

OCHD LAWYERS HONORED WITH THE BEST LAWYERS IN AMERICA® RECOGNITION

Milwaukee, WI (September) - Dean Laing, Tom Merkle and John Gehringer from the law firm of O'Neil Cannon have been selected by their peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*® 2009 (Copyright 2008 by Woodward/White, Inc., of Aiken, S.C.).

Since its inception in 1983, Best Lawyers has become universally regarded as the definitive guide to legal excellence. Because Best Lawyers is based on an exhaustive peer-review survey in which more than 25,000 leading attorneys cast almost two million votes on the legal abilities of other lawyers in their specialties, and because lawyers are not required or allowed to pay a fee to be listed, 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."

Dean Laing leads the litigation practice and has been with the firm for 24 years. He's one of the very few attorneys who have successfully practiced both business litigation and personal injury litigation. Attorney Laing has been selected by members of the Wisconsin Bar and judiciary as one of the top trial attorneys in Wisconsin. Law and Politics recognized him as one of the Top 50 Super Lawyers and as one of the Top 100 Trial Lawyers in Wisconsin.

Tom Merkle has been honored for a second year in a row and is one of the founding members of OCHD. He counsels his clients with general corporate and business law matters, including transactions such as acquisitions, sales, contracts, and financing. He also litigates cases involving shareholder disputes as well as family law cases involving closely-held businesses, partnerships, and professional associations.

John Gehringer received recognition in the 2008 Wisconsin Law Journal's Construction Law edition. He counsels his clients in all areas of real estate development, construction law, commercial and construction financing. Attorney Gehringer provides both preventive and remedial legal counsel to financial institutions, real estate developers, REITS, architects, engineers, hotel owners, construction companies, design builders, commercial lessors and tenants, and title insurance companies.

O'Neil Cannon is a full-service legal practice with offices in Milwaukee, Port Washington and Sheboygan. Founded in 1973, the firm focuses its practice on corporate law, tax, estate and

succession planning, real estate and construction, municipal and civil litigation.