

Oliver Widmer

Partner
Attorney at law
Head Financial Services

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Oliver Widmer is a partner and head of Pestalozzi's Financial Services Group and a member of the Private Clients Group. He primarily advises domestic and international banks, financial institutions, wealth management service providers and high net worth individuals on banking, finance and capital markets matters.

Oliver Widmer graduated from the University of Zurich (lic. iur.) and the London School of Economics and Political Science (M.Sc., Law and Accounting). He was admitted to the bar in Switzerland in 2000 and as a solicitor (not practising) of England and Wales in 2003, is an authorised issuer's representative at the SIX Swiss Exchange and is recognised as trust and estate practitioner (TEP) by STEP. Oliver Widmer joined Pestalozzi in 2001. In 2003/2004, he was seconded to head the Swiss law and compliance department of one major US investment bank.

He is widely recognised as a leading Banking and Finance practitioner and is ranked by The Legal 500 as a Leading Individual, with further recognition in Capital Markets, FinTech and Private Clients. He is also ranked by Chambers & Partners Global and Europe in Banking and Finance, Capital Markets, Investment Funds and FinTech, by Lexology Index (formerly Who's Who Legal) in Banking and Capital Markets, and by Best Lawyers, which named him Lawyer of the Year 2024 in both Banking and Finance and Finance Law. In addition, the team led by Oliver Widmer was awarded "Law Firm of the Year – Banking & Finance" at the LegalcommunityCH Awards 2025.

Career

2009	Partner at Pestalozzi
2008	Trust and estate practitioner (TEP)
2003	Solicitor of England and Wales (not practicing) Head Legal and Compliance Merrill Lynch Capital Markets
2002	M.Sc. Law and Accounting, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)
2001	Associate at Pestalozzi
2000	Zurich bar exam
1998	lic. iur., University of Zurich

Languages

- German
- English
- French

Practice Areas

- Banking & Finance
- Blockchain & Crypto Assets
- Capital Markets
- Compliance
- ESG
- Financial Services
- Private Clients
- Swiss Financial Market Regulation

Membership

- Swiss Bar Association (SAV)
- Zurich Bar Association (ZAV)
- ICC Commission on Arbitration
- International Bar Association (IBA)
- STEP
- Swiss-British Chamber of Commerce (BSCC)
- Swiss-Indian Chamber of Commerce (SICC)
- Many more