



Law360's Rising Stars FAQs

For the 16th straight year, Law360 will name the top legal talent under 40. To view last year's series, click [here](#).

How do I submit?

- Fill out [this form](#) to nominate an attorney to be a Rising Star. **Note: This form will not be available until this series is open for submissions on Feb. 24.**

Can someone who has already won be nominated again?

- No. Winners are a Law360 Rising Star for life.

Can someone who has already won be nominated again in another practice area?

- No. Once someone has won in any practice area, they are not eligible to win again, even in another practice area.

What is the word limit?

- The total word limit for the form is **1,500 words**. There is space on the submission form to describe five significant matters handled by the attorney (**200 words each**), and to describe the attorney's influence and what distinguishes them from their peers and add anything else we should know (**500 words**).
- A full list of the questions asked on the form is available [here](#).

May I go over that word limit?

- No. The [online form](#) will cut you off once you reach the word limit for each section.

Can I have an extension?

- We cannot accept late submissions under any circumstances. All requests for extensions past the final deadline will be denied.

Can we include confidential matters?

- No. Law360 does not accept confidential information as part of award submissions. Please assume that any information you submit may be published by us. We do not accept responsibility for any confidential information you submit. We can no longer review and consider confidential information as part of a series entry.



Who can we nominate?

- We welcome nominations for international and U.S.-based attorneys who are under 40 years old as of April 30, 2025. (In other words, they must be born on or after May 1, 1985.)
- We are accepting nominations for attorneys who work in the following practice areas: Appellate; Banking; Bankruptcy; Benefits; Cannabis; Capital Markets; Class Action; Competition/Antitrust; Complex Financial Instruments; Compliance; Construction, Cybersecurity & Privacy; Employment; Energy; Environmental; Fintech; Fund Formation; Government Contracts; Health Care; Insurance; Intellectual Property; International Arbitration; International Trade; Life Sciences; Media & Entertainment; Mergers & Acquisitions; Private Equity; Product Liability; Real Estate; Securities; Sports & Betting; Tax; Technology; Telecommunications; Transportation; Trials; and White Collar.
- We consider both partners and nonpartners.
- We consider both U.S.-based and international attorneys.
- Attorneys **must** be willing to be interviewed if selected as a Rising Star. If an attorney is selected and then is unable or unwilling to do an interview about the matters in the submission, we will rescind their award.

Is this award based on the attorney's entire career?

- Yes. We recommend people stick to submitting more recent things, because our editors tend to focus on the most recent developments when evaluating submissions. But significant achievements from earlier in the attorney's career can also be included in the submission, if relevant.
- Remember, this award series is recognizing attorneys who are "Rising Stars," so they should currently be involved in work that is worthy of recognition. (In other words, not all the work submitted should be old.)

I see you say it encompasses their whole career, but then you ask for recent achievements. What's up with that?

- The award does encompass an attorney's whole career, but our judges like to see at least a few recent (within the past year) achievements in the submission. This way, we know the nominee is continuing to excel and not resting on the laurels of great work done years ago.

How many attorneys can we nominate per firm?

- You can nominate two attorneys per practice area per firm. You cannot nominate more than two attorneys for each practice area.
- A firm can nominate an attorney for more than one practice area, as long as no more than two attorneys are nominated for each practice area per firm.



- There is no limit to the overall number of attorneys a firm can submit, so long as it is not more than two per practice area.

What should be in the submission?

- There is space on the submission form to describe five significant matters handled by the attorney since the beginning of last year (**200 words** each), the attorney's influence and what distinguishes them from their peers, and anything else we should know about them (**500 words**).
- For each significant matter discussed, be specific about what exactly the nominated attorney did, and how that attorney made a difference. If he worked on an MDL, for example, what role did he play? Was he lead counsel? Lead negotiator? If she handled an appeal for a client, in what capacity? Did she write the briefing? Perform the oral arguments? If they won a precedential ruling, what impact will that ruling have on the law?

How should I format my submission?

- Remember that we're looking to write a profile based on these, so give us information about why it's interesting — craft a narrative around it if you like. Don't just give the bare facts and leave it to us to interpret the impact or importance.
- Short paragraphs and anything that organizes your submission to make it easier to read are great.

Can I add links?

- Yes. Our system can now handle links. Please limit these to news coverage of events, accomplishments, and wins being described in the submission. Law360 coverage is preferred!
- We don't need links to outside awards the attorney has won or articles they've published — we don't factor these into our decision at all.

How does Law360 evaluate submissions?

- Our editors evaluate the submissions based on the work of an attorney over the course of his or her career, though they place greater emphasis on more recent achievements. We are looking for wins and specifics. Did the attorney start a group or firm? Was she the lead lawyer on a big trial? Does he hold a leadership position? Has she led a number of large deals?
- When describing specific matters, tell us why it matters. Was there something particularly challenging about the case the attorney had to overcome? Was it a bet-the-company matter? Did the case have an impact on a particular industry or area of the law? Matters that have an impact outside the four corners of a case generally hold the most sway with editors.



LAW360[®]

- **Editors give preference to developments that are more final in nature.** So, while surviving a motion to dismiss in a big case is certainly noteworthy, we might wait to see how the case shakes out before deciding to recognize an attorney for his or her representation in that matter (since he or she could still lose the case).
- You can include new high-profile matters the attorney has been hired to take on, but those are more icing on the cake for editors. **The decisions generally are made based on specific wins, not just the fact that an attorney was hired on a high-profile case.**
- If a matter is a settlement, be as clear as you can about how the settlement was beneficial to the attorney's client. You may want to include vague information here if it's not possible to name the client (for example: "a national retailer" or "a large bank") in order to give editors the context they need to understand how the settlement was favorable.
- Remember when crafting the submission that we are approaching this from a news perspective. The attorney might be handling important cases, but if you can't point to specific achievements, tell us why they matter, or give us enough information to tell a compelling story, it's unlikely the attorney will be chosen.

Should I submit a headshot?

- Yes, if you are able. There is a space on the submission form to upload a high-res headshot. Please label the file with the attorney's name and firm. For example: JohnSmith - Law360.

How many winners will Law360 choose?

- We will usually choose a maximum of 5 winners per practice area, though it depends on the volume and quality of submissions.
- Not all categories are guaranteed to have winners. It depends on the quality of submissions that we receive.

Which categories get the most submissions?

- The categories that generally receive the most submissions are Intellectual Property, Trials, M&A, Real Estate, Bankruptcy, Employment, Securities, and White Collar.

When and how will I find out if the nominee is selected?

- The person who submits [the online form](#) will be the person notified by Law360 of whether the nominee is accepted.
- We will notify people of the editors' decisions via email. Please whitelist or add to your address book no-reply@awardsplatform.com and series@law360.com to ensure receipt of the notifications.
- We will notify people of the editors' decisions as soon as we can, but can't pinpoint a date at this point, since the length of the judging process varies with how many



LAW360[®]

submissions we receive.

What if I don't receive an email confirming my submission to the online form?

- **Do not submit again.** First, check your spam folder and update your security settings. If that fails, email series@law360.com to receive a copy of your submission.