



PRESS RELEASE
Contact: Bonny Craft
248-539-2850
www.secretwardle.com

Secret Wardle Attorneys William P. Hampton, Daniel P. Makarski, and Derk W. Beckerleg Recognized as 2013 *Top Lawyers* in Metro Detroit's *DBusiness* Magazine

When over 18,000 attorneys were polled in the five-county region, three Secret Wardle attorneys were among the nominees for *DBusiness* 2013 Top Lawyers. Mr. Hampton was voted a *Top Lawyer* in the area of Real Estate Law, Mr. Makarski for his specialty area of Alternative Dispute Resolution, and Mr. Beckerleg as an outstanding Municipal Law attorney.

Mr. Hampton, President of Secret Wardle and former Oakland County Circuit Court Judge and State Legislator, has also been recognized in Best Lawyers in America® for over ten years and was named "Detroit *Best Lawyers* Municipal Law Lawyer of the Year" for 2012. Mr. Hampton currently serves as general counsel for the Cities of Bloomfield Hills and Auburn Hills, Townships of Bloomfield and West Bloomfield.

Senior Partner Daniel P. Makarski, with more than 30 years of experience, has earned a state wide reputation as a successful arbitrator, case evaluator, facilitator, and mediator. He is routinely appointed to cases involving personal injuries, medical malpractice, and property and business disputes. For the fourth year in a row, he has been named in *DBusiness* magazine as a *Top Lawyer* in Metro Detroit. Mr. Makarski has previously been awarded the prestigious Respected Advocate Award from the Michigan Trial Lawyers Association and the Civility Award from the Macomb County Bar Association.

Executive Partner Derk W. Beckerleg was also named as *Best Lawyers'* 2013 Detroit Litigation-Municipal "Lawyer of the Year." He has been representing municipal clients for 30 years in virtually all aspects of municipal law particularly handling property tax appeals before the Michigan Tax Tribunal. He currently represents the City of Auburn Hills and City of Bloomfield Hills as their Assistant City Attorney. He is also Assistant Township Attorney for West Bloomfield and Bloomfield.