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## **Kilpatrick Townsend's Rupert Barkoff and Chris Bussert Named Among the Nation's Top Franchise Attorneys**

### ***Franchise Practice Continues to Receive National Recognition***

**ATLANTA (April 6)** – [Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton](#) announced today that attorneys **Rupert Barkoff** and **Chris Bussert** were named ***Franchise Times 2016 Legal Eagles***, representing the top 200 franchise attorneys in the U.S. and Canada. Mr. Barkoff has been listed in this prestigious ranking every year since 2004, the first year *Franchise Times* published Legal Eagles. This is Mr. Bussert's third year receiving the recognition, further highlighting the strength of Kilpatrick Townsend's franchising practice.

*Franchise Times Legal Eagles* are superior attorneys, selected from nominations by their clients, peers and *Franchise Times* editors.

Mr. Barkoff is Chairman of the firm's Franchise Team and is resident in the firm's Atlanta office. He has been practicing franchise, distribution and corporate law for over 40 years. Mr. Barkoff's franchise practice emphasizes solutions to registration and structuring issues and developing individual and collective solutions to franchisor-franchisee relationship problems. During the course of his career, He has represented numerous start-up, national and regional franchisors in establishment and operation of their franchise systems. Mr. Barkoff has published nearly 300 articles on franchise law. He currently teaches franchise law at the University of Georgia School of Law, and is a member of the Franchise Advisory Committee to Georgia State University's Business School. He has been ranked one of the ten most respected franchise lawyers in the world. In 2017, Mr. Barkoff will be the Chairman of the International Society of Franchising's Annual Conference, to be held in Atlanta.

For more information on **Mr. Barkoff**, please [click here](#).

Mr. Bussert is a Partner in the firm's Trademark & Copyright Team and is resident in the firm's Atlanta office. He has more than 30 years of experience in helping clients protect and defend their most important assets and brands. Mr. Bussert represents clients in trademark, copyright, unfair competition, and franchise litigation, including proceedings before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board, and in licensing and trademark clearance and prosecution matters. He is a former Editor-in-Chief of the *Franchise Law Journal* and currently serves on the Governing Committee of the ABA Forum on Franchising.

For more information on **Mr. Bussert**, please [click here](#).

Kilpatrick Townsend's Franchise Team, was rated nationally in franchising in the annual survey issued by *U.S. News and World Report/Best Lawyers in America* and was one of only two Tier 1 firms in franchising in the Atlanta market. The 2014 edition of *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* also ranked the firm's franchise practice nationally.

For more information on Kilpatrick Townsend's **Franchise Team**, please click [here](#).

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For more information about Kilpatrick Townsend, please visit: [www.kilpatricktownsend.com](http://www.kilpatricktownsend.com).

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