

Winston & Strawn LLP

2017 TOP 100 LAW FIRM HIGHLIGHTS

#23 BEST SUMMER ASSOCIATE PROGRAM

OUR SURVEY SAYS

SUMMER PROGRAM

Social Scene

- “Had a fantastic experience, my initial group was incredibly tight knit, had excellent exposure to various associates and partners inside and outside of office.”
- “There were 1–2 social events a week that were a lot of fun, there was plenty of interaction with attorneys and partner contact as well, and the summer associates got along very well with each other and we are still close.”
- “The summers generally become close. They go to lunch every day and that enables them to connect with associates pretty well. The events are fun and well attended. Everybody loves our summer program.”
- “Fantastic summer program in which interaction with attorneys across the firm was highly emphasized. Our summer class is very close due to the great summer program.”

Favorite Event

- “They rented a suite at the Nationals’ game.”
- “My favorite summer event was attending a Broadway show after a firm-organized dinner.”
- “Bowling/bar trivia night. It was the most casual/least focused on being a lavish firm event.”

Training & Assignments

- “Perfect amount of substantive work, i.e. a few hours a day to get a taste, but nobody is seriously relying on your work in a time sensitive way.”
- “We had meetings every single week to discuss what we were working on. It was very clear the associates did not want to overload us. All of the assignments involved substantive work.”
- “Very structured to prevent overwhelming summers, very manageable workload, interesting exposure on certain cases and opportunity to observe practice events.”
- “I did real work and did a lot of it. If you can make it through the summer, you can make it through your first year.”

ASSOCIATE LIFE

Satisfaction

- “I work with smart, capable people and am regularly given opportunities to work on interesting matters.”
- “Generally satisfied. Winston has been great about providing me with atypical litigation experience as an associate. I’ve cross examined witnesses at trial, an experience which many of my associate contemporaries in other firms have not had.”

Firm Culture

- “Our office has a surprisingly social culture and it makes coming to work so much more enjoyable. I frequently spend time with coworkers outside of the office and at lunch in the new cafe.”
- “The culture has improved over past years, with conscious efforts being made for more social events, and stronger firm culture. Inclusion of associates in more decision-making has also helped.”



FIRM INFO

EMPLOYMENT CONTACT

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U.S. LOCATIONS

Charlotte, NC • Chicago, IL •
Houston, TX • Los Angeles, CA
• New York, NY • Newark, NJ •
San Francisco, CA • Silicon Valley
• Washington, DC

WORLDWIDE LOCATIONS

Beijing • Brussels • Dubai • Hong
Kong • London • Moscow • Paris
• Shanghai • Taipei

PRACTICE AREAS

Antitrust/Competition • Appellate
& Critical Motions • Corporate &
Financial • Employee Benefits &
Executive Compensation • Energy
• Environmental • Government
Regulations & Regulatory Affairs •
Health Care • Intellectual Property
• International Arbitration • Labor
& Employment • Litigation • Mari-
time & Admiralty • Real Estate •
Restructuring & Insolvency • Tax
• Trusts & Estates

THE STATS

No. of attorneys: 870

No. of offices: 18

Summer associate offers (2015):
64 out of 64 (2Ls only)

Managing Partner:

Thomas P. Fitzgerald

Hiring Committee Co-Chairs:

Suzanne Jaffe Bloom
Bill O'Neil



THE SCOOP

Winston & Strawn has an enviable 160+ year track record. The global law firm is comprised of 18 offices across the United States, Europe, and Asia, with a robust client roster that includes Abbott Labs, Dell, JPMorgan Chase, Panasonic, and Verizon.

Diversifying with the Times

Winston & Strawn opened its doors in 1853 under the leadership of Harvard grad Fredrick Hampden Winston (Silas Strawn came aboard in 1892). A Beltway insider, Winston instilled in the firm's culture a proclivity to attract political heavyweights: aside from former Veep Walter Mondale, former Illinois Governor James Thompson, and ex-U.S. Attorney Dan Webb have walked Winston's halls.

Among the cases that defined the firm's evolution include devising a plan for Chicago & North Western Railroad to sell air rights to Marshall Field & Company (without losing title to the land itself), a deal that resulted in the construction of the tallest building in the world in 1930, and challenging the War Powers Act in 1944 on behalf of department store Montgomery Ward, whose plants had been seized to assist the U.S. war effort.

While Winston maintains its strong roots in the windy city as a Chicago litigation powerhouse with Webb at the helm, its diversification through lateral acquisitions and U.S. and international office openings has solidified the global presence envisioned by Thompson. The 2012 addition of a large team of litigators led by Jeffrey Kessler and others from the former Dewey & LeBoeuf has been a significant shot in the arm for the firm's New York office and a wellspring of high-profile client work across the firm. Kessler and Webb were elected Winston co-chairmen in November 2015.

Trading on its litigation prowess, the firm has been able to attract top transactional talent as well, bringing over a large lateral group from Pillsbury that added finance and M&A lawyers in Winston's New York, Washington, D.C., San Francisco, London, and Dubai offices.

IN THE NEWS

Ongoing: On a Hot Streak

Winston and partner Jeffrey Kessler continues to rack up victories in high-profile, precedent-setting sports litigation matters, from the arbitration win last year overturning Tom Brady's suspension in the "Deflategate" scandal to this year's successful petition for women to compete in the 50 km race walk for the first time. The practice, which recently filed a wage discrimination case on behalf of the U.S. Women's National Soccer Team and continues its representation in the landmark *Jenkins v. NCAA* suit and the "Deflategate" appeal, was named *Law360's* "Sports Group of the Year" and has been covered by *ESPN Radio*, *60 Minutes Sports*, *Forbes*, *The American Lawyer*, and many other media outlets.

May 2016: For the Mamas and Papas

Winston's May 2016 announcement of a new gender-neutral parental leave program for attorneys and staff—including 20 weeks of paid parental leave for associates—created a buzz in the legal industry. *The Huffington Post*, in an article titled "This Big Law Firm Just Stepped into the 21st Century" states that "this is a pretty big deal in the legal industry" and that "Winston & Strawn is the first law firm to have a policy this expansive." Other national and regional media outlets that covered the story have included *The American Lawyer*, *Bloomberg*, *Law360*, *Crain's Chicago Business*, the *Daily Journal*, and the *Houston Chronicle*.

February 2016: Buyout on Aisle 5

TreeHouse Foods Inc. became the biggest U.S. maker of store-branded groceries like oatmeal and boxed macaroni and cheese when it closed its \$2.7 billion acquisition of ConAgra Foods' Private Brands Operations in February 2016. Winston advised Illinois-based TreeHouse in the deal, which was financed through stock and notes offerings and credit facilities. Widely reported in *The New York Times*, *Bloomberg*, and other media outlets, the acquisition aims to enhance TreeHouse's ability to compete with branded food companies for more grocery shelf space.

FIRM INFO

PERKS

Bar review and examination course fees and \$10,000 stipend for the summer of the bar exam • Business development/marketing budget • Car rides home when working late • CLE tuition fees • 20 weeks paid parental leave • Emergency child/elder care • Free dinner when working late • LEED-certified building (some offices) • On-site cafeteria (some offices) • On-site gym (some offices) • Relocation expenses • Subsidized gym membership • Technology stipend/data plan reimbursement

BASE SALARY (2016)

1st year: \$180,000
2nd year: \$190,000
3rd year: \$210,000
4th year: \$235,000
5th year: \$260,000
6th year: \$280,000
7th year: \$300,000
8th year: \$315,000
Summer associate: \$3,461/week