



500 LAWDRAGON

Hall of Fame

The Lawdragon Hall of Fame honors lawyers for their enduring contributions to the legal profession.

In its second year, we have chosen 23 new honorees who have dedicated their careers to the law. They range from plaintiff lawyers who have changed the lives of badly injured individuals to powerful corporate governance experts.

This year's group includes the late U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, whose lifelong embrace of the law, its quarrelsome crannies and soaring principles, defines our Hall of Fame.



Wylie Aitken - Aitken Aitken Cohen

The most important impact lawyers can have is in their own communities, where Aitken has achieved justice for badly injured individuals, and been a leader for his law school and the trial lawyer profession.

David Andrews - PepsiCo./McCutchen (1942-2013)

He brought a grace to all he did, from leading environmental lawyer to one of the first African-American leaders in BigLaw, 19th General Counsel of the State Department to general counsel of PepsiCo.



Ralph Baxter - Orrick

Take a small-town kid from West Virginia, add a law degree and marketing savvy and watch him rise to preeminent employment lawyer, and then chairman of Orrick, which he revolutionized from a public finance shop to a national power.

Morgan Chu - Irell & Manella

A self-proclaimed underachiever in his own family, Chu is the first Asian-American head of a BigLaw firm, a genius IP litigator, the supporter of the Dean's chair at Harvard Law School, and a benefactor of the remarkable City of Hope.



Joe Cotchett - Cotchett Pitre

The larger-than-life Cotchett rose from JAG officer to win billions for consumers in antitrust, financial and other frauds while becoming a major Bay Area politico and supporter of UC Hastings Law School and science and math teacher education.

Mary Cranston - Pillsbury

She crashed through BigLaw ceilings at Pillsbury when it was California's leading firm, becoming head of litigation and then chair. She has since laid new pavement for women aspiring to corporate board positions and other leadership roles.



Larry Feldman - Liner LLP

He'll forever be known for his star turn suing Michael Jackson on behalf of a boy the singer allegedly molested, just one of more than a hundred trials he's handled in his remarkably winning career.



William Gates - World Justice Project/K&L Gates

A towering figure in the Northwest, he was a name partner at what is now K&L Gates, a community leader for Planned Parenthood and is a leading supporter of the World Justice Project and University of Washington Law School.

Jack Greenberg - Columbia Law School/NAACP (1924-2016)

The Columbia Law Professor will forever be remembered as one of the attorneys who won *Brown v. Board of Education*, and for succeeding Thurgood Marshall as president of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund.



Marshall Grossman - Orrick

A tenacious trial lawyer from Southern California, Grossman rose to prominence with his advocacy in the Guess? Jeans litigation, and has continued his high-profile winning ways while serving as an important supporter of the American Jewish Community.

Ben Heineman - GE Corp.

A key architect of the ascension of corporate counsel while general counsel at GE, Heineman now uses his Harvard platform to continue the conversation about corporate legal accountability.



Stephen Immelt - Hogan Lovells

A towering figure in Biglaw, the acclaimed litigator has led one of the only successful European expansions through merger, and is praised for his advocacy on redefining law practice with an eye to clients, leadership and solutions.

Lou Kling - Skadden

A vaunted dealmaker on Skadden's illustrious team, he represents a who's who of corporations, including News Corporation, Express Scripts and E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Company.



Esther Lardent - Pro Bono Institute (1948-2016)

The daughter of Holocaust survivors made public service her mantra, using her career to advocate for pro bono – and in the process creating more than 60 million free hours of legal services to people in need through the Pro Bono Institute.

Raymond Marshall - Sheppard Mullin

A widely respected Bay Area litigator, Marshall gives tirelessly to the community and serves as a strong voice for diversity through bar organizations, including the California Minority Counsel Project.





Vilma Martinez - MALDEF/Munger Tolles/U.S. Government

The voting power of Latinos and bilingual education are but two of Martinez's legacies, rising from her San Antonio childhood to become a civil rights leader at MALDEF, partner at Munger Tolles and then Ambassador to Argentina.

Richard Matsch - U.S. District Court

The highly respected former prosecutor was exemplary as the judge in the Oklahoma City bombing trial of Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols. He continues to serve the federal bench in Denver.



William Neukom - World Justice Project/Microsoft

He's had a storied career in every sense, serving as Microsoft's first general counsel. He's since run the San Francisco Giants and now the World Justice Project and has a building at Stanford Law School named after him.

Stephen Reinhardt - U.S. Court of Appeals

The oft-reversed 9th circuit jurist has had a remarkable career, rising from Air Force counsel to top L.A. labor lawyer and then irascible, unflinchable standard-bearer of the left for an increasingly moderate 9th circuit.



Larry Rogers - Power Rogers

A co-founder of the consumer powerhouse Power Rogers & Smith, he won the largest personal injury verdict in Illinois in his very first trial – and has never looked back. He's won millions for his injured clients and served as a leader of the bar.

Antonin Scalia - U.S. Supreme Court (1936-2016)

From nearly 30 years on the high court bench – producing law and originalist thought, and a legacy in law clerks - to his time at the University of Chicago Law School, where he fathered the Federalist Society, we will not see another of his impact any time soon.



Paul Tosetti - Latham

One of California's M&A titans, Tosetti forged the path for Latham's global impact in the area, representing companies including Allergan, Beckman Coulter and Oracle.

John White - Cravath

The corporate governance expert has had far-reaching impact on corporate transparency and modernized disclosure through his work at the SEC and as leader of Cravath's elite corps of corporate counselors.

