

John R. Storino

Partner

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Areas of Focus

Labor and Employment

Law Firm and Professional
Services Defense

Real Estate and Hospitality

Sports and Gaming



Overview

John Storino is a trial lawyer who handles diverse matters in federal and state courts and arbitrations around the country. His cases range from professional responsibility, construction law, and class actions to election law, insurance, pension fund litigation, product liability, and employment disputes. John deftly manages all phases of civil and criminal litigation, including trying jury and bench trials and arguing appeals.

For nearly 20 years, John has focused his practice on representing lawyers and law firms. As a Co-Chair of the firm's Law Firms and Professional Services Practice, he defends firms facing legal malpractice, breach of fiduciary duty, billing fraud, conflicts of interest and breach of contract claims. These matters have arisen from various legal areas, including patent, real estate, litigation, tax, securities, regulatory, and M&A. John represents individual lawyers in criminal and regulatory matters, including grand jury investigations, disciplinary proceedings, and SEC investigations. He also conducts internal investigations at law firms, counsels clients on ethical issues, and handles employment and dissolution matters. John secured a Band 2 individual ranking in *Chambers USA's* Nationwide Law Firm Defense Category, with clients saying "he's extremely able and a highly intelligent lawyer," he is "very sophisticated in his knowledge of the rules and in legal malpractice defense," and that "the bedside manner really matters in this area - a lawyer wants to feel like they're taken care of, and he did that."

Widely recognized by legal publications as a leading litigator, John also represents owners, developers, subcontractors, and engineers in real estate and construction law actions and counsels them regarding general business practices. He serves as outside general counsel of a national engineering firm.

John routinely lectures on professional responsibility matters and has written and lectured on construction law and real estate issues, as well as on election redistricting. He was appointed by the Illinois Supreme Court to its Character and Fitness Committee, and he served for 12 years on the Committee. He currently serves on US Soccer's Independent Ethics Committee. John has long been active in national, state, and local politics and, for several years, served as a special assistant attorney general for the State of Illinois, representing the governor and other state officials in political discrimination cases.



I am honored to represent lawyers and law firms in their most significant and sensitive matters. My broad litigation, counseling, and regulatory experience enables me to achieve exceptional results for my clients.”

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Representative Matters

- Defended an international law firm sued for malpractice, breach of fiduciary duty, and breach of contract in federal court after a cyber-incident at the firm.
- Represented an Am Law 100 firm in a criminal investigation that was resolved successfully.
- Defended an Am Law 300 firm in a pre-complaint legal malpractice mediation arising from the issuance of a patent opinion letter
- Defended a national law firm in a retaliatory discharge lawsuit filed by a former partner in California state court.
- Defended an Am Law 200 firm in a legal malpractice claim arising from an underlying adverse jury verdict in which over \$1 billion in damages were sought.
- Defended a national law firm sued for legal malpractice and fraud in federal court in Wisconsin arising from patent prosecution services.
- Defended an Am Law 100 firm in a pre-complaint legal malpractice claim arising from tax advice.

Credentials

Admissions

- Illinois, 2000

Education

- University of Notre Dame Law School, JD, *cum laude*, 2000
- University of Notre Dame, BA, Hesburgh Program in Public Service, 1997

Court Admissions

- US Supreme Court, 2005
- US Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit, 2001
- US District Court, Central District of Illinois, 2004
- US District Court, Northern District of Illinois, 2000
- US District Court, Northern District of Illinois (Trial Bar), 2010
- US District Court, Southern District of Illinois, 2005

Service / Recognition

Awards

- Albert E. Jenner Pro Bono Award, 2012
- *Chambers USA*, Law Firm Defense (Nationwide), 2024-2025
- *Illinois Super Lawyers*, Professional Liability: Defense, 2014-2021. Rising Star in categories including Business Litigation and Professional Liability: Defense: 2009-2010; 2012-2013
- Law Bulletin Publishing Company, 40 Illinois Attorneys Under Forty to Watch, 2008
- Leading Lawyers Network, Commercial Litigation, 2017-2019

Community

- Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan's Transition Team, 2002
- Illinois State Treasurer Alexi Giannoulas' Transition Team, 2006
- Leadership Greater Chicago, Fellow, 2013
- Metropolitan Family Services, Board of Directors, Member
- University of Notre Dame Law School, Adjunct Professor

Service to the Bar

- American Bar Association
- Chicago Inn of Court
- Illinois State Bar Association