

SHATZ, SCHWARTZ AND FENTIN, P.C. ATTORNEY MICHAEL A. FENTON SELECTED TO 2014 MASSACHUSETTS RISING STARS LIST

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. – Local law firm, <u>Shatz, Schwartz and Fentin, P.C.</u>, serving Massachusetts, Connecticut and New York, today announced that Associate Michael A. Fenton has been selected to the 2014 Massachusetts Rising Stars list in the field of business/corp. Fenton, who currently serves as the President of the Springfield City Council, was selected to join no more than 2.5 percent of the lawyers in the state who were chosen by the research team at Super Lawyers to receive this honor.

Attorney Michael A. Fenton, a resident of Springfield, concentrates his practice in the areas of business planning, commercial real estate, estate planning and elder law. He is a graduate of the Western New England University School of Law (Juris Doctorate, 2012), Western New England University School of Business (Masters in Business Administration, 2011) and Providence College, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with cum laude honors (2009). Attorney Fenton is well-recognized as an emerging leader of the law, as is evidenced by his selection to be a Super Lawyers Rising Star (2014), a Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly Top 25 Up and Coming Attorney (2014), and a *BusinessWest* 40 Under 40 award recipient (class of 2012).

Attorney Fenton is a member of the Hampden County, Massachusetts, Connecticut and American Bar Associations. In addition to his legal profession, Attorney Fenton is also President of the Springfield City Council and member of several community and civic organizations, including: ROCA, Inc. and the Mason Wright Foundation. His commentary is often requested for thought leadership, including recent presentations to the Hampden County Bar Association and the Community Progress Leadership Institute at Harvard Law School.

To be selected as a Rising Star, an attorney must be nominated by other lawyers who have personally observed them in action, either as opposing counsel or co-counsel, or through other firsthand courtroom observation. The nominated lawyers are ranked by points; those with the highest point totals are named to the Rising Stars list. To ensure a diverse and well-balanced list, the research staff considers factors such as firm size, practice area and geographic location.

Super Lawyers, a Thomson Reuters business, is a rating service of outstanding lawyers from more than 70 practice areas who have attained a high degree of peer recognition and professional achievement. The annual selections are made using a patented multiphase process that includes a statewide survey of lawyers, an independent research evaluation of candidates and peer reviews by practice area. The result is a credible, comprehensive and diverse listing of exceptional attorneys that can be used as a resource to assist attorneys and sophisticated consumers in the search for legal counsel.

The Super Lawyers lists are published nationwide in Super Lawyers Magazines and in leading city and regional magazines and newspapers across the country. Super Lawyers Magazines also feature editorial profiles of attorneys who embody excellence in the practice of law. For more information about Super Lawyers, visit <u>SuperLawyers.com</u>.

About Shatz, Schwartz and Fentin, P.C.

Established in 1969, Shatz, Schwartz and Fentin, P.C. specializes in business law, estate planning, commercial and tax-exempt bond financing, real estate law, litigation and bankruptcy. The firm's clients range from closely-held family enterprises to multinational companies with operations in western New England and eastern New York State. The attorneys at Shatz, Schwartz and Fentin provide efficient, cost-effective counseling and advocacy services which frequently involve the use of innovative techniques. The firm, which consists of 13 attorneys, has offices in Springfield and Northampton, Mass., and Albany, N.Y. Additional information about Shatz, Schwartz and Fentin can be found on its website, <u>ssfpc.com</u>.