

FOUNDING PARTNER

PETER STRIS

Harvard, J.D. (2000)

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Peter Stris is one of the most prominent business litigators of his generation. He serves as a lead strategist and presenter in must-win trials, landmark appeals, and rapid media-response campaigns.

Chambers USA has identified Peter as a leading advocate in multiple nationwide categories. *Reuters* has recognized him as one of the nation's most influential lawyers before the United States Supreme Court, where he has argued 10 cases. And the *Daily Journal* has repeatedly named him to its annual list of the "[Top 100 California Lawyers.](#)"

Peter represents a wide range of clients including companies, governmental entities, non-profits, investors, entrepreneurs, and executives. He is also regularly hired by other attorneys to play a leading role in their most important and difficult cases.

Supreme Court and Appellate Practice

Peter represents clients in state and federal appellate courts nationwide, including the U.S. Supreme Court. He is an elected fellow of the American and California Academies of Appellate Lawyers. And his victories in "key matters" frequently make the *National Law Journal's* exclusive Appellate Hot List ([2016](#),



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2018, 2019, 2021).

Mr. Stris was one of just 20 private-sector attorneys to argue six or more cases before the U.S. Supreme Court over the period analyzed in [a recent empirical study](#), achieving victories in cases interpreting the [Copyright Act](#), the [Securities Exchange Act](#), and [ERISA](#). Peter has handled dozens of major appeals before appellate courts throughout America, with highlights including his [revival](#) of multibillion-dollar environmental claims against Volkswagen and reversal of dismissals leading to collected recoveries of [\\$24 million](#) for investors in one case and over [\\$22 million](#) for pensioners in another.

Trial Practice

Peter is an accomplished trial lawyer who represents both plaintiffs and defendants. "Over his 20-year career, he has successfully first-chaired a wide variety of bet-the-farm business cases to verdict or judgment" ([LA Business Journal](#)). He is consistently recognized as one of the leading courtroom lawyers in California ([Benchmark Litigation](#)).

Recently, Peter won a multi-phase jury and bench trial that the [Daily Journal](#) named a [Top 20 Defense Verdict](#) of 2021. The plaintiff, represented by a respected AmLaw firm, had sought \$180 million for Lanham Act false advertising.

Peter is currently serving as lead counsel in several noteworthy cases preparing for trial in courtrooms throughout America.

Strategic Litigation

Peter is often retained when an effective public communications strategy is





critical. He is adept at managing evolving situations where messaging must be issued in real time. For example, Peter ran a notable litigation communications campaign that recovered his client's life rights from the *National Enquirer*, allowing her to speak publicly about a 10-month relationship with President Donald Trump. [Watch Peter's TV appearances.](#)

Peter is known for his ability to serve as the public face of a communications strategy. He has personally appeared on numerous broadcast outlets including morning talk shows (e.g., *Good Morning America*, *The Today Show*), cable news (e.g., *Anderson Cooper 360*, *The Rachel Maddow Show*), as well as public radio and television (e.g., *All Things Considered*, *Nightly Business Report*). His work is regularly featured in national print media including the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *Washington Post*.

Personal

Peter received his J.D. from Harvard Law School, where he was an editor of the *Harvard Law Review*. He earned his B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania, where, together with [Elizabeth Brannen](#), he won the National Debating Championship. He currently lives in Southern California with his wife Alice and two young children.

Associations

Active Memberships

- **American Law Institute**, elected member
- **American Academy of Appellate Lawyers**, elected fellow
- **California Academy of Appellate Lawyers**, elected fellow





- American College of Employee Benefits Counsel, elected fellow
- The Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth, advisory council member

Awards

Recent Individual Honors

- Top 100 Lawyer in California, *Daily Journal* (2020, 2021, 2022, 2023)
- Leaders of Influence: Litigators & Trial Lawyers, *Los Angeles Business Journal* (2020, 2022, 2023)
- Los Angeles Litigator of the Year, shortlisted (6 leading trial lawyers), *Benchmark Litigation* (2022)
- Band 1, ERISA Plaintiffs Litigation (9 lawyers in America), *Chambers USA* (current)
- Band 1, Appellate Litigation (5 lawyers in California), *Chambers USA* (current)
- Leading Lawyer: Appellate, *Legal 500* (current)
- Thriving in Their 40s, *Los Angeles Business Journal* (2022)
- Impact Case of the Year, winner, *International Tax Review* (2022)
- Top Defense Verdict (20 in California), *Los Angeles and San Francisco Daily Journals* (2021)
- Litigator of the Week, *AmLaw Litigation Daily* (2020, 2021)
- Intellectual Property Impact Case of the Year, winner, *Managing IP* (2020)
- Legal Lion, *Law360* (2016, 2019, 2020)
- Attorney of the Year: ERISA, *California Lawyer* (2017)

Recent Firm Honors

- National Boutique of the Year, finalist (7 firms in America), *The American Lawyer* (2019, 2022)



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- **Appellate Hot List** (20 firms in America), *National Law Journal* ([2016](#), [2018](#), [2019](#), [2021](#))
- **Band 1, ERISA Plaintiffs Litigation** (3 firms in America), *Chambers USA* ([current](#))
- **Band 1, Appellate Litigation** (4 firms in California), *Chambers USA* ([current](#))



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