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2008  
The Client's Guide

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## BARTLIT BECK HERMAN PALENCHAR & SCOTT LLP is ranked in Chambers USA 2008 as follows:

### ILLINOIS

#### LITIGATION

<b>Litigation: General Commercial</b>
<b>Leading Firms</b>
<b>Band 1</b>
Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar & Scott LLP
<b>Leading Individuals</b>
<b>Band 1</b>
Beck Philip <i>Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar &amp; Scott LLP</i>
<b>Band 2</b>
Bartlit Jr Fred <i>Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar &amp; Scott LLP</i>
<b>Band 4</b>
Hoeflich Adam <i>Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar &amp; Scott LLP</i>
<b>Up-and-coming individuals</b>
Ismail Tarek <i>Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar &amp; Scott LLP</i>
<i>Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is the highest.</i>

#### **Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar & Scott LLP**

**The Firm:** A potent force in the Chicago litigation arena, sources unanimously declare that this is “one of the elite firms – absolutely outstanding in terms of quality.” For many clients, this is the outfit of choice for “high-profile, high-stakes, high-visibility litigation.” Though a compact practice, the group is not limited by its relatively small size: commentators agree that the litigation team can be relied upon to give a “superb performance on the really big cases.” A glittering array of high-profile clients further illustrates the caliber of the group – Merck is a longstanding client.

**The Lawyers:** The “phenomenal” Phil Beck is firmly established as a leading litigator. “His name carries weight,” agree sources. “He has tried significant cases successfully and is able to attract major clients.” In addition to his trial skills, observers also highlight his strategic abilities: “He is not just a great litigator, but

#### GENERAL COMMERCIAL

also understands how to put a case together effectively.” Peers “can’t say enough good things” about Fred Bartlit. “They really broke the mold when they made him,” sources declare. Based in Denver, Bartlit is widely acknowledged as one of the most preeminent trial lawyers in Chicago and nationally, and is known for his skill in handling complex commercial litigation and patent litigation. Adam Hoeflich is “an extremely hard-working young lawyer,” who sources consider has benefited greatly from working with senior lawyers at the firm. He is lead counsel for DuPont in a multidistrict litigation brought by consumers who claim to have purchased cookware made with non-stick coatings sold under the Teflon brand name. Tarek Ismail shows great promise. Already described as “a fabulous lawyer,” Ismail was part of the team acting for Merck in a wrongful death case alleging that Merck’s VIOXX pain relief medicine caused a decedent’s heart attack and subsequent death.

### NATIONWIDE

#### PRODUCTS LIABILITY

<b>Products Liability</b>
<b>Leading Firms</b>
<b>Band 3</b>
Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar & Scott LLP
<b>Leading Individuals</b>
<b>Band 1</b>
Beck Philip <i>Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar &amp; Scott LLP</i>
<b>Band 4</b>
Scott Donald <i>Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar &amp; Scott LLP</i>
<b>Band 5</b>
Hoeflich Adam <i>Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar &amp; Scott LLP</i>
<b>Up-and-coming individuals</b>
Ismail Tarek <i>Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar &amp; Scott LLP</i>
<i>Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is the highest.</i>

#### **Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar & Scott LLP**

**The Firm:** This remarkable trial firm possesses strategic excellence coupled with heavyweight trial capacity, forming the twin pillars of its products liability litigation practice. It may not be able to manage and coordinate multidistrict litigation in a manner similar to firms with a larger infrastructure, but its involvement in several Vioxx trials, as well as PPA and lead paint, demonstrates that it is still a go-to trial firm for crucial products litigation. A constellation of great legal minds means the firm can handle several big-hitting litigations at once. As one commentator put it: “There are a lot of firms that are excellent in products liability – but few that can try cases like Bartlit Beck.” And yet it carries its greatness lightly. Said one observer: “You’d expect lawyers of that brilliance to have huge egos, but that’s simply not the

case – everyone I’ve met at Bartlit Beck has been an absolute pleasure to work with.”

**The Lawyers:** “One of the finest lawyers in the country,” Phil Beck is credited by many with being “the most important figure in the Vioxx litigation.” He can try cases with success anywhere in the country, and “his brilliance in the courtroom approaches the cinematic!” With a great track record in PPA litigation, the excellent Don Scott recently successfully defended NL Industries in a lead paint-related public nuisance matter brought in Milwaukee, and is set to try Vioxx cases in the coming months. The “extremely talented” Adam Hoeflich has a tighter products focus than most at Bartlit Beck, and has acted as national counsel for DuPont Teflon-related class actions, as well as providing strategic input in Baycol litigation. One of the most exciting young trial lawyers in the country, Tarek Ismail combines “brilliant intellect with sound common sense.”

## COLORADO

### LITIGATION

<b>Litigation: General Commercial</b>
<b>Leading Firms</b>
<b>Band 1</b>
Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar & Scott LLP
<b>Leading Individuals</b>
<b>Band 1</b>
Bartlit Jr Fred Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar & Scott LLP
<b>Band 2</b>
Scott Donald Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar & Scott LLP
<i>Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is the highest.</i>

#### **Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar & Scott LLP**

**The Firm:** This “*terrific and well-honed*” commercial law boutique is home to a team of lawyers hailed by commentators as “*high-stakes litigation commandos*.” Conducting high-profile work at a national level, the firm stands “*head and shoulders above the rest*,” and is renowned for the expertise of its trial lawyers, its efficient staffing system and the sheer number of cases it tries. In addition, a strong corporate team

### GENERAL COMMERCIAL

ensure that the firm is firmly in the vanguard of litigation firms in this region.

**The Lawyers:** The “*absolutely first-class*” Fred Bartlit maintains his considerable reputation as a trial lawyer to be reckoned with on a national scale, thanks largely to his profusion of high-profile successes in court. Donald Scott has considerable experience on major cases, and is commended for his attentive client care.

### CORPORATE/M&A

<b>Corporate/M&amp;A</b>
<b>Leading Firms</b>
<b>Band 1</b>
Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar & Scott LLP
<b>Leading Individuals</b>
<b>Band 1</b>
Palenchar James Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar
<b>Band 2</b>
Stephens Thomas Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar
<i>Alphabetical order within each band. Band 1 is the highest.</i>

#### **Bartlit Beck Herman Palenchar & Scott LLP**

**The Firm:** “*Superb to work with*,” this high-end corporate boutique offers experience in complex M&A, securities and compliance issues as well as counseling on corporate governance matters. Acclaimed for “*quickly getting right down to business*,” it emphasizes quality and efficiency and “*wastes no time*.” Recent work includes the successful defense of Trico Marine Services against proxy contest initiated by Newcastle Partners, and advising the buyer on the \$40 million acquisition by Alpha Natural Resources of Arch Coal’s Mingo Logan Ben Creek mining complex.

**The Lawyers:** Well respected by clients, James

Palenchar is “*an exceptional lawyer*,” noted commentators. “*He doesn’t press outrageous positions – he knows what the other side is looking for, and delivers with a great deal of common sense*.” Working primarily at a national level, he focuses on M&A work and corporate counseling, and recently advised Aquilex, a company created for First Reserve, on its acquisition by Harvest Partners. Thomas Stephens “*continues to be great*,” and recently acted for Stratos International on its acquisition by Emerson Electric. **Clients/Work Highlights:** Other clients include Abingdon Resources, and a broad range of private equity companies, hedge funds, and both local and national firms in the public and private sectors.



