

**Attorneys at Poarch Thompson Law were listed in Virginia Business magazine's 20th annual Legal Elite list for Immigration Law**

**SALEM, Va. (Jan 22nd, 2020)** Salem-based immigration and adoption attorneys, Christine Lockhart Poarch and Rachel Thompson, have been listed in Virginia Business magazine's 20th annual Legal Elite for Immigration Law.

Virginia Business began the Legal Elite project in 2000 as a way to honor excellent attorneys in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Launched in collaboration with the Virginia Bar Association, each year Virginia Business asks local lawyers to "identify which of their peers are the top attorneys in a variety of legal specialties."

Poarch Thompson Law (formerly known as Poarch Law), is a Salem-based immigration law firm that has spanned almost two decades advocating for the sanctity of families and human dignity for all.

Both Christine Poarch and Rachel Thompson are frequent speakers at national, state, and local conferences. Alongside both of their roles as mothers, wives, active community members, and role-models to the many employees of Poarch Thompson Law, they are also recognized leaders in the field of immigration law.

In 2003, Christine founded Poarch Law (now Poarch Thompson Law). Christine serves on the Board of Governors of the Federal Bar Association, is rated AV Preeminent (highest peer rating) by Martindale-Hubbell and is also a Virginia Law Foundation Fellow. Christine is a Virginia Law Foundation Fellow (2014), and a Fellow of the Academy of Adoption and Assisted Reproduction Attorneys (2019). Christine was named a Virginia Lawyer's Weekly "Leader in the Law" for 2019.

Rachel, who began working for Poarch Law in 2012, was officially named partner this year. She serves on the Federal Bar Association's Immigration Law Section Advisory board and speaks annually at its national conferences. Rachel is also a member of its Young Lawyers Division Committee, which plans various continuing legal education programs for the ILS-YLD. She also serves on the DePaul Community Resources Board and holds the position as secretary in the Salem/Roanoke County Bar Association. In 2018, Rachel won the FBA-ILS Younger Lawyer of the Year Award and in 2016, DePaul Community Resources presented her with the Alison Parker Young Woman of Achievement Award.

**ABOUT VIRGINIA BUSINESS & LEGAL ELITE-** Virginia Business is the only publication dedicated to covering economic activity in every sector and every region of the state. Since its creation, the magazine has established a reputation as a "must read" for anybody who wants to stay abreast of commercial events in the commonwealth.

Launched in cooperation with the Virginia Bar Association, the Legal Elite polls lawyers across Virginia each year, asking them to identify which of their peers are the top attorneys in a variety of legal specialties.

Contact: Sydney Lake, Associate Editor, Virginia Business, (804) 225-6942,  
mailto:[slake@va-business.com](mailto:slake@va-business.com)

ABOUT POARCH THOMPSON LAW – Poarch Thompson Law was founded in 2003 to focus on advocacy and protection of Southwestern Virginia’s diverse immigrant community. The firm now consists of five dedicated attorneys that specialize solely in Immigration and Adoption law services for both individuals and companies. More information about Poarch Thompson Law is available at <https://poarchlaw.com/>.

Contact: Victoria Garayalde, Community Outreach & Marketing, Poarch Thompson Law,  
540-387-1005, <mailto:victoria@poarchlaw.com>