

News & Insights

Hall Estill Announces Stephen W. Ray as New Managing Partner

Ray is the fifth managing partner in the firm's 56-year history

Hall Estill, Oklahoma's leading law firm, with offices in Tulsa, Oklahoma City, Denver and Northwest Arkansas, has elected Stephen W. Ray as its new president and managing partner. Ray will be only the fifth managing partner in the firm's 56-year history. Previous managing partner Mike Cooke is retiring after a successful 20 years at the firm's helm.

"Steve is an excellent lawyer and good friend," said Cooke. "We have every confidence he is the right leader to continue Hall Estill's legacy as a top tier law firm. Steve has been in firm leadership in other roles for many years, as well as being actively involved in community and charitable work."

As president and managing partner, Ray is responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of the firm. Hall Estill is a full-service law firm with more than 150 lawyers and legal professionals.

He will continue serving clients primarily in the business and tax sectors, specifically dealing in business organizations and transactions, commercial finance, health care, executive compensation and securities, as well as trust and estate work. Ray has been with the firm since 1992.

Ray has been recognized as an "Oklahoma Super Lawyer" in business and corporate law and is listed in Best Lawyers in America in corporate governance law, corporate compliance law, mergers and acquisitions law, securities and capital markets law and securities regulation.

He earned his law degree in 1982 from the University of Oklahoma College of Law and his bachelor's degree in accounting from the University of Oklahoma in 1979. He also served for 10 years as corporate secretary for an NYSE-listed company and has expertise in governance and compliance issues.

Additional elections: In addition, Sarah Hansel and Steve Soulé have joined Hall Estill's executive committee. Hansel focuses her areas of practice in the corporate and commercial and intellectual property sectors.

Soulé, serving for the second time on the executive committee, specializes in bankruptcy litigation and transactions, workouts, reorganizations, and creditor's rights. He also handles general business and commercial transactions for clients.

Sarah Miller, Moira Watson and Ken Williams have all been elected to Hall Estill's board of directors. Miller joined Hall Estill's energy and natural resources practice group in 2017. Her current practice is focused on commercial contracting primarily in the energy industry.

Moira Watson joined Hall Estill in 2016 and practices primarily in the banking and commercial finance area.

Ken Williams is a 40-year business defense attorney with expertise in environmental, municipal law, natural resources, real estate and renewable energy law.

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About Hall Estill

Founded in 1966 in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Hall Estill is a full-service law firm with clients ranging from Fortune 500 corporations to traditional family businesses, as well as nonprofit organizations, entrepreneurial start-ups and individuals. More than 150 legal professionals work in the firm at offices in Tulsa, Oklahoma City, Denver and Northwest Arkansas, assisting a diversified base of local, regional, national and international clients.

Attorneys

- Stephen W. Ray
- Michael D. Cooke
- Sarah E. Hansel
- Steven W. Soulé
- Sarah C. Miller
- Moira C.G. Watson PhD
- D. K. Williams Jr.