JOHN STOKES

Yale, J.D. (2014)
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John Stokes is a leading young trial and appellate lawyer—brought in to handle problems requiring the highest levels of strategy and execution. John helps his clients win in trial courts, the federal courts of appeals, and the U.S. Supreme Court alike.

John serves as lead trial counsel in courts and arbitrations throughout the country. He regularly secures award-winning results for his clients, both on the plaintiff- and defense-side. For example, after helping a client defeat a $180 million suit from a disgruntled competitor, the firm's victory was named a Top Defense Verdict of 2020. Meanwhile, *Chambers USA* ranks John among the top ERISA attorneys in the nation for his plaintiff-side class action prowess. Most recently, John represented an industrial-scale bitcoin mining company in a make-or-break dispute with its landlord over the alleged termination of hosting contracts valued in the hundreds of millions. In a case spanning multiple forums—state court, arbitration, and ultimately bankruptcy court—John prevailed after a week-long trial in the Southern District of Texas (client's press release).

John is also an accomplished appellate lawyer. He has been ranked by *Chambers USA* in appellate litigation for four years running. *Chambers* describes him as "truly gifted," noting that his "writing is superb" and that "he is an absolutely stellar oral advocate." John's work helped the firm become a

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mainstay on *The National Law Journal*'s Appellate Hot List (four awards in six years), as well as the shortlist for *The American Lawyer*'s National Boutique of the Year (two awards in four years).

With the ability to quickly master any fact pattern and area of law, John is able to lead virtually any significant business dispute. He has represented clients in cases involving copyright, trade secret, false advertising, defamation, antitrust, bankruptcy, patent, civil procedure, arbitrability, pension, healthcare, fiduciary responsibility, civil rights, constitutional law, contract, and tort.

John received his J.D. from Yale Law School. After law school, he served as a law clerk to the Honorable Raymond C. Fisher on the Ninth Circuit and the Honorable Paul G. Gardephe in the Southern District of New York.

John received his undergraduate degree in linguistics from Harvard University, where he graduated summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa.

Awards

Recent Individual Honors

- **Band 3, ERISA Plaintiffs Litigation (Nationwide),** *Chambers USA* (current)
- **Band 4, Appellate Litigation (California),** *Chambers USA* (current)
- **Litigator of the Week,** runner up, *Am Law Litigation Daily* (2023, 2024)

Recent Firm Honors

- **National Boutique of the Year,** finalist (7 firms in America), *The American Lawyer* (2019, 2022)
- **Appellate Hot List** (20 firms in America), *National Law Journal* (2016, 2018, 2019, 2021)

- **Tier 1, Appellate Practice** (nationwide), *Best Lawyers* (current)
- **Band 1, ERISA Plaintiffs Litigation** (3 firms in America), *Chambers USA* (current)
- **Band 1, Appellate Litigation** (4 firms in California), *Chambers USA* (current)