

Intellectual Property Firm History

1868	Winthrop, Stimson, Putnam and Roberts in New York City is established.
1869	Arlon V. (who was known as "A.V.") Cushman, is born in Amherst, Massachusetts. He later founded Cushman Darby & Cushman intellectual property law firm and was involved in inventions relating to automobiles, gasoline and motion pictures.
1874	Pillsbury Madison & Sutro is established in San Francisco, CA.
1892	A.V. Cushman admitted to the District of Columbia bar and begins practicing law.
1905	Pillsbury Madison & Sutro emerges from the bustling aftermath of the California Gold Rush, later serving as the law firm that helped to create Standard Oil Company of California (now known as Chevron) and Pacific Bell.
1900's	Pillsbury Madison & Sutro is a key participant in the birth and shaping of the economy and business of the West Coast, incorporating the first generations of Chevron and Pacific Bell at the turn of the century.
1906	Pillsbury Madison & Sutro survives the 1906 earthquake, despite the destruction of its offices, library and records, and subsequently litigates the landmark case that establishes that damage from the disaster was primarily caused by the fire, not the earthquake, thereby forcing insurers to pay for the rebuilding of San Francisco.
1934	A.V. Cushman's firm becomes Cushman, Darby & Cushman in name, still based in Washington, DC.

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1940	Cushman Darby & Cushman successfully enforces a patent for an x-ray machine used for the treatment of cancers and deep seeded growths.
1952	Pasquale Federico, Cushman Darby & Cushman attorney, co-authors the 1952 Patent Act (with Judge Giles S. Rich), which is the basis for patent law today.
1954	Shaw Pittman LLP is established in Washington, DC.
1960's	Pillsbury Madison & Sutro handles the private placement for Intel.
1979	Pillsbury Madison & Sutro opens its Washington, DC office.
1984	Pillsbury Madison & Sutro managed the then-largest ever cash merger of Gulf Oil with Chevron.
1990	Pillsbury Madison & Sutro merges with the Los Angeles-based firm of Lillick & McHose, adding an extensive Pacific Rim practice to the firm and serving as the largest law firm merger at that time.
1995	Partner Richard L. Kirkpatrick authors and publishes "Likelihood of Confusion in Trademark Law," published by Practising Law Institute with semi-annual supplements.
1996	Pillsbury Madison & Sutro merges with Cushman Darby & Cushman helping Pillsbury become one of the nation's leading IP firms and signifying the firm's continuing recognition of the importance of this legal area.

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1997	Group of IP partners and associates from Loeb & Loeb in Los Angeles join Pillsbury Madison & Sutro, further expanding the firm's IP capabilities.
2001	Pillsbury Madison & Sutro merged with Winthrop Stimson Putnam and Roberts creating a bi-coastal law firm focused on capital markets, intellectual property, finance, energy, litigation, and real estate.
2005	Pillsbury Winthrop merges with Washington, D.C.-based Shaw Pittman, a law firm that grew to over 300 lawyers since its founding in 1954. Shaw Pittman brings to the firm pioneering practices in global sourcing, energy, real estate, technology and communications as well as a vibrant IP practice.
Today	Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman consists of more than 800 lawyers practicing in 14 offices, focused on energy, financial services, real estate and technology.