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### **For more information, contact:**

Thomas Horton  
Mind Cartel Public Relations  
615.428.3333  
tom@mindcartel.com

## **TOP BUSINESS LITIGATOR TO JOIN BALLIN, BALLIN AND FISHMAN** *C. Barry Ward named partner*

MEMPHIS, TENN. — Feb. 1 — Ballin, Ballin and Fishman PC has added top business litigator C. Barry Ward to its staff as partner. Long regarded as one of the leading criminal defense practices in Tennessee, the firm's addition of Ward to its cadre of civil litigators expands its scope of services.

Leslie J. Ballin, one of the firm's founding partners, says, "We are very excited about Barry joining our firm. His knowledge and expertise will allow us to offer legal services in the business community over and above what we have in the past. It's apparent to us that he'll be a good fit."

A veteran of Glankler Brown, PLLC, Ward has previously served as general counsel to the Estate of Elvis Presley, and was responsible for securing the reversal that awarded the rights to the late entertainer's image and likeness back to the estate. He has also handled trust, estate, business and intellectual property issues for a variety of clients that include commercial entities, financial institutions, construction companies, and the world's largest cotton merchant.

"The addition of Barry Ward to this firm will be a tremendous asset. He is highly regarded as a business litigator, and his professional integrity and credentials are among the strongest in the area. We're very happy to welcome him to our staff," affirms partner Randall J. Fishman.

Numerous surveys and rankings have recognized Ward as one of the Memphis area's top lawyers. He has been certified in commercial litigation since 1999 by Best Lawyers, a respected peer-review publication in the legal profession. Ward consistently appears as a "Super Lawyer," and has earned an "AV Preeminent" rating with a perfect score of 5.0 from Martindale-Hubbell, the industry's leading peer review. *Memphis* magazine has also named him as one of the city's best attorneys.

Additionally, Ward was recently elected a Fellow of the Tennessee Bar Foundation, an association of 678 attorneys across the state. The selection honors attorneys who have distinguished themselves in the profession and allows them to help administer charitable grants that support law-related public interest projects.

Ward has served as a member of the Tennessee Judicial Selection Commission since 2002. This prestigious appointment was initially made by Democratic Speaker of the House Jimmy Naifeh, but renewed under current speaker Kent Williams, a Republican. The commission is responsible for the screening of candidates for judgeships across the state, and makes recommendations to the Governor for appointments at every level of the state judiciary, including the Supreme Court.

"I am delighted to be joining Ballin, Ballin and Fishman," Ward says. "Randy Fishman and I have proven to have great synergy in cases we have collaborated on in the past, and joining this growing, future-focused firm is a natural progression to my career at this stage."

Ward is a graduate of Rhodes College, and earned his J.D. degree from the University of Memphis. His appointment at Ballin, Ballin and Fishman became effective today.

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