

James Strock

Leadership Development

James Strock is an independent entrepreneur and reformer in business, government, and politics. He is a practitioner, writer and speaker on leadership, management and communication. He also presents seminars, and facilitates company and professional firm meetings and retreats, and serves as an emcee.

Strock strives to bridge the realms of thought and action. His extensive knowledge of and experience with leadership issues in various sectors, and from history, constitute a resource of wide application. His messages of leadership and excellence catalyze extraordinary performance by people and organizations in any setting and across all functions.

He is a prolific and award-winning writer, whose most recent book is *Serve to Lead 2.0: 21st Century Leaders Manual*. It has been praised as “the essential guidebook for 21st century leadership.”

Strock’s books are widely used in business and not-for profit organizations, educational institutions, government agencies and the military. James Strock is also a contributor to the *Encyclopedia of Leadership* (Goethals and Sorenson, eds.), writing the articles on Winston S. Churchill, Ronald Reagan, and Theodore Roosevelt.

In addition to extensive business experience, he has served as a senior executive in government. From 1991-97 Strock served in Governor Pete Wilson’s cabinet as California’s founding Secretary for Environmental Protection. Following confirmation by the state senate, he led the Cal/EPA, an organization comprising 4000 employees, achieving worldwide environmental, energy and economic impact. He also served on the Intergovernmental Policy Advisory Committee to the U.S. Trade Representative.

In 1989, President George H.W. Bush appointed, and the U.S. Senate confirmed Strock to serve as Assistant Administrator for Enforcement (chief law enforcement officer) of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Reporting to Administrator William Reilly, he led a major expansion and reorganization of the national program, while driving civil and criminal enforcement to record levels.

Strock served as general counsel and acting director of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (the federal government's human resources agency), member of the California State Personnel Board, special counsel to the U.S. Senate Environment & Public Works Committee, special assistant to USEPA Administrator William Ruckelshaus, and as a lawyer in private practice.

He serves on the board of CVR Energy (NYSE: CVI). From 2010-12 he served as co-chair of the Arizona Governor’s Solar Energy Advisory Task Force.

Strock is listed in *Who's Who in America*, *Who's Who in the World*, and *Who's Who in Finance and Business*. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, the Authors Guild, and PEN America.

James Strock is accomplished as a convener, mediator, and negotiator of high stakes disputes. He received training from the Harvard Negotiation Project, the American Arbitration Association and other professional groups, and has served on the neutrals rosters of state and federal courts.

Strock was educated at public and independent schools in Austin, Texas, and New Orleans, Louisiana, and holds degrees from Harvard College (A.B., Phi Beta Kappa) and Harvard Law School (J.D.). During law school he served as a teaching fellow for Professor Richard Neustadt's course on presidential leadership. He subsequently studied literature for a year at New College, Oxford, on a Rotary Scholarship. In 1985 he received the Ross Essay Prize of the American Bar Association. He served to captain in the USARJAGC. Political Affiliation: Independent.

He is based in Rancho Santa Fe, California.

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