

**For Immediate Release**  
**December 5, 2012**

## **16 McCandlish & Lillard Lawyers Named to Virginia Business' "Legal Elite"**

**Fairfax and Leesburg, VA** –McCandlish & Lillard is pleased to announce that sixteen of its 24 attorneys have been recognized by *Virginia Business* magazine as being among Virginia's "Legal Elite." *Virginia Business* determines the "Legal Elite" designation from a survey conducted with the Virginia Bar Association, which polls thousands of Virginia lawyers to determine whom they consider the very best in the Commonwealth in various practice categories. Most of the firm's attorneys named as a result of this year's survey have been honored several times previously. This year's list is published in the magazine's December edition, which was just released.

In addition, Ralph M. Tener of McCandlish & Lillard was selected by *Virginia Business* as the top Intellectual Property attorney profiled for the year. His profile appears in the December issue and can also be viewed at <http://www.virginiabusiness.com/index.php/news/article/2012-legal-elite-profile-intellectual-property/>.

**Wm. McCauley "Mac" Arnold**, a principal of the firm, was named among the best in the category of Construction Law. He has over twenty years experience in the defense and collection of construction related claims of over one million dollars in both private and governmental building projects, and representing landowners and developers before county supervisors, planning commissions, and Board of Zoning appeals. Mr. Arnold received his B.A. from Duke University and his J.D. from the University of Texas, and is admitted to practice in Virginia, Maryland, the District of Columbia and Texas. He has taught construction law, land use and collection law in numerous seminars and colleges, is the author of several articles and booklets on Construction law and Collection law, and is listed in several Who's Who publications. He also has been an Arbitrator for the Construction Panel of the American Arbitration Association.

**William J. Bethune**, a senior counsel of the firm, was named among the best in the category of Business Law. Bill counsels a broad range of business clients in insurance, employment, creditor rights, and other commercial transactions, and also handles business disputes in mediation, arbitration, and litigation settings. He served as General Counsel of the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce from 2000 through 2006 and is currently a member of the steering committee of CXO Forum, [www.cxoforum.com](http://www.cxoforum.com), a group of business owners and executives who meet regularly to discuss business topics and solutions, update management skills, and develop best practices. He led Valor Foundation to partner with state and county bar associations in 2008 to bring the Wills for Heroes program to Loudoun County. Mr. Bethune is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin Law School and of Princeton University.

**Gary W. Brown**, a principal and past Chairman of the Board of McCandlish & Lillard, was named among the best in the category of Alternate Dispute Resolution. A member of the firm's Litigation Group, his areas of concentration include medical malpractice, legal malpractice, product liability and employment discrimination. He is an experienced arbitrator and mediator. Mr. Brown is a former adjunct professor at both the Georgetown University Law Center and Medical Center and a past President of the District of Columbia Defense Lawyers Association, which chose him as Lawyer of the Year in 1996. Also, Mr. Brown was named recently as one of the *Best Lawyers in America*.

**John W. Farrell**, a Principal of the firm, was named among the best in the field of Real Estate/Land Use Law. John has 35 years of experience before governing bodies, planning commissions, boards of zoning appeals and circuit courts, representing landowners, developers, local governments, and environmental organizations in land use and environmental controversies. That representation has included one of the largest rezonings ever filed in Northern Virginia, dozen of plaintiffs in the Fairfax County C & I downzoning, the Loudoun downzoning, and the Loudoun County groundwater litigation. He lectures on land use law for the Virginia Law Foundation and is the co-author of "Planning and Zoning," the comprehensive monograph on land use law in Virginia. He is the past chairman of the Land Use, Environment and Transportation Committee of the Fairfax Chamber of Commerce and has also served on the State Legislative Committee of the Home Builders Association of Virginia. He is admitted to practice in Virginia and Massachusetts.

**Anne Reilly Jones**, a Principal of the firm, was named among the best in the category of Legislative/Administrative/Regulatory Law. Anne is experienced in general business matters including business formations, as well as corporate matters involving for-profit and non-profit entities. She has also represented clients in land use matters relating to commercial, residential and industrial rezoning. Anne's practice also includes commercial real estate transactions as well as specific regulatory issues involving health and/or financial information privacy. Prior to joining the firm, Anne received her B.A. in Economics, graduating Summa Cum Laude from St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She later served as a research assistant and economist with the Banking Section of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve in Washington, D.C. Anne received her J.D. from Georgetown University and has been admitted to the Bar in the Commonwealth of Virginia, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

**Christopher M. Leins**, an associate attorney in the firm, was named to the firm's list of Legal Elite this year as an outstanding Young Lawyer (under 40). Chris' practice areas focus on general civil and commercial litigation and real estate litigation, as well as trial and non-trial work in health care law, and intellectual property. He is admitted to the Bars of the Commonwealth of Virginia and the District of Columbia. Chris earned his J.D. from Wake Forest University School of Law in 2009, where he had been selected as a member of the Wake Forest Intellectual Property Law Journal. He completed his undergraduate studies at the University of Virginia in 2006.

**Laura Golden Liff**, an associate attorney in the firm, also was named to the firm's Legal Elite this year, in the area of Legal Services/Pro Bono. In addition to being a leader in the firm in that area, Laura's primary practice area is civil litigation, with substantial experience in the areas of commercial litigation, business law, fiduciary litigation and family law, and in alternative dispute resolution, including mediation and arbitration. Laura is admitted to practice before all federal and state courts in Virginia and the District of Columbia. She serves as chair of the Northern Virginia Pro Bono Hotline for the Young Lawyer's Division of the Virginia Bar Association. Laura earned her J.D. from the Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law, in 2010, where she was an Associate Editor of the Catholic University Law Review. She earned a B. A. from the College of William and Mary in 2006.

**Robert H. J. Loftus**, who was named among the best in the field of Bankruptcy/Creditors' Rights, is a principal of the firm and graduated from the University of Virginia Law School in 1973. His practice has

focused on business litigation, and he has successfully litigated numerous complex business and liability issues for nationally recognized companies. Recently, he successfully defended a government contracting company from raiding claims, defended a tech company's general counsel from conspiracy claims, defended a bank from a multimillion dollar mechanics' lien claim, prevailed in a dispute over founders' shares in a European telecommunications company, defended a medical practice from fraudulent billing claims, and pierced a series of corporations and obtained a multimillion dollar verdict against its owners. His practice includes all aspects of real estate disputes, including partnership and corporate matters, finance, leasing, and construction, telecommunications, and defense of liability matters.

**R. Peyton Mahaffey** is President, Managing Partner, and a principal of the firm. He has actively litigated business, corporate and commercial matters on a continuing basis since 1980, with broad experience as a trial lawyer and lead counsel in State, Federal and arbitration cases. He has tried numerous jury and non-jury cases, written and argued appellate briefs to the Virginia Supreme Court and Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, and been the principal attorney on a number of reported state and federal decisions. Mr. Mahaffey was selected once again to the "Legal Elite" by *Virginia Business* magazine in Civil Litigation from 2000 – 2012. Mr. Mahaffey has also appeared in "Top Lawyers" by *Washingtonian Magazine*; "Super Lawyers" in the Commonwealth of Virginia and in the Washington, D.C. area; "Top Attorneys in Business Litigation-Super Lawyers Corporate Counsel"; "Top Attorneys" in Virginia, by *Richmond Magazine*; "Top Attorneys" in Virginia by *D.C. Magazine*; and "Best Lawyers in America." He has been named a Fellow of the Litigation Counsel of America; a Fellow of the Virginia Law Foundation; and to the Fellows Advisory Board of the Fairfax Law Foundation. Mr. Mahaffey graduated with High Distinction from the University of Virginia in 1977, and from its Law School in 1980. He is admitted to practice before all State and Federal courts in Virginia, as well as the United States Supreme Court.

**J. Robert McAllister, III**, a senior counsel to the firm, was recognized among the best in Health Law. In addition, his practice includes the areas of trusts and estates law and business and tax-exempt organization law. Mr. McAllister has appeared numerous times since 1995 in *The Best Lawyers in America in Health Care Law* and has also appeared in *Washingtonian Magazine* as one of the "Best Lawyers in Washington" in health care law. He is a member of the Governing Council of the Health Law Section of the Virginia Bar Association. He is also a past President of the Arlington County Bar Association. Mr. McAllister received his

undergraduate degree from Davidson College, his law degree from the University of Virginia and a master's degree in tax law from Georgetown University.

**Lawrence J. McClafferty**, a principal and member of the firm's Executive Committee, has been selected this year in the category of Labor and Employment Law. A member of the firm's Litigation and Real Estate Groups, Lawrence has been selected to the Legal Elite in several different categories since 2005. He is a trial and appellate lawyer who handles commercial litigation as well as employment law, and is admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court and the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals, in addition to the state and federal district courts in Virginia. Mr. McClafferty is a past president of the Loudoun County Bar Association. He received his undergraduate degree from Boston College and his J.D. from Washington and Lee University.

**Autumn D. McCullogh**, an associate attorney who joined the firm this Fall, brought with her a designation as a Virginia Business Legal Elite outstanding Young Lawyer (under 40). Autumn's practice focuses on business matters, including sophisticated business and estate planning transactions, advising and assisting companies with formation, structuring, and capital campaigns, as well as third party contracts, negotiations and exit strategies. She is admitted to practice in Virginia and California. Autumn received her J.D. in 2004, graduating *cum laude* from the University Of San Diego School of Law and earning induction into the Order of the Coif.

**Stephen C. Price**, a principal with the firm, was selected in the category(s) of Estates/Trusts/Elder Law. In addition to those practice areas, Steve's commercial practice focuses on business litigation and transactions, with an emphasis on real property, condemnation, unfair competition, business tort, contractual and conservation easement matters. He also serves as a Commissioner in Chancery for the Circuit Court of Loudoun County, and as General Counsel to the [Land Trust of Virginia](#) & [Loudoun Community Health Center](#) (now HealthWorks for Northern Virginia), and has been a substitute Judge for the General District Courts of Loudoun, Fauquier and Rappahannock Counties, as well as President of the [Loudoun County Bar Association](#) and several community organizations. Steve has been recognized several times as an outstanding attorney, including prior recognition in the "Legal Elite." He earned a B.A. with honors, from Virginia Military Institute, a J.D. from the University of Virginia, and an LL.M. from the University of Cambridge (Queens' College).

**Douglas J. Sanderson**, a principal with the firm, was recognized among the best in the area of Family Law/Domestic Relations. Mr. Sanderson counsels and represents people who need legal assistance with such matters as pre-nuptial agreements, property and separation agreements, divorces, child custody and visitation, equitable distribution and support, and is trained also in collaborative divorce. He also maintains a substantial practice in business transactions and commercial real estate law. Mr. Sanderson has been recognized among *Virginia Business*' Legal Elite in every year since the inception of the list, except 2001. He served as President of Legal Services of Northern Virginia from 1993 to 1996, and has served as *pro bono* legal counsel to the Arts Council of Fairfax County, Inc. since 1991.

**Adam W. Smith**, a principal with the firm, was recognized among the best in the area of Appellate Law. Adam has represented insureds and self-insureds in the District of Columbia and Virginia in the defense medical malpractice, products liability, and general liability claims for over 20 years, including the handling of many appeals to the state and federal appellate courts in both jurisdictions. Mr. Smith earned his J.D. from the Ohio Northern University in 1989, *cum laude*. He is the President of the District of Columbia Defense Lawyers Association, and is a member of the Virginia Association of Defense Attorneys, Virginia Trial Lawyers Association, and the Litigation Council of America.

**Ralph M. Tener**, a principal and Chairman of the Board of the firm, was also recognized among the best in the area of Intellectual Property. A business lawyer who heads the firm's Information Technology Group, he works with software and Internet companies from start-up through venture capital investment to sale or merger. Mr. Tener has been elected to the "Legal Elite" each year since its inception in 2000. He founded the Computer Law Section of the Fairfax Bar Association in 1986 and served as its Chairman for eight years. Mr. Tener served on the Board of Directors of the D.C. Computer Law Forum for five years, including one term as President, and is a former adjunct professor in computer law at the University of Virginia Continuing Education Center.

McCandlish & Lillard, P.C. has 24 active attorneys, with offices in Fairfax and Leesburg. The law firm has been meeting the legal needs of businesses and individuals in Northern Virginia and throughout the Commonwealth for more than a century. For more information regarding McCandlish & Lillard, P.C., call the firm at 703-273-2288 or visit our website at [www.mccandlaw.com](http://www.mccandlaw.com). # # #