

METHODOLOGY
U.S. News & World Report and Best Lawyers® “Best Law Firms”
and
Best Lawyers in America® “Lawyers of the Year”

U.S. News & World Report and Best Lawyers® “Best Law Firms” Methodology
<http://bestlawfirms.usnews.com/Methodology.aspx>

U.S. News & World Report and Best Lawyers® “Best Law Firms” Frequently Asked Questions
<http://bestlawfirms.usnews.com/faq.aspx>

Best Lawyers in America® “Lawyers of the Year” Methodology
<http://www.bestlawyers.com/Search/LOTYSearch.aspx>

Best Lawyers in America® “Lawyers of the Year”: William Narwold
http://www.bestlawyers.com/Search/LOTYSearch.aspx?country=US&state_code=CT&first_name=William+&last_name=Narwold

Best Lawyers in America® “Lawyers of the Year”: Joseph Rice
http://www.bestlawyers.com/Search/LOTYSearch.aspx?country=US&state_code=SC&first_name=Joseph&last_name=Rice

ADDITIONAL SELECTION/METHODOLOGY INFORMATION

How many ballots were sent out total for “Best Law Firms?”
42492

How many nominees were there total for “Best Law Firms?”
11327 firms

How many voters voted total for “Best Law Firms?”
12693

What makes a law firm eligible to receive a *U.S. News – Best Lawyers® “Best Law Firms”* ranking?
To be eligible to participate in the “Best Law Firms” submission process, a firm must have at least one attorney who has received high enough peer-review to be listed in the current edition of *Best Lawyers*.

Do the “Best Law Firms” rankings affect *Best Lawyers* traditional listings?
Best Lawyers listings will continue to be compiled according to an annual peer-review survey.

What are the “Best Law Firms” rankings based on?
The “Best Law Firms” rankings are based on a combination of client feedback, information provided on the Law Firm Survey, and *Best Lawyers*.

What additional information, if any is reviewed, beyond the peer review and information provided by the firm?
For *Best Lawyers*, we use only the votes received from the attorneys. “Best Law Firms” uses some additional surveying material (see below).

How are we evaluated if we are unable to submit clients because of the nature of our practice?

Practice areas that tend to prohibit release of client information or those that tend to be more sensitive in nature, like Medical Malpractice Law – Plaintiffs, will be evaluated with more reliance on *Best Lawyers* peer-review and the Law Firm Survey.

Who ultimately reviews the information that is collected to determine which/who will be named to the “Best Law Firms” or “Lawyer of the Year” list?

We have a small team on our end as well as a computer system which are used to tally information. We look at each attorney mainly to verify that the votes received are accurate to their listing, and also to review comments.

Are there ever any fees associated with participation in the submission process or receiving a ranking in “Best Law Firms?”

No. There are no fees associated with submitting information or receiving a ranking.

What practice areas are included in the evaluation process?

For a full list of the practice areas considered for the 2013 “Best Law Firms” rankings, please [click here](#).

Where will the rankings be published?

In November 2012, the national first tier rankings will be published in a special Money issue released by *U.S. News & World Report*. The national and metropolitan first tier rankings will be featured in the 2013 “Best Law Firms” stand-alone publication. All of the rankings, in all tiers, will be published online at <http://bestlawfirms.usnews.com>.

How many ballots were sent out in CT for Hartford Litigation - Banking & Finance "Lawyer of the Year?"

We actually don't send ballots strictly for “Lawyer of the Year.” This award is given based on votes received during the *Best Lawyers* balloting. 13 ballots were sent out regarding that specialty.

How many nominees were there in CT for Hartford Litigation - Banking & Finance "Lawyer of the Year?"

13

How many voters voted in CT for Hartford Litigation - Banking & Finance "Lawyer of the Year?"

Unfortunately, this is information we cannot release, as it violates our confidentiality agreement, and we are unable to access our votes at this point.