wkps | waters | kraus | paul | siegel

Gary M. Paul

PARTNER

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Gary Paul is a partner at Waters Kraus Paul & Siegel in the firm's Los Angeles office and a nationally recognized leader among plaintiffs' trial lawyers. For five decades, he has helped lead the fight for people injured by toxic exposure, dangerous and defective products, and negligent corporate practices. His work has helped shape some of the nation's most significant mass tort litigation, including groundbreaking work on behalf of people with mesothelioma and other asbestos-related diseases. His results include record-setting verdicts and settlements, while his advocacy has helped push manufacturers and other companies to make their products safer.

Gary's influence extends far beyond the courtroom. He has served in leadership positions in significant mass tort litigation, helping guide complex cases involving thousands of injured people. He has also devoted decades to leadership within the plaintiffs' bar, including serving as national president of the American Association for Justice. In 2026, AAJ recognized Gary with its Lifetime Achievement Award, honoring a career marked by extraordinary trial results, leadership and advocacy on behalf of injured people.

Before becoming a lawyer, Gary spent a decade working as a space and missile engineer—an experience that gives him a distinctive technical perspective when handling complex litigation involving science, engineering and toxic exposures.

Gary is also a respected author and frequent speaker. He co-authored the California Tort Practice Guide, a five-volume treatise widely used by California lawyers. Throughout his career, Gary has combined courtroom advocacy with leadership in the legal profession, using both to advance the interests of his clients and help make the civil justice system work better for people who have been harmed.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

American Association for Justice
- Board of Governors, 2001-present
- Executive Committee 2005-2006, 2012, 2014-2016
- President, 2011
- President-Elect, 2010
- Vice President, 2009
- Secretary, 2008
- Treasurer, 2007
- Parliamentarian, 2006

American Board of Trial Advocates
- Diplomate

Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles
- Hall of Fame, 2008
- President, 1985
- Vice President, 1981-1983
- Secretary, 1981
- Treasurer, 1980
- Board of Governors, 1977-1979

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AREAS OF PRACTICE

Asbestos

Birth Injury

Commercial & Insurance

Employment

Medical and Professional Malpractice

Pharmaceutical and Medical Devices

Products Liability

Qui Tam Whistleblower / False Claims Act

Toxic Tort

BAR ADMISSIONS

California, 1974

EDUCATION

Loyola Law School, Los Angeles, California, J.D., 1974

University of California at Los Angeles, California, M.S.E., 1969

Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona, B.S.E.E., 1965

Gary M. Paul CONTINUED

PARTNER

Consumer Attorneys of California
- President, 1993
- President-Elect, 1992
- Vice President, 1987-1988, 1989-1991
- Board of Governors, 1979, 1981-1983

International Academy of Trial Lawyers

Pound Civil Justice Institute
- President, 2006

State Bar of California

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HONORS & AWARDS

Best Lawyers in America©, Best Lawyers©, 2017-2027

Southern California Super Lawyers, Thomson Reuters, 2005-2026

Distinguished Service Award, American Association for Justice, 2006, 2010, 2017

Leonard Ring Champion of Justice Award, American Association for Justice, 2016

Southern California's Top Rated Lawyers, Martindale-Hubbell®, 2012-2015

Harry M. Philo Award, American Association for Justice, 2014

Champion of Justice Award, Loyola Law School, 2012

Attorney of the Year Finalist, Consumer Attorneys of California, 2008

Marvin Lewis Award, Consumer Attorneys of California, 2008

Hall of Fame, Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles, 2008

Trial Lawyer of the Year, Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles, 1981, 2008

Ted Horn Memorial Award, Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles, 2000

Edward I. Pollock Award, Consumer Attorneys Association of California, 1996

AV® Preeminent™, Martindale-Hubbell®

Eta Kappa Nu Engineering, Honor Society

St. Thomas More Law, Honor Society

HIGHLIGHTS

Gary Paul Earns AAJ Lifetime Achievement Honor as Chris Johnson Named Chair of Minority Caucus

Veteran trial lawyers Peter Kraus, Gary Paul honored among nation's best

Peter Kraus, Gary Paul Honored as Best Lawyers in America

Super Lawyers Honors 7 from Waters Kraus Paul & Siegel

$7.68M Hip Implant Verdict Against Zimmer, Inc.

2019 SoCal Super Lawyer: Gary Paul Reaches 15-Year Milestone

$8.45M Mesothelioma Verdict for Career Pipefitter in Calif.

Gary Paul Named on 2018 Southern California Supers Lawyers List

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Gary M. Paul CONTINUED

PARTNER

Gary Paul Named on 2017 The Best Lawyers in America © List

Mesothelioma Victim Receives $7.55M Verdict

Gary Paul Receives Distinguished Service Award

Southern California Super Lawyers 2017

Whistleblower Claims Lead to $30M Settlement for CDI

Waters Kraus Paul & Siegel Partner Wins Leonard Ring Award

2016 Southern California Super Lawyers®

Forty-Year-Old English Professor Receives $27.5 Million Asbestos Award

Waters Kraus Paul & Siegel Partner Wins Harry Philo Award

Southern California Super Lawyers 2013

Waters Kraus Paul & Siegel Partner Takes Office as President of World's Largest Trial Bar

California Insurance Commissioner to Pursue Healthcare Fraud Case

American Association for Justice Announces Waters Kraus Paul & Siegel Partner as President-Elect

The National Law Journal Top 100 Verdicts of 2009: Waters Kraus Paul & Siegel Asbestos Verdict #98

Asbestos Claimants are 'Truly Sick' and Deserve Day in Court – Daily Journal

WKP Partner Gary M. Paul Elected VP of American Association for Justice (AAJ)

U.S. Navy Machinist's Mate Awarded $12.0M in 1960s Asbestos-Exposure Case

2009 Southern California Super Lawyers (pdf)

Gary Paul Talks to Consumer Attorneys of California (CAOC) About Asbestos Naval Case – video

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