

PRESS RELEASE

Baker Donelson's Joel Buckberg Inducted into Franchise Times' Legal Eagles Hall of Fame

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(Nashville, TN / April 4, 2016) Baker Donelson announces that Joel R. Buckberg, leader of the Firm's Commercial Transactions and Business Counseling Group and a co-chair of the Franchise and Hospitality Industry Service Team, has been inducted into the "Legal Eagles Hall of Fame" for being named to the "Legal Eagles" list ten consecutive years 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. Attorneys who have been named to the list for ten years in a row are inducted into the "Legal Eagles Hall of Fame." Mr. Buckberg is one of 11 inductees for 2016 and was featured in the April edition of the publication.

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 and a frequent speaker on franchising topics, 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 former editor of and a frequent contributor to Baker Donelson's *Hospitalitas* electronic newsletter on franchising and hospitality, and has been listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® in the area of Franchise Law since 2008. He was also named the publication's 2014 Nashville Franchise Law "Lawyer of the Year."