East Texas Attorney Johnny Ward of Ward, Smith & Hill Earns National Honors

Longtime East Texas lawyer **Johnny Ward** of Longview's Ward, Smith & Hill, PLLC, once again has been named among the country's top attorneys in the latest edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*.

This is the second consecutive year that Ward has earned selection to the annual compilation of the nation's leading lawyers based on his expertise in intellectual property litigation. In as release, the firm said he is widely recognized for his work in patent infringement cases heard in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas.

The firm's release continues:

> Ward was selected to the 2017 edition after an independent nomination process followed by a review of his courtroom track record by other attorneys who handle the same types of cases and who previously have been named to *Best Lawyers*.
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> To learn more about Mr. Ward and his background, click here: .
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> In February, Mr. Ward helped win the largest verdict issued in the U.S. so far this year in a patent infringement case against Apple Inc. over certain features included in the company's popular iPhones. Mr. Ward, who served as local counsel, selected the jury, examined key witnesses and presented a portion of the closing arguments in the record-setting case.
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> "I am proud to have been selected to *Best Lawyers* again based on the recommendations of other lawyers who handle the

same type of work we have been handling at Ward, Smith & Hill for decades," says Mr. Ward. "I am fortunate to work with some of the best lawyers anywhere in patent cases, and this honor reflects all of our efforts."

In addition to the recent *Best Lawyers* honor, Mr. Ward also is regularly recognized as one of Texas' leading lawyers in the annual Texas Super Lawyers list.