

Rhoades McKee

attorneys & counselors

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Attorney Paul A. McCarthy Recognized as one of Michigan's Top 25 Leaders in Law

(GRAND RAPIDS, MI- Monday, January 20, 2011) - On March 15, 2011, Paul A. McCarthy will be recognized by *Michigan Lawyers Weekly* as a *2011 Leader in Law*.

Consistently nominated by his peers throughout his legal career as a *Super Lawyer*, *Best Lawyer of America®*, *Litigation Counsel of America Fellow* and *Michigan State Bar Foundation Fellow*, this recognition merits unique distinction since only 25 attorneys statewide are selected for this honor.

Michigan Lawyers Weekly selects these attorneys annually based on not only their successful service to client and community but also their ability to inspire and lead others.

In 2010, McCarthy received two important decisions, one from the Michigan Supreme Court in *Woodman v Kerra, LLC*, and another from a Kent County jury in *Ward v Flynn*.

In *Woodman*, the Michigan Supreme Court agreed that pre-injury waivers are unenforceable in Michigan. Such waivers are commonly put in front of parents before their children can participate in various recreational activities. McCarthy stated, "the decision upholds a long history of Michigan law and ensures that anyone who harms a child through negligent acts or omissions can be held responsible." The father of three, the decision was particularly important to McCarthy because "it prevents those who may harm children from hiding behind a pre-injury waiver and shifting onto the family unit the consequences and substantial costs of another person's negligence." The Supreme Court's decision ended a four-year effort on the *Woodman* case. McCarthy is particularly proud of the result, which was effectively pro-bono.

In *Ward v. Flynn*, McCarthy led a trial team from Rhoades McKee in securing an \$8 million verdict to rectify an inappropriate corporate sale in a complex business litigation matter. The case was tried for a month. The verdict, which is expected to exceed \$10 million including interests and costs, was recognized as the largest reported verdict in Michigan in 2010 according to the Michigan Lawyers Weekly.

Chair of the firm's litigation practice group, McCarthy is a trial lawyer with an emphasis on matters involving valuation for closely held businesses, commercial litigation,

shareholder/member disputes, directors and officer liability actions, and the defense of accountants and attorneys malpractice actions.

He is an active member of the State Bar of Michigan serving as a Committee Member of State Bar Law Firm Economics Survey and a Panel Member of the Michigan Attorney Grievance Commission. He serves the Grand Rapids Bar Association as Steering Committee member of the Hilman Advocacy Program as well as his community as treasurer of St. Stephen Cub Scout Pack 3217.

About Rhoades McKee (www.rhoadesmckee.com):

Founded in 1960, Rhoades McKee is a 51-member, Grand Rapids-based law firm representing consumers and businesses in a wide range of legal matters, including business, tax and corporate law; real estate, construction and environmental law; labor and employment law; health care law, estate planning and probate law; family law; professional liability and insurance defense; bankruptcy law; and litigation and dispute resolution.

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