



**Beacon  
Legal**

# U.S. MARKET UPDATE

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**INSIDE THE ELITE  
U.S. LAW FIRMS**

**OCT 2024**





**U.S. UPDATE  
OCTOBER 2024**

# **WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW?**

**New York City is home to some of the world's leading law firms, each offering distinct advantages and career paths.**

**From expansive global networks and high-profile deals to renowned workplace cultures and robust training programs, these firms provide a variety of impactful experiences.**

**Explore what makes each firm unique, from their approach to professional growth and mentorship to their specialisation in diverse practice areas and international work.**





U.S. UPDATE  
OCTOBER 2024

## LATHAM & WATKINS

The firm is renowned for its vast global network and high-profile clientele. Associates benefit from a diverse range of experiences, with opportunities to engage in significant M&A transactions, litigation projects, and banking matters.

The firm supports professional growth through regular training and career enhancement sessions and fosters an open-door policy, allowing junior lawyers direct access to senior partners.



LATHAM & WATKINS  
NEW YORK OFFICE

**With a centralised assignment system, associates can work on both large and small deals, often leading matters early in their careers.**

**LATHAM &  
WATKINS** LLP



U.S. UPDATE  
OCTOBER 2024

## DAVIS POLK

Davis Polk is celebrated for having one of the best cultures among Big Law firms in New York and the U.S. Known for its supportive and social environment, the firm offers juniors significant autonomy, often allowing them to lead on major deal documents.

**With a centralised team structure, Davis Polk provides a broad range of experiences in areas like litigation, securities distribution, finance, and M&A, including IPOs, private offerings, and tenders.**

**Davis Polk**



DAVIS POLK HEADQUARTERS  
IN NEW YORK





U.S. UPDATE  
OCTOBER 2024

## KIRKLAND & ELLIS

Known for its dynamic, take-charge culture, the firm places a strong emphasis on responsibility and initiative, driving significant professional growth.

**Specialising in corporate, litigation, restructuring, and IP, Kirkland & Ellis handles high-profile matters including debt financing, capital markets, M&A, growth equity, and private equity. Associates enjoy a generalist approach early in their careers, with opportunities to specialise later.**



KIRKLAND & ELLIS  
HEADQUARTERS IN  
CHICAGO







**U.S. UPDATE**  
**OCTOBER 2024**

# **SIMPSON THACHER & BARTLETT**

Simpson Thacher & Bartlett is recognized for its leadership across various practice groups, including corporate, finance, litigation, real estate and tax.

The firm emphasises mentorship, with a supportive culture that encourages learning and growth, even beyond the scope of current matters. Its centralised staffing structure ensures fair allocation of work and bonuses.



**Client exposure includes access to major PE funds, entertainment, technology and pharmaceutical sector clients.**

**Simpson  
Thacher**

**SIMPSON THACHER & BARTLETT**  
**HEADQUARTERS IN NEW YORK**





**U.S. UPDATE  
OCTOBER 2024**

## **MILBANK**

Milbank stands out as a powerhouse in the projects and restructuring sectors, often setting the standard for industry practices. Recognised as one of the fastest-growing firms in the country, Milbank is celebrated for its friendly and respectful workplace culture, where an open-door policy and strong camaraderie among associates are the norms.

**The firm offers one of the most reputable training programs, investing significantly in associates' development and ensuring they gain diverse experiences across various practice areas.**

**Milbank**



**MILBANK HEADQUARTERS  
IN CHICAGO**





**U.S. UPDATE**  
**OCTOBER 2024**

## **WHITE & CASE**

White & Case is renowned for its extensive international reach, with offices spanning America, Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and Asia-Pacific.

The firm offers associates a diverse range of work across several sectors including energy and projects, finance, retail, pharmaceuticals, financial institutions, and funds, with a notable focus on Latin American work.

**The firm's culture is described as collegial and friendly, boasting one of the strongest training programs for juniors, emphasizing mentorship and hands-on experience.**

**WHITE & CASE**



**WHITE & CASE HEADQUARTERS  
IN NEW YORK**





U.S. UPDATE  
OCTOBER 2024

# TIER 1-RANKED NYC FIRMS: BY PRACTICE AREA

## CORPORATE

Cravath

Davis Polk

Kirkland & Ellis

Simpson Thacher & Bartlett

Skadden

Sullivan & Cromwell

Wachtell

## FINANCE

Cahill Gordon & Reindel

Davis Polk

Kirkland & Ellis

Latham & Watkins

Paul Hastings

Simpson Thacher & Bartlett





U.S. UPDATE  
OCTOBER 2024

# TIER 1-RANKED NYC FIRMS: BY PRACTICE AREA

## COMPETITION/ANTITRUST

Cravath Swaine & Moore

Davis Polk

Paul Weiss

Skadden

Wachtell

## REAL ESTATE

Cleary Gottlieb Steen

Gibson Dunn

Simpson Thacher Bartlett

Skadden

Sullivan & Cromwell





U.S. UPDATE  
OCTOBER 2024

# TIER 1-RANKED NYC FIRMS: BY PRACTICE AREA

## PROJECTS

Latham & Watkins

Milbank

A&O Shearman

Kirkland & Ellis

Norton Rose Fulbright

Orrick

White & Case

Vinson & Elkins

## TMT

Weil Gotshal & Manges

Davis Polk

Skadden

White & Case





**U.S. UPDATE**  
**OCTOBER 2024**

# GET IN TOUCH

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If you have any questions, or are interested in hearing about roles in the U.S., please reach out to a member of our team via the contact details below.



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