

Connor J. Hansen

Partner

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Connor helps clients achieve effective and practical solutions to their intellectual property disputes.

Connor's practice focuses on trademark, trade dress, copyright, false advertising, and patent litigation as well as strategic counseling in a range of intellectual property matters. Connor has represented clients in federal district courts across the country and in administrative proceedings before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board. A biological systems engineer by training, Connor is able to quickly learn technical aspects of a wide range of technologies ranging from medical and computing devices to consumer products and apparel. This has been key to his success in cases relating to a variety of subject matters, such as artificial intelligence, social media and entertainment platforms, online games and apps, fashion, alcoholic beverage products, aviation, educational testing tools, telecommunications, consumer products, and financial services.

Connor has experience assisting clients to secure early and favorable settlements as well as through all phases of litigation, including pre-litigation analysis and strategy, preliminary injunctions, fact and expert discovery, summary judgment, and trial. His recent experience includes representing prominent clients like TikTok, Paramount, Procter & Gamble, and Sazerac. Connor is a regular contributor to Dorsey's critically acclaimed IP Blog, TheTMCA.com, which focuses on legal developments in the world of Trademarks, Copyrights, and Advertising. Connor lives in Austin, Texas with his husband and two dogs.

Select Experience

- *International Council for Veterinary Assessment v. Anivive Lifesciences, Inc.*, U.S. District Court for the Central District of California. Asserted claims of copyright infringement and breach of contract relating to the unauthorized use of copyright-protected veterinary test materials in large language models.
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Education

- The George Washington University Law School (J.D., with honors, 2018)
- University of Nebraska - Lincoln (B.S., Biological Systems Engineering, 2015)

Bar Admissions

- District of Columbia
- Washington
- Texas
- United States Patent and Trademark Office

Business Architecture Guild v. Lambert, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California and the American Arbitration Association. Obtained favorable ruling on copyright infringement and breach of contract claims.

- *Stitch Editing Ltd. v. TikTok, Inc.*, U.S. District Court for the Central District of California. Defended TikTok against claims of trademark infringement relating to use of the term “Stitch” for a creation feature in the TikTok app.
- *Sazerac Brands, LLC v. Wadada Spirits, LLC*, Trademark Trial and Appeal Board. Successfully opposed a FIREBURN 1878 mark on behalf of the owner of the famous FIREBALL mark for whisky and related alcoholic beverage products.

Court Admissions

- U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas
- U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Washington
- U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit

Professional Affiliations

- Leadership Counsel on Legal Diversity (LCLD) Pathfinder Program (2022)
- Austin Intellectual Property Law Association (Austin IPLA)
- International Trademark Association (INTA), Trademark Reporter Committee
- The National LGBT Bar Association
- Military Spouse J.D. Network
- Executive Production Editor, American Intellectual Property Law Association Quarterly Journal (2017–2018)

Accolades

- *Washington Super Lawyers*®, "Rising Stars," 2023-2026
- More than 50 Diversity hours, 2023
- Leadership Council on Legal Diversity (LCLD), Pathfinder Program, 2022
- Capital Pro Bono Honor Roll, District of Columbia, April 2019
- Peter D. Rosenberg Prize in Patent and Intellectual Property Law (awarded to the top IP student in the graduating class), The George Washington University Law School, May 2018

Additional Information

- *Influenced by Social Media, Ninth Circuit finds Personal Jurisdiction over Foreign Defendant*, IP Litigator (2021)
- *Taking Patent Rights: Sovereign Immunity & the Fourteenth Amendment in Patent Validity & Inventorship Challenges*, Journal of the Patent and Trademark Society (2019)
- *Permission Impossible: An Exception-Based Legislative Solution for Digitizing Copyright-Protected Works*, Chicago-Kent Journal of Intellectual Property (2018)

- *Virtually Equivalent: Applying the Doctrine of Equivalents to Patented Inventions Depicted in Virtual Reality*, American Intellectual Property Law Association Quarterly Journal (2018)
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Insights

February 24, 2022

Dorsey Legal Arcade: Video Game Industry Legal Updates Volume 1, Issue 3

September 29, 2021

Dorsey Legal Arcade: Video Game Industry Legal Updates Volume 1, Issue 2

February 17, 2021

Dorsey Legal Arcade: Video Game Industry Legal Updates Volume 1, Issue 1