

Industry Peers Consistently Rank Kirkland at Top of Activism Defense Bar in Qualitative League Tables

In the only anonymous survey of activism professionals (bankers, lawyers, PR firms, proxy solicitors), 13D Monitor ranked Kirkland as #1 or #2 defense law firm in each year the survey has been conducted

The Activist Report - January 2025

13D MONITOR QUALITATIVE LEAGUE TABLES

One of the pillars of our work at 13D Monitor is to operate as a central network for the shareholder activism and corporate governance community. As such, we are often asked by clients and stakeholders who the best advisors are. The reality of course is that this is subjective, but like all referrals, the best generally emerges from word-of-mouth experience. Therefore, we are pleased to present the first qualitative league table: a survey of peers to identify the most respected advisors in their fields. We surveyed anonymously our vast network of activists and advisors and received hundreds of responses. We endeavored to be as fair as possible and to deliver the best possible barometer of the most respected activist advisors.

Please view the top five firms in each practice area below:

LAW FIRMS (CORPORATE REPRESENTATION)
KIRKLAND & ELLIS LLP
WACHTELL LIPTON
SIDLEY AUSTIN LLP
SKADDEN
VINSON & ELKINS LLP

The Activist Report - January 2026

13D MONITOR QUALITATIVE LEAGUE TABLES

One of the pillars of our work at 13D Monitor is to operate as a central network for the shareholder activism and corporate governance community. As such, we are often asked by clients and stakeholders who the best advisors are. The reality of course is that this is subjective, but like all referrals, the best generally emerges from word-of-mouth experience. Therefore, we are pleased to present our second annual qualitative league table: a survey of peers to identify the most respected advisors in their fields. This year we included international firms in addition to US firms. We surveyed anonymously our vast network of activists and advisors and received hundreds of responses. We endeavored to be as fair as possible and to deliver the best possible barometer of the most respected activist advisors.

Please view the top five firms in each practice area below:

NORTH AMERICA

LAW FIRMS (CORPORATE REPRESENTATION)
WACHTELL LIPTON
KIRKLAND & ELLIS LLP
SIDLEY AUSTIN LLP
LATHAM & WATKINS LLP
SULLIVAN & CROMWELL LLP