The following section features attorneys who have demonstrated leadership qualities and have achieved the AV Preeminent rating by Martindale-Hubbell®.

Martindale-Hubbell®, the company that has long set the standard for lawyer ratings, has supplied ALM with a list of Top Rated Lawyers who have achieved an AV Preeminent® Peer Review Rating, the highest rating in legal ability and ethical standards. To create this section, Martindale-Hubbell® tapped its comprehensive database of Martindale-Hubbell® Peer Review Ratings™ to identify lawyers who have been rated by their peers to be AV Preeminent™.

Martindale Hubbell Peer Review Ratings are driven by the confidential opinions of lawyers and members of the judiciary who receive invitations from Martindale-Hubbell®, via an online survey or by mail, to provide reviews of lawyers of whom they have professional knowledge.

A complete directory of all AV Preeminent™ lawyers can be found online at Lawyers.com® and Martindale.com, in the Martindale-Hubbell® Law Directory in print and CD-ROM formats, and online through the LexisNexis® services and at lexis.com. Attorneys shown do not constitute the full list of “Top Rated Lawyers”

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**CATHY YANNI**

Cathy Yanni is a full time neutral at JAMS for more than 18 years and her practice includes mediation, arbitration, and Special Master/Settlement Allocation work. Cathy handles a wide variety of case types and specializes in pharmaceuticals/mass torts, class actions and multidistrict litigation (MDLs), employment, ERISA, and wage and hour cases, privacy/data breach matters, and business disputes. In class actions and MDLs, she works with the parties and the court to design and implement a process ensuring each party’s claims are resolved and settlement objectives are reached fairly and efficiently. In mediations, she is lauded for managing the pre-mediation process and post-mediation follow-up. She is flexible, persistent and her understanding of the law, coupled with her ability to relate to all parties, makes her an effective and sought-after mediator.

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**ANTHONY NOWAK**

Tony has practiced law since 1995 and is licensed in Mississippi, Tennessee and Massachusetts. During his early years of practice, Tony focused on matters of civil litigation and domestic relations. In 2001 he co-founded the firm of Chamberlin-Nowak, P.C., in Hernando, Mississippi, as a general practice firm that also served as counsel to the DeSoto County, Mississippi Board of Supervisors. In 2006, Tony merged his firm with Smith, Phillips, Mitchell and Scott to create Smith, Phillips, Mitchell, Scott and Nowak, LLP, with offices in Hernando and Batesville, Mississippi. Tony has provided Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) services, as a dispute resolution neutral, in the DeSoto County area since 1998. In 2005 Tony chose to limit his practice to government law and mediation. In addition to his continued ADR services, Tony is legal counsel to the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors, the DeSoto County Convention and Visitors Bureau (d/b/a Landers Center), the DeSoto County Recreational District and the DeSoto County Sheriff’s Department. He also proudly serves as the Municipal Court Judge for the City of Hernando, a position he has held since 2001.

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