Business Organizations (including LLCs and Partnerships)
  - [Bruce R. Schrader II](#) - Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law
- **Fort Myers**
  - [John T. Blakely](#) - Bet-the-Company Litigation
- **Cleveland**
  - [R. Mark Jones](#) - Medical Malpractice Law - Defendants

**Mr. Compton**, a Partner in the Employment Services Group, focuses his practice in the area of school law, representing and counseling boards of education and school administrators in a variety of matters including labor relations, negotiations, mediation, employee discipline, employee evaluations, student and parent rights, public records law, open meeting law, administrator employment matters, special education, grievance and arbitration proceedings, reductions in force, parliamentary procedure, policy development, election, and levy matters. He has exclusively represented school districts and boards of education for more than 30 years across the state of Ohio in state and federal courts in matters such as alleged discrimination, health benefits during a strike, student discipline, employee discipline and dismissal, reductions in force, public records, open meeting laws, and special education.

**Mr. Cox**, a Partner in the Corporate, Tax & Transactional Group, focuses his practice on estate planning, family business succession planning, probate matters, estate and trust administration, charitable planning/nonprofit institutions, and business and tax matters. He also represents executors, trustees, and beneficiaries in all aspects of trust and estate litigation. His clients include individuals and businesses in a wide range of tax, estate, and succession planning matters.

**Mr. Finn**, a Partner in the Real Estate Group, focuses his practice on environmental compliance counseling and environmental litigation in administrative, state, and federal forums, representing both public and private sector clients on a wide range of environmental issues. He has defended clients in environmental enforcement actions brought by both state and federal agencies, and prosecuted administrative appeals before the Ohio Environmental Review Appeals Commission. He has extensive experience in brownfield clean-up and redevelopment projects, as well as a variety of environmental

permitting matters, including NPDES, wetland, storm water, Clean Air Act, solid waste and hazardous waste matters.

**Mr. Lee**, Partner-in-Charge of the Product Liability and Transportation Group, focuses his practice on the defense of catastrophic injury cases including death, permanent lung injury such as bronchiolitis obliterans, quadriplegia, paraplegia, traumatic brain injury and loss of a limb. The areas include trucking, products, toxic tort, and mass tort, as well as general liability defense, litigation, and insurance coverage. He represents a broad spectrum of clients in a wide range of litigation matters including transportation, products, popcorn litigation, lead, chemical exposure, benzene, latex gloves, mold litigation, electrical appliances, cranes, pools, and silica.

**Mr. Reuscher**, Partner-in-Charge of the Corporate, Tax & Transactional Group, focuses his practice on corporate and business law. He has significant transactional experience with complex business mergers, acquisitions, divestitures, debt and equity financings, leveraged buy-outs, and recapitalizations. He has represented both public and privately held companies at various stages of growth and has provided clients with day-to-day counseling on sophisticated business matters and securities law compliance. He has worked extensively with private equity, subordinated debt and venture funds as well as the portfolio companies of such funds. He has also been a speaker and author on various corporate and private equity related matters.

**Mr. Schrader**, a Partner in the Creditors' Rights Group and the Firm's General Counsel, focuses his practice in the areas of banking, finance, commercial litigation, business reorganization matters, and bankruptcy /creditor's rights matters. He has extensive experience in bankruptcy and reorganization proceedings, and state court litigation and collection matters. His clients have included financial institutions, creditors, and trustees.

**Mr. Blakely**, a Partner in the Business Litigation Group, focuses his practice on business and commercial litigation and product liability. He has represented plaintiffs and defendants in real estate and construction litigation, condominium disputes, municipal and government litigation, zoning and land use regulation disputes, personal injury, wrongful death, product liability and medical malpractice lawsuits, and unfair competition, fraud, and contract litigation. He has tried lawsuits before the courts of the State of Florida, the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Florida, and the U.S. Tax Court. He has also appeared on many occasions before the appellate courts of Florida.

**Mr. Jones**, a Partner in the Medical Malpractice Group, practices in both medical malpractice defense and civil litigation, focusing on representing hospitals and physicians in a variety of medical defense matters. Mark has handled more than 100 civil jury trials to verdict.

### **About Best Lawyers®**

Since it was first published in 1983, Best Lawyers® has become universally regarded as the definitive guide to legal excellence. Best Lawyers® lists are compiled based on an exhaustive peer-review evaluation. Over 79,000 leading attorneys globally are eligible to vote, and we have received more than 12 million votes to date on the legal abilities of other lawyers based on their specific practice areas around the world. For the 2018 Edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*®, 6.7 million votes were analyzed, which resulted in more than 55,000 leading lawyers being included in the new edition. Lawyers are not required or allowed to pay a fee to be listed; therefore inclusion in Best Lawyers® is considered a singular honor. *Corporate Counsel* magazine has called Best Lawyers® "the most respected referral list of attorneys in practice."

**About Roetzel**

Roetzel is a full-service law firm with offices located throughout Ohio and Florida, and in Chicago. The firm provides comprehensive legal services to national and international corporations, closely held and family-run businesses, institutions, organizations, and individuals. For more information, visit [www.ralaw.com](http://www.ralaw.com).

**Media Contact**

Ashley McCool  
Senior Marketing Communications Coordinator  
Roetzel & Andress LPA  
[amccool@ralaw.com](mailto:amccool@ralaw.com)  
330-849-6636

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