



John Harding

Associate

Washington, DC
+1 202-282-5774

John focuses his practice on complex commercial litigation, white collar criminal defense, and government and internal investigations.

John has significant experience handling many aspects of the litigation process, including managing discovery, conducting investigations, drafting critical motions, arguing motions, preparing witnesses, and trial. Recently, John returned from a secondment with the Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia, where he first chaired five trials.

John maintains an active and diverse pro bono practice. He has represented service members who were either discharged from the military or denied the opportunity to commission because they were living with HIV, immigrants seeking asylum, an inmate in a parole revocation hearing, and filed several amicus briefs on First Amendment issues.

Key Matters

- Represented a bank executive in a criminal trial where the allegations included conspiracy, wire fraud, and mortgage fraud.

- Defended a veteran United Nations diplomat against allegations of orchestrating a cyberwar campaign. District court granted motion to dismiss on the basis of diplomatic immunity. The Second Circuit unanimously affirmed.
- Negotiated a deferred prosecution agreement for a major logistics shipping company in a FCPA investigation involving allegations of a worldwide money laundering scheme.
- Represented a global financial institution and one of its shareholders in connection with a U.S. Attorney's Office investigation amidst allegations of money laundering and sanctions violations. District court granted motion to return seized property on the basis that the FBI's search of the bank was unconstitutional. Investigation concluded with no charges ever brought.
- Defended a large pharmaceutical company in a multi-district litigation against over 4,000 failure-to-warn claims stemming from the company's sale of a blockbuster antipsychotic drug Abilify®.
- Defended an individual against money laundering and wire fraud charges based on an alleged "bootlegging" scheme. The indictment was dismissed and all charges dropped against our client.

Recent Experience

Secured Settlement for Fox on Brink of Trial in High-Profile Defamation Litigation Brought by US Dominion Voting Systems

Winston Represents Hikma Pharmaceuticals USA in Opiate MDL and State Court Cases

Recognitions

- *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch*® in America in the areas of Criminal Defense: White Collar (2022–2024), Commercial Litigation (2023–2024), and Insurance Law (2024).
- D.C. Pro Bono Honor Roll, With Honors (2021)

Activities

John served as a Winston & Strawn Public Interest Fellow at the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty.

Credentials

EDUCATION

John received his J.D. in 2014 from the University of Virginia School of Law, where he served as senior research and projects editor for the *Virginia Environmental Law Journal*. He received a B.A. in political science from Brigham Young University in 2010.

ADMISSIONS

- District of Columbia
- Virginia

Related Insights & News

- “Alex Jones Cases Show It’s Time To Rethink Zealous Advocacy,” Law360, Co-author, Dec. 14, 2022

PRO BONO IN ACTION

Winston Caps Historic Victory for Military Service Members with HIV by Celebrating Commissioning of Lead Plaintiff Nick Harrison

NOVEMBER 10, 2023

RECOGNITIONS

Winston Attorneys Named to 2022 Capital Pro Bono Honor Roll

SEPTEMBER 6, 2023

RECOGNITIONS

Winston Attorneys Recognized in *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America* 2024

AUGUST 17, 2023

NEWS

2022 Pro Bono Impact Report

MAY 1, 2023

CLIENT SUCCESS

Winston Acts as Lead Trial Counsel for Fox News and Fox Corp. in US Dominion Voting Systems Defamation Cases, Settling Matter on Brink of Trial

APRIL 18, 2023

PRO BONO IN ACTION

Winston Wins Historic Federal Appeal That Allows Sikh-American Marine Recruits to Freely Practice Their Religious Beliefs

JANUARY 25, 2023

RECOGNITIONS

Winston & Strawn Attorneys Recognized in *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in America* 2023

AUGUST 18, 2022

BLOG

Don’t Say Daubert – Reviving Rule 702

JUNE 29, 2022

RECOGNITIONS

Winston Attorneys Named to 2021 Capital Pro Bono Honor Roll

JUNE 9, 2022

PRESS RELEASE

Winston & Strawn Highlights Recent Court Victories for LGBTQ+ Rights

JUNE 2, 2022

PRO BONO IN ACTION

Winston Wins Landmark Victory for Service Members Living with HIV

APRIL 15, 2022

BLOG

Tenth Circuit Finds Discovery Rule Applies to New Mexico's Statute of Limitations for Products Liability

NOVEMBER 5, 2021

Capabilities

Litigation/Trials

Government Investigations, Enforcement & Compliance

Commercial Litigation & Disputes

Government Program Fraud, False Claims Act & Qui Tam Litigation

Financial Services

Medical Devices

Health Care