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TUCKER ELLIS & WEST LLP  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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**ELLIS NAMED CLEVELAND CORPORATE LAWYER OF THE YEAR**

Cleveland, Ohio – (February 23, 2009) - *Best Lawyers in America*, one of the most highly-respected peer-review publications in the legal profession, has named Stephen C. Ellis as the “Cleveland *Best Lawyers* Corporate Lawyer of the Year” for 2009.

After more than a quarter of a century in publication, *Best Lawyers* is designating “Lawyers of the Year” in high-profile legal specialties in large legal communities. Only a single lawyer in six specific specialties is being honored as the “Lawyer of the Year.” The specialties are: Banking Law, Bet-the-Company Litigation, Corporate Law, Family Law, Personal Injury Litigation, and Real Estate Law.

One of the name partners of Tucker Ellis & West LLP, Steve’s 30 plus years as a "deal making" business lawyer and 10 years as the CEO of a major national law firm have made him a valuable business counselor as well as a highly respected lawyer.

The lawyers being honored as “Lawyers of the Year” have received particularly high ratings in *Best Lawyers* surveys by earning a high level of respect among their peers for their abilities, professionalism, and integrity. *Best Lawyers* compiles its lists of outstanding attorneys by conducting extensive peer-review surveys. The current, 15th edition of *The Best Lawyers in America* (2009), is based on more than 2.5 million detailed evaluations of lawyers by other lawyers.

Curt Isler, Managing Partner of Tucker Ellis & West, noted, “Our partners have long recognized Steve's skills. His selection is well deserved, and we are proud to have him as a member of our firm.”

Tucker Ellis & West LLP is a full service law firm with over 140 attorneys with offices in Cleveland and Columbus, Ohio, Denver, Colorado, and Los Angeles and San Francisco, California.

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