



**IOWA STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
COMMITTEE ON
ETHICS AND PRACTICE GUIDELINES**

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October 30, 2007

Mr. Dwight Dinkla
Executive Director
Iowa State Bar Association
521 E. Locust
Des Moines, IA 50309

Re: Ethics Opinion 07-09 (Super Lawyers and Best Lawyers)

Dear Mr. Dinkla

In Ethics Opinion 07-04 the Committee established guidelines regarding law lists. At the time of the Opinion the committee had before it information regarding the peer review process employed by Martindale-Hubblle and Chambers and Partners and was able to determine that the peer review process employed by those publications met the criteria established by the Committee. It did not have information regarding the peer review process employed by two publications entitled Best Lawyers in America or Super Lawyers. Subsequently, both publishers have supplied the committee with the details of their peer review process. Upon examination it appears that both are open to all Iowa lawyers regardless of whether the lawyer subscribes to their service. All members of the Bar have the potential to be rated and they are rated by a significant portion of the bar familiar with the lawyers work.

Accordingly the peer review process engaged by Super Lawyers and Best Lawyers in America is deemed to have met the criteria established by the Committee in Ethics Opinion 07-04.

Consequently an Iowa lawyer may include in their marketing and advertisements that they are rated by either publication, their rating and the meaning thereof.

For the Committee

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nick Critelli". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nick Critelli, Chair