Peter A. Kraus

FOUNDING PARTNER

PHONE: 214.357.6244
FAX: 214.357.7252
EMAIL: kraus@waterskraus.com

Peter Kraus is a founding and managing partner of Waters Kraus Paul & Siegel and one of the nation's leading trial lawyers in toxic tort and product liability litigation. For more than four decades, he has been at the forefront of litigation on behalf of people harmed by asbestos, toxic exposures and dangerous products. His work has helped shape the field of mesothelioma and asbestos litigation, from pursuing groundbreaking cases against manufacturers to securing consequential verdicts and settlements for individuals and families whose lives have been devastated by toxic exposure.

Peter is a skilled trial lawyer who has tried numerous asbestos, benzene exposure and pharmaceutical cases to verdict in state and federal courts across the country, obtaining many multimillion-dollar verdicts. His work has not only secured compensation for injured people but also helped bring about greater accountability and safer products and practices. He has played leadership roles in U.S. and Texas asbestos multidistrict litigation and served on asbestos bankruptcy creditor and trustee advisory committees. He has also served on the American Bar Association's Commission on Asbestos Litigation.

Peter's commitment to his clients extends beyond the courtroom. A longtime advocate for the rights of people injured by dangerous products, he has testified before the Texas Legislature and Congress on behalf of asbestos victims. He has provided guidance to lawmakers and policymakers on issues affecting injured people, product safety and the civil justice system. In January 2020, then-Speaker of the U.S. House Nancy Pelosi appointed Peter to a second five-year term on the board of the Federal Judicial Center Foundation.

Under his leadership, Waters Kraus Paul & Siegel has grown from its roots in asbestos litigation into a nationally recognized litigation firm with leading practices in several areas of complex injury litigation. The firm's focus includes whistleblowers exposing fraud against the government under the False Claims Act; survivors of sexual abuse seeking justice from institutions and organizations that failed to protect them; and workers suffering from silicosis caused by occupational exposure to silica dust. Peter continues to play an active role in guiding the firm's litigation strategy and its commitment to holding powerful corporations and institutions accountable.

AREAS OF PRACTICE

Asbestos
Commercial & Insurance
Pharmaceutical and Medical Devices
Qui Tam Whistleblower / False Claims Act
Toxic Tort
Wildfire

BAR ADMISSIONS

California, 2011
Hawaii, 2018
Missouri, 2013
Texas, 1992
Virginia, 1985
U.S. Supreme Court, 1994
U.S. Court of Appeals 4th Circuit, 1986
U.S. District Courts
- Northern District of California, 2026
- District of Hawaii, 2019
- Western District of New York, 2013
- Northern District of Texas, 2001
- Eastern District of Virginia, 1986

EDUCATION

University of Texas School of Law, Austin, Texas J.D., 1985
Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, A.B., 1982

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

American Association for Justice
- Board of Governors, 2011-Present
- Budget Committee, 2010-Present
- American Board of Trial Advocates

Dallas Bar Association
Dallas Bar Foundation, Baker Clerkship Committee, 2012
Dallas Trial Lawyers Association
The National Trial Lawyers
Public Justice Foundation

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Peter A. Kraus CONTINUED

FOUNDING PARTNER

State Bar of California

State Bar of Hawaii

State Bar of Missouri

State Bar of Texas

Texas Bar Foundation

Texas Trial Lawyers Association, Executive Committee, Board of Directors

Virginia Bar Association

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HONORS & AWARDS

Best Lawyers in America©, Best Lawyers©, 2016-2026

Texas Super Lawyers, Thomson Reuters, 2003-2011, 2017-2026

Hall of Fame Inductee, D Magazine, 2025-2026

Best Lawyers in Dallas, D Magazine, 2001, 2011-2015, 2017-2025

Appointed to Federal Judicial Center Foundation Board, 2014-2019, 2020-Present

Asbestos/Mesothelioma Trial Lawyers Association – Top 10, The National Trial Lawyers, 2020-Present

Larry Schoenbrun Jurisprudence Award, ADL, 2022

Patron Member, Public Justice, 2018

Above and Beyond Award, American Association for Justice, 2017

Kristi Couvillon Pro Bono Award, Texas Civil Rights Project, 2016

Texas' Top Rated Lawyers, Martindale-Hubbell®, 2013-2016

David S. Shrager President's Award, American Association for Justice, 2012

American Association for Justice, "Heavy Lifting" Award, 2010, 2011

AV® Preeminent™, Martindale-Hubbell®

PRO BONO & COMMUNITY SERVICE

KERA, Board of Directors, 2019-Present

Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum, Board Member, 2018-Present

Southwestern Medical Foundation, Board of Trustees, 2011-Present

Greenhill School, Board of Trustees, 2008-2017

Greenhill School, Chairman, Board of Trustees, 2012-2014

St. Paul Medical Foundation, 2004-2016

Duke University, Annual Fund Executive Committee, 2007-2014

Dallas Area Volunteer Program, Major Sponsor, 2004-2011

St. Paul Medical Foundation, Chair, Foundation Board, 2006-2008

Dallas Area Volunteer Program, Lead Donor, 2001, 2003

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Peter A. Kraus CONTINUED

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HIGHLIGHTS

Peter Kraus Inducted into D Magazine's Hall of Fame

Super Lawyers Honors 7 from Waters Kraus Paul & Siegel

Peter Kraus Receives ADL Larry Schoenbrun Jurisprudence Award

Texas Voters Win as Motor Voter Lawsuit is Settled

The Right to Vote: Fight. Defend. Win.

Victory for Assault Victim of Anti-Muslim Hate Group Leader

$4.4M Verdict in Asbestos Bowling Ball Trial

$1.1M Mesothelioma Verdict for California Pipefitter

Lawsuit Seeks to Restore Voting Rights of Miss.'s African-American Voters

Family of Boston Letter Carrier Receives $6.8M Asbestos Verdict

$8.2M Verdict In Texas Benzene Trial Against DuPont

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

Family of 66-Year-Old Paper Mill Worker Receives $3.96 Million Asbestos Verdict

Waters & Kraus founders named to 2022 Texas Super Lawyers list

Waters Kraus Paul & Siegel Partners, Firm Honored By U.S. News, Best Lawyers

AAJ's Trial Masters Interviews Attorney Peter Kraus

Peter Kraus Named D Magazine 'Best Lawyers of 2022'

Peter Kraus, Gary Paul Honored as Best Lawyers in America

Peter Kraus Appointed to Second Term on FJC Foundation Board

Milestone Reached in Texas Online Voter Registration

COVID Delays Trial for Terminally Sick

Texas Now Allows Limited Online Voter Registration

Texas in Violation of Voting Registration Law

TCRP: Court Rules in Favor of Texas Voters

Voters Move Forward with Suit Against Texas

State Called Out for Continuing to Violate the Federal Voter Law

State Ordered to Comply with NVRA

A Win for Texas Motor Voter Registrants on All Counts

Federal Judge Rules that Texas is Violating "Motor Voter" Law

Peter Kraus to Receive 2016 Kristi Couvillon Award for Pro Bono Work with Battleground Texas

Peter Kraus Appointed to Federal Judicial Center Foundation Board

Peter Kraus Speaks on Exposure at 2009 HB National Asbestos Litigation Conference – video

Lowery v. Bondex International et. al.