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Paul Alston

Stockholder / Director

Paul Alston believes you must earn a client’s trust by consistently doing great work, exceeding expectations, and caring deeply about solving problems efficiently. He built a 40+ year career handling complicated disputes that involve large damage claims. His practice focuses primarily on commercial litigation, antitrust/unfair competition law, and appellate law, but he has also taken on a wide range of civil rights cases for the poor and disadvantaged.

Paul has been named Hawai`i Lawyer of the Year by Best Lawyers in America® four times, and in Chambers & Partners USA, a client describes Alston as “three steps ahead of everyone else.” He is listed as a “best lawyer” in seven categories. Benchmark Litigation identified Alston as among the litigation stars in Hawai`i.

Paul is a past president of the Hawaii State Bar Association, the Federal Bar Association (Hawai`i Chapter), the Hawaii Justice Foundation and Hawaii Lawyers Care, a pro bono project. He has served as Special Deputy Attorney General (defending the justices of the Hawai`i Supreme Court, two governors and the Attorney General), was a Trustee of the National Conference of Bar Foundations, and is one of 200 lawyers elected to the American Academy of Appellate Attorneys.

He and his wife are farmers—they own and operate Hawaii’s largest poha berry farm with customers around the State. He snowboards and surfs for fun.

Practice Areas

Administrative
Alternative Dispute Resolution
Antitrust
Appellate Practice
Class Actions
Complex Commercial Litigation
Constitutional and Civil Rights
Construction

Corporate and Business
Creditors' Rights and Bankruptcy
Environment, Cultural & Natural Resources
Hazardous Waste, Air, and Water Pollution
Insurance Coverage
Litigation
Mortgage Banking Law
Native Hawaiian Rights
Products Liability
Professional Liability
Real Estate
Real Estate and Title Litigation
Trusts and Estates
Water Rights

Admitted to Practice

Hawai`i
U.S. District Court for the District of Hawai`i
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
U.S. Court of Federal Claims
U.S. Supreme Court

Awards and Recognition

Best Lawyers in America®

- 2014 Hawai`i Bet-the-Company Litigation Lawyer of the Year
- 2013 Hawai`i Appellate Practice Lawyer of the Year
- 2012 Hawai`i Real Estate Litigation Lawyer of the Year
- 2009 Hawai`i Bet-the-Company Litigation Lawyer of the Year
- Antitrust Litigation (2009-present)
- Appellate Practice (2007-present)
- Bet-the-Company Litigation (2009-present)
- Commercial Litigation (1993-present)
- First Amendment Litigation (1993-present)
- Personal Injury Litigation – Defendants (2009-present)
- Real Estate Litigation (2012-present)

Martindale-Hubbell AV rating (1982-present)
Chambers USA™ Leading Lawyers for Business

- Commercial Litigation (2005-present)

Benchmark Litigation

- Litigation Star: Appellate, General Commercial (2008-present)

Super Lawyers Pro Bono Award First Place (2011)

Super Lawyers

- Business Litigation (2008-present)

Honolulu Magazine, Best Lawyers in Hawai'i (1997-present)

Justice Award for Promoting Public Access to Justice (1991)

Affiliations

American Academy of Appellate Lawyers

American Bar Association

American Bar Foundation

Federal Bar Association, Hawai'i Chapter, President 2012-2013

Hawaii State Bar Association, President 1990-1991

Hawaii Justice Foundation, President 1986-1989

Hawai'i Lawyers Care (now known as Volunteer Legal Services Hawai'i),
President 1981-1985

National Board of Trial Advocacy, Civil Trial Specialty

National Conference of Bar Foundations

The Nature Conservancy of Hawaii, Board of Trustees

Education

University of Southern California Law Center (J.D. 1971)
