

PRESS RELEASE

Baker Donelson's Joel Buckberg Named Among Franchise Times' Legal Eagles

April 7, 2015

(Nashville, TN / April 7, 2015) Baker Donelson announces that Joel R. Buckberg, co-chair of the Firm's Franchise and Hospitality Group, has been named a "Legal Eagle" for the ninth consecutive year by *Franchise Times*, a national publication for franchisors and multi-unit franchisees.

An annual listing that recognizes franchise law attorneys on the basis of input from their peers and clients, the Legal Eagles list includes leading franchise attorneys from across the country. To be included in the list, attorneys must be nominated by their peers or clients and must meet the criteria of the *Franchise Times* editorial panel.

Mr. Buckberg is a shareholder in the Firm's Nashville office, where he counsels business clients, particularly those in hospitality, franchising and distribution, on strategic planning, transactions, financing, mergers and acquisitions, regulatory compliance and operations. He served for four years as administrator for the International Franchise Association's Franchise Compliance Training Program and is currently a legal advisor and trainer for IFA's Fran-Guard compliance and business culture training program.

A regular presenter on product distribution for Strafford publications and a frequent speaker at the annual Forum on Franchising of the American Bar Association, Mr. Buckberg served as co-editor of the 2009 edition of *Annual Developments in Franchise and Distribution Law*, and a chapter author in the first and second editions of the treatise *The FTC Franchise Rule*, published by the American Bar Association. He is the editor of Baker Donelson's *Hospitalitas* electronic newsletter on franchising and hospitality, and is one of only 419 attorneys worldwide included in the 2013 *International Who's Who of Franchise Lawyers*, which recognizes the world's leading franchise lawyers based on feedback from clients and peer attorneys. Mr. Buckberg has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® in the area of Franchise Law since 2008 and was named the publication's 2014 Nashville Franchise Law "Lawyer of the Year."