

JOHN G. GEHRINGER NAMED 2021 BEST LAWYERS® “LAWYER OF THE YEAR”

John G. Gehringer was recently recognized by Best Lawyers as the 2021 “Lawyer of the Year” for Construction Law.

Only a single lawyer in each practice area and designated metropolitan area is honored as the “Lawyer of the Year,” making this accolade particularly significant. Receiving this designation reflects the high level of respect a lawyer has earned among other leading lawyers in the same communities and the same practice areas for their abilities, their professionalism, and their integrity.

In addition to the “Lawyer of the Year” award, John G. Gehringer was also listed in the 2021 Edition of *The Best Lawyers in America* in the following practice areas:

- Commercial Litigation
- Corporate Law
- Real Estate Law

Best Lawyers has published their list for over three decades, earning the respect of the profession, the media, and the public as the most reliable, unbiased source of legal referrals. Since it was first published in 1983, *Best Lawyers* has become universally regarded as the definitive guide to legal excellence.

20 OCHDL LAWYERS SELECTED AS 2021 BEST LAWYERS®; ANOTHER 5 NAMED BEST LAWYERS: ONES TO WATCH

We are pleased to announce 20 of our lawyers have been included in the 2021 Edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*, and an additional five have been selected as 2021 *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch*.

The following are the O’Neil, Cannon, Hollman, DeJong and Laing lawyers named to the 2021 lists:

Best Lawyers in America

- Douglas P. Dehler – Litigation – Insurance
- James G. DeJong – Corporate Law, Mergers and Acquisitions Law, and Securities / Capital Markets Law
- Seth E. Dizard – Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law and Litigation – Bankruptcy
- Peter J. Faust – Corporate Law and Mergers and Acquisitions Law
- John G. Gehringer – Commercial Litigation, Construction Law, Corporate Law, and Real Estate Law
- Joseph E. Gumina – Employment Law – Management and Litigation – Labor and Employment
- Dennis W. Hollman – Corporate Law and Trusts and Estates
- Grant C. Killoran – Commercial Litigation and Litigation – Health Care
- JB Koenings – Corporate Law
- Dean P. Laing – Commercial Litigation, Personal Injury Litigation – Plaintiffs, and Product Liability Litigation – Defendants
- Gregory W. Lyons – Commercial Litigation and Litigation – Insurance
- Patrick G. McBride – Commercial Litigation
- Thomas A. Merkle – Family Law
- Joseph D. Newbold – Commercial Litigation
- Chad J. Richter – Business Organizations (including LLCs and Partnerships) and Corporate Law
- John R. Schreiber – Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law and Litigation – Bankruptcy
- Jason R. Scoby – Corporate Law
- Steven J. Slawinski – Construction Law

Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch

- Kelly M. Spott – Trusts and Estates
- Trevor C. Lippman – Litigation – Trusts and Estates
- Erica N. Reib – Labor and Employment Law – Management and Litigation – Labor and Employment
- Christa D. Wittenberg – Commercial Litigation

About Best Lawyers

Best Lawyers has published their list for over three decades, earning the respect of the profession, the media, and the public as the most reliable, unbiased source of legal referrals.

Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch recognizes associates and other lawyers who are earlier in their careers for their outstanding professional excellence in private practice in the United States.

Lawyers on *The Best Lawyers in America* and *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch* lists are divided by geographic region and practice areas. They are reviewed by their peers on the basis of professional expertise, and they undergo an authentication process to make sure they are in current practice and in good standing.

EIGHTEEN OCHDL ATTORNEYS NAMED 2020 BEST LAWYERS IN AMERICA®

O'Neil Cannon is pleased to announce that eighteen lawyers have been named to the 2020 Edition of *Best Lawyers*, the oldest and most respected peer-review publication in the legal profession.

Best Lawyers has published their list for over three decades, earning the respect of the profession, the media, and the public as the most reliable, unbiased source of legal referrals. Its first international list was published in 2006 and since then has grown to provide lists in over 75 countries.

“For more than a third of the century,” says CEO Steven Naifeh, “Best Lawyers has been the gold standard of excellence in the legal profession.” President Phil Greer adds, “We are extremely proud of that record and equally proud to acknowledge the accomplishments of these exceptional legal professionals.”

Lawyers on *The Best Lawyers in America* list are divided by geographic region and practice areas. They are reviewed by their peers on the basis of professional expertise, and undergo an authentication process to make sure they are in current practice and in good standing.

We would like to congratulate the following attorneys named to the 2020 *Best Lawyers in America* list:

- Douglas P. Dehler – Litigation – Insurance
- James G. DeJong – Corporate Law, Mergers and Acquisitions Law, Securities / Capital Markets Law

- Seth E. Dizard – Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law, Litigation Bankruptcy
- Peter J. Faust – Corporate Law, Mergers and Acquisitions Law
- John G. Gehringer – Commercial Litigation, Construction Law, Corporate Law, Real Estate Law
- Joseph E. Gumina – Litigation – Labor and Employment
- Dennis W. Hollman – Corporate Law, Trusts and Estates
- Grant C. Killoran – Litigation – Health Care
- Dean P. Laing – Commercial Litigation, Personal Injury Litigation – Plaintiffs, Product Liability Litigation – Defendants
- Gregory W. Lyons – Commercial Litigation, Litigation – Insurance
- Patrick G. McBride – Commercial Litigation
- Thomas A. Merkle – Family Law
- Chad J. Richter – Business Organizations (including LLCs and Partnerships)
- John Schreiber – Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law, Litigation – Bankruptcy
- Steven J. Slawinski – Construction Law

Since it was first published in 1983, *Best Lawyers* has become universally regarded as the definitive guide to legal excellence. *Best Lawyers* is based on an exhaustive peer-review survey. Over 54,000 leading attorneys cast more than 7.3 million votes on the legal abilities of other lawyers in their practice areas. 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.”

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- Seth E. Dizard – Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights / Insolvency and Reorganization Law, Litigation – Bankruptcy
- Peter J. Faust – Mergers and Acquisitions Law, Corporate Law
- Robert R. Gagan – Municipal Law
- John G. Gehringer – Real Estate Law, Construction Law, Commercial Litigation, Corporate Law
- Joseph E. Gumina – Litigation – Labor and Employment
- Dennis W. Hollman – Trusts and Estates, Corporate Law
- Grant C. Killoran – Litigation – Health Care
- Dean P. Laing – Commercial Litigation, Personal Injury Litigation – Plaintiffs, Product Liability Litigation – Defendants
- Gregory W. Lyons – Commercial Litigation, Litigation – Insurance
- Gregory S Mager – Family Law
- Patrick G. McBride – Commercial Litigation
- Thomas A. Merkle – Family Law
- Chad J. Richter – Business Organizations (including LLCs and Partnerships)
- Steven J. Slawinski – Construction Law
- John Schreiber – Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights/Insolvency and Reorganization Law, Litigation – Bankruptcy

Additionally, Attorney Dean P. Laing has been named the 2019 Milwaukee Lawyer of the Year in Product Liability Litigation-Defendants.

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BEST LAWYERS® HONORS 18 ATTORNEYS IN 2018

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- Gregory S. Mager - Family Law
- Patrick G. McBride - Commercial Litigation

- Thomas A. Merkle – Family Law
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WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT LETTERS OF INTENT IN COMMERCIAL LEASES

Both landlords and tenants have legal and personal obligations to understand and abide by each of the terms in their commercial leases. Too often, aspects of these leases are misunderstood or neglected entirely. The following blog series outlines these aspects one-by-one, emphasizing key points and illustrating these concepts via real-life commercial lease tenancies. To start, let’s take a look at what you need to know about letters of intent, or LOIs.

LOIs are non-binding.

Although most terms listed in a commercial lease document are considered part of a binding contract, LOIs lack the formality to be considered binding. An LOI is intended to act as a general guide to outline the terms of a proposed lease, offering statements of key terms to the more legal oriented provisions necessary in the final lease agreement.

The most basic terms in a LOI would include:

- the identity of the Landlord and Tenant
- the location of the building and size of the space
- the amount of rent
- term or length of the lease
- extension options beyond the initial term
- personal guarantor or guaranties
- what the space may be used for

LOIs are typically negotiated by brokers.

More often than not, LOIs are negotiated and drafted by brokers, rather than by attorneys. A

lawyer typically drafts the final lease agreement. Brokers lack the legal expertise and credentials to independently create legally sufficient binding contracts, which is why LOIs are best-described as written business terms.

LOIs are usually written without input from attorneys.

Because LOIs are typically non-binding, attorneys are not consulted to offer input throughout their drafting. However, both parties involved in any negotiations should understand the relevant legal aspects before engaging in the preparation and execution of LOIs.

For help with questions that come up during your research or negotiation, whether you're a landlord who wants to protect your interests or a tenant hoping to preserve your rights, call [John Gehringer](tel:414.276.5000) at O'Neil Cannon at 414.276.5000 for a strategic consultation about your next steps.