

By the Numbers: Does Your Law Firm Measure Up to a “Gold” Standard?

By [LawVision](#) on June 18, 2013

I like metrics. Perhaps that’s why I find the recently released [Women in Law Empowerment Forum’s](#) 2013 Gold Standard Certification especially interesting and valuable – It’s all about the numbers. In order for a firm to receive Gold Standard Certification, the firm must achieve or exceed at least four of the six following metrics –

Women Represent:

1. 10% of Firm Chairs and Office Managing Partners
2. 10% of the Top 50% Highest Compensated Equity Partners in US Offices
3. 20% of the Firm’s Primary Governance Committee
4. 20% of the Firm’s Compensation Committee
5. 20% of Equity Partners or 25% of the Non-Lateral Attorneys who Became Equity Partner in the Past 12 Months
6. 25% of the Firm’s Practice Group Leaders or Department Heads

By the numbers, the [National Law Journal’s](#) recent annual survey of the nation’s largest law firms found that women accounted for 15.9% of equity partners in 2012, compared with 15.3% in 2011. Overall, the percentage of women in NLJ 350 firms remains low and relatively unchanged. In 2012, women made up 33.4% of attorneys at those firms, compared with 33% in 2011.

If your law firm is one of the 42 listed below who received this award, congratulations. If your firm didn’t make the list, these metrics are a great benchmark to periodically evaluate your firm’s overall talent strategy and progress toward your goals.

2013 WILEF Gold Standard Firms:

- Ballard Spahr
- Cooley
- Crowell & Moring
- Davis Polk & Wardwell
- Davis Wright Tremaine
- Dentons
- Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner
- FordHarrison
- Fredrikson & Byron
- Frost Brown Todd
- Fulbright & Jaworski

- Gibbons
- Goodwin Procter
- Haynes and Boone
- Holland & Hart
- Holland & Knight
- Hughes Hubbard & Reed
- Jackson Lewis
- Jenner & Block
- K&L Gates
- Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton
- Latham & Watkins
- Leonard, Street and Deinard
- Littler Mendelson
- Locke Lord
- Manatt Phelps & Phillips
- McCarter & English
- Morrison & Foerster
- Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe
- Paul Hastings
- Perkins Coie
- Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman
- Quarles & Brady
- Reed Smith
- Shook, Hardy & Bacon
- Shumaker, Loop & Kendrick
- Simpson Thacher & Bartlett
- Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom
- Stinson Morrison Hecker
- Stoel Rives
- Sutherland Asbill & Brennan
- Thompson Hine