BANNER WITCOFF



Christian LaForgia

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Christian assists clients in patent procurement and portfolio development. As a former patent examiner with experience working at law firms and in-house, Christian understands his clients' needs and how to efficiently and economically navigate the patent process. He brings a keen business sense to building patent portfolios, as well as negotiating agreements on behalf of his clients.

Representing multinational conglomerates, mid-size companies, and start-ups in a wide array of subjects and technologies, Christian advises on intellectual property portfolio management and development, patent prosecution, and counseling.

During his role as in-house counsel, Christian oversaw the growth and expansion of the company's patent portfolio. He negotiated a variety of agreements, such as non-disclosure agreements, joint research and development agreements, and joint venture contracts, on behalf of internal business, sales, and engineering teams. He also supervised the due diligence and acquisition of a target company's intellectual property portfolio, performed patent landscape studies, and advised management on patent strategy and general intellectual property matters.

Christian's legal experience goes beyond intellectual property. In his role as in-house counsel, he advised on topics that impact most businesses, including HIPAA, GDPR, and other privacy issues, as well how to comply with privacy regulations. His experience at the intersection of intellectual property and privacy allows him to provide clients with a comprehensive approach to protecting their intellectual property while achieving their business goals.

As part of his prosecution practice, Christian has drafted and prosecuted patent applications on applications for an assortment of technologies, including encryption, cryptography, blockchain, cryptanalysis, information security, machine learning, photolithography, athletic equipment, autonomous vehicles, optics, memory devices, medical devices, undergarments, and shapewear. He regularly performs patent searches, conducts due diligence studies, and contributes to freedom-to-operate and right-to-use opinions.

Christian began his career in intellectual property law as a patent examiner at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, where he examined applications in a variety of computer-related technologies, including task management, video compression, computer networking, network security, data encryption, anti-virus, intrusion detection, authentication, authorization, and cryptography.

Education

New Jersey Institute of Technology
2002, B.S., Computer Engineering

Rutgers Law School
2012, J.D.

Admissions

Bar Admissions
2012, New Jersey
2013, New York
2020, District of Columbia

Court Admissions
District of Columbia Court of Appeals
Superior Court of the District of Columbia
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Practices

Copyright
Counseling, Opinions + Licensing
Design Patents
PTAB Litigation
Patent Prosecution
Trade Secrets
Trademarks

Industries

Electrical + Computer Technologies
Internet, E-Commerce + Business Methods

Accolades

Recognized by the American Intellectual Property Law Association as an Outstanding Examiner (2018).

Representative Matters

Manage the global patent portfolio of a start-up in the high tech space.

Affiliations/Memberships

Member, American Intellectual Property Law Association

Recent News + Events + Related Publications

NEWS - 01.26.23
Banner Witcoff Elects New President, Board Members, and Shareholders

EVENT - 09.28.22
Christian LaForgia to Act as Panelist in Strafford Webinar on Using Intellectual Property as Collateral

NEWS - 05.03.22