

Winston Takes Home *Houston Business Journal* Diversity in Business Award

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Winston & Strawn has won *Houston Business Journal's* (HBJ) inaugural Diversity Award for outstanding company in the small category.

HBJ highlights Winston's creation of a diversity-in-hiring subcommittee, hiring of a chief talent officer, and launch of a sponsorship initiative to improve the hiring, promotion, and retention of a diverse bench of lawyers.

"I am a firm believer, and studies show, that the inclusion of women and diverse individuals leads to better decision making in boardrooms across this country and I believe results in better outcomes for our clients and our firm in the legal arena," says Winston Women's Leadership Initiative (WLI) Chair and Diversity Committee member Paula Hinton. "Winston & Strawn's overall gender neutral programs supporting all of our attorneys in areas such as parental leave and work-life management benefits make our firm stronger. The WLI and other firm affinity groups drive Winston's efforts, specifically in the areas of the hiring, advancement, retention and promotion (HARP) of women and diverse attorneys. These efforts have been recognized recently in Houston by the *HBJ*, and by recent awards from Chambers and the Minority Corporate Counsel Association. There is more to do, and we continue to look for other avenues to support all of our attorneys by building a more inclusive workplace in order to serve our clients with the best the profession has to offer."

According to Sylvia James, Winston's Director of Diversity & Inclusion, "one third of the partners in Winston's Houston office are women, which is considerably higher than the national legal industry average of 19 percent. I'm thrilled to see the office being recognized for its diversity and inclusion efforts."

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Paula Hinton



Sylvia James