

# James Strock Bio

## 21st Century Leadership Development

James Strock is a recognized authority and renowned speaker on 21<sup>st</sup> century leadership.

He is a thinker as well as a doer, bridging the realms of thought and action. His messages of leadership and excellence catalyze extraordinary performance by people and organizations in any setting—corporate, small business, entrepreneurial, not for-profit, government, and military—and across all functions.

James Strock is a popular keynote speaker on 21st century leadership, management and communication. He also presents seminars, and facilitates company and firm meetings and retreats, and serves as an emcee.

*Serve to Lead: Your Transformational 21st Century Leadership System* has been praised as “the essential guidebook for 21<sup>st</sup>-century leadership.” *Serve to Lead* was chosen as a “best book of the year” by Tom Peters, and by LeadershipNow. *Serve to Lead* was recognized by the 2011 Next Generation Indie Book Awards, with top honors in the business category, and third-place Grand Prize in non-fiction.

Mr. Strock’s newest book is an updated, Reagan Centennial edition of *Reagan on Leadership: Executive Lessons from the Great Communicator*. With a new foreword by legendary leadership authority Tom Peters, and a new readers’ note, *Reagan on Leadership* brings the timeless lessons of one of the greatest leaders of the twentieth century into a new era.

Mr. Strock is also the author of *Theodore Roosevelt on Leadership*, which the late Colonel David Hackworth declared “a masterpiece.”

Each book is widely used in business and not-for profit organizations, educational institutions, government agencies and the military. He 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.

He has appeared in a variety of national media, including the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Los Angeles Times*, *USA Today*, *Business Week*, *Forbes*, and *Investors' Business Daily*. He speaks on national and international network, cable, and local television and radio programs.

Mr. Strock’s speaking and consulting business includes companies in various sectors, as well as government agencies, NGOs and the military. He has served on corporate and not-for-profit boards of directors.

In addition to extensive business experience, he has served at high levels of government. From 1991-97 Mr. 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 an \$800 million budget and 4000 employees, achieving worldwide environmental, energy and economic impact. During this time 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 Mr. Strock to serve as Assistant Administrator for Enforcement (chief law enforcement officer) of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. He led a major expansion and reorganization of the national program, while driving civil and criminal enforcement to record levels.

Mr. 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, counsel to the U.S. Senate Environment & Public Works Committee, and a lawyer in private practice.

He is currently serving as co-chair of Arizona Governor Jan Brewer's Solar Energy Advisory Task Force.

Mr. 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 and the Authors Guild.

James Strock has extensive experience as a negotiator, facilitator and mediator. 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.

Mr. Strock was educated at public and private 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 USAR-JAGC.

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