

PRESS RELEASE

Wiley Rein's Robert Smith, Christine Connelly, and Maureen O'Brien Named 2016 'Legal Eagles' by *Franchise Times*

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Washington, DC—Robert A. Smith, chair of Wiley Rein LLP's Franchise Practice, along with partner Christine E. Connelly and of counsel Maureen A. O'Brien, were named 2016 Legal Eagles for their transactional work by *Franchise Times*, one of the country's leading news outlets for the franchising industry. Mr. Smith was named to the "Legal Eagles" list in 2013, 2014, and 2015. Ms. O'Brien also was named to the list last year.

Franchise Times described the lawyers who made the list as "dedicated professionals" who deliver "superb client service" and are "steeped in knowledge about all things franchising." The publication noted that the annual list relies heavily on the quantity and quality of nominations, especially from clients. *Franchise Times'* annual "Legal Eagles" issue has been published for 13 years running.

Wiley Rein's Franchise Practice provides a full range of legal services to meet the needs of franchisors. In addition to the firm's experience representing U.S. franchisors domestically, the group's attorneys specialize in helping U.S. franchisors expand internationally, having done franchise deals in more than 70 countries, and in helping non-U.S. franchisors develop in the United States.