

# Neal Westin

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DES MOINES OFFICE

Whether at work, in the community, or with his family, Neal Westin thrives on being involved and personally invested. In his practice, Neal specializes in business, privacy, and [immigration law](#). He helps businesses find, hire, and retain properly authorized professional-level employees. He also represents individuals for student matters, work visas, and green cards to establish permanent residency.

“My immigration work is especially rewarding because I get to help people with a very personal and life-changing process,” Neal says. “It’s also challenging because it can be highly complex, is increasingly vetted, and the process can take years. Clients are deeply invested in the immigration process and anxious about the outcome. It’s rewarding to me to see them through the complex process.”

Neal also has a thriving corporate practice. From start-ups to nonprofits to multinational corporations, he helps businesses with contract reviews, licensing, ethics rules, intellectual property and trade secrets. He has an increased focus on [privacy and information security](#), helping clients with data collection and usage matters. In relation to that practice, he’s qualified as a Certified Information Privacy Professional (CIPP/US) by the International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP).

Coming from a long line of teachers, Neal has a strong interest in education-related topics and appreciates opportunities to use his professional skills within the community. He has served on the campaign cabinet of United Way of Central Iowa and is active in their Education Leadership Initiative. He also serves on the Make-a-Wish Iowa board of directors, has been involved with prairie restoration efforts at the Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge, and with his neighborhood association board.

An Iowa native, Neal graduated with distinction from the University of Iowa. He went on to graduate with honors from the University of Texas School of Law, where he was managing editor of the Texas Forum on Civil Liberties and Civil Rights and had an internship with the Texas Supreme Court.

## RECOGNITION

Martindale-Hubbell  
AV® Preeminent

Chambers USA  
Labor & Employment–Immigration, 2013–2024

The Best Lawyers in America®  
Immigration Law, 2016–2025

The Best Lawyers in America®  
Lawyer of the Year - Immigration Law, Des Moines, 2021, 2023, 2025

Neal Westin

## PRACTICE AREAS

- Business, Finance & Real Estate
- Alternative Energy, Renewable Fuels & Public Utilities
- Contracts & Procurement
- Cybersecurity & Privacy
- E–Commerce
- Municipal & Eminent Domain
- Real Estate
- Labor & Employment
- Immigration

## EDUCATION

- University of Iowa (B.A., with high distinction)
- University of Texas (J.D., with honors)

## BAR ADMISSIONS

- Iowa

### **Great Plains Super Lawyers**

Rising Stars, 2013–2014

### ***Des Moines Business Record* Forty Under 40**

Honoree, 2011

### ***Texas Forum on Civil Liberties and Civil Rights***

Managing Editor, 1998–1999

### **Phi Beta Kappa**

## **PROFESSIONAL & COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS**

### **American Immigration Lawyers Association**

#### **American Bar Association**

- Business Law Section
- International Law Section

#### **Iowa State Bar Association**

- Business Law Section
- International Law Section

### **Polk County Bar Association**

### **International Association of Privacy Professionals**

Certified Information Privacy Professional

### **ABI Leadership Iowa**

2011–2012

### **Make-a-Wish Iowa**

Director, 2016–present

### **Beaverdale Betterment Coalition**

- President, 2006–2009
- Director, 2006–2014

### **Beaverdale Neighborhood Association**

Director, 2004–2009

### **United Way of Central Iowa Education Leadership Initiative**

2006–present

### **Friends of the Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge**

- Advisory Board, 2016–present
- Director and Treasurer, 2000–2004
- Recipient of 2004 Pride of the Prairie Award in recognition of outstanding volunteer services

### **Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute**

Class of 2005–2006