

2017 Top 100 Most Prestigious Law Firms



Summary: Law firm ranking lists are a highly referenced system of understanding which law firms are the best at what they do with Vault's list being one of them.

Vault's ranking of the top 100 law firms has finally been released. The rankings are determined by compiling a list of the most renowned law firms across the nation by reviewing the feedback received in previous surveys, looking over legal publications, speaking with lawyers, legal recruiters, and law firm personnel, and comparing other published rankings. They then ask the top firms to distribute an online survey to associates. Over 18,000 attorneys returned anonymous surveys to Vault this year. Some of the attorneys are from New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Silicon Valley, Chicago, Boston, Philadelphia, Houston, Dallas, DC, Miami, London, Cleveland, Seattle, Orlando, Paris, Phoenix, Atlanta and many other domestic and international locations. The online survey asked attorneys to score each of the law firms on a scale of 1 to 10 based on how prestigious they perceive the firm to be. Associates were instructed to only rate those firms with which they were familiar and were not permitted to rate their own firm. Vault then tallied the scores to create their list.

See [Most Diverse Law Firms](#).

The top 10 are as follows:

1. Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP
2. Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz
3. Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP and Affiliates
4. Sullivan & Cromwell LLP
5. Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP
6. Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP
7. Latham & Watkins LLP
8. Kirkland & Ellis LLP
9. Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP
10. Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP

Are you surprised by any firms included or not in the top 10? Tell us in the comments below.

To learn more about law firm rankings, read [Abundance of Surveys, Rankings Frustrate Many Law Firms](#).

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