



## Stephen F.W. Ball, Jr.

### PARTNER

THE LINK VIRTUAL

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### OVERVIEW

Stephen provides clients with comprehensive strategies on intellectual property law issues impacting their businesses.

Stephen concentrates in IP strategy, protection, and enforcement, and has developed strategies for protecting billions of dollars' worth of client sales. He uses a deep understanding of his clients' businesses to leverage patent and trademark law and solve business issues. He works with many international clients, managing worldwide IP portfolios and foreign and domestic litigations.

Stephen has appeared in many dozens of contested matters in federal district courts and courts of appeals throughout the country, as well as administrative bodies such as the International Trade Commission (ITC), the PTAB, and the TTAB. He has a proven track record of successfully litigating cases with hundreds of millions of dollars at stake.

He has prepared and prosecuted thousands of patent applications in a wide range of technologies and industries, including software, medical devices, industrial machinery, artificial intelligence (AI), control systems, robotics, aerospace, autonomous vehicles, blockchain, power storage/generation (batteries), green technology, fashion, materials, food science, biotech/pharma, and consumer products. His trademark practice includes a vast array of trademark enforcement and anti-counterfeiting policing for brand owners in industries such as fashion, software, biotech, and consumer products. He is regularly engaged for opinion work, including for non-infringement and invalidity issues, as well as licensing and IP due diligence for mergers and acquisitions.

### Industries

Technology  
Manufacturing  
Transportation

### Services

Appellate  
Copyrights  
Intellectual Property  
Intellectual Property Counseling  
Intellectual Property Litigation  
Litigation & Alternative Dispute Resolution  
Patent Preparation & Prosecution  
Post-Issuance Proceedings  
Section 337  
Technology Commercialization  
Trade Secrets & Business Information Protection  
Trademarks

Prior to entering private practice, Stephen worked as a software designer/developer for a pioneering Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) company.

### Experience

- Obtained favorable settlement for medical device manufacturer in five-patent infringement case with nine-figure damages claim directed to integrated operating room technology, following extensive summary judgment, Daubert, and Markman hearings.
- Implemented patent licensing campaign for internet technologies company, including multi-district federal litigation, resulting in tens of millions in licensing fees from companies around the world.
- Successfully defended allegations of patent infringement brought by direct competitor. Upon dismissal of case, obtained finding of exceptional case and award of attorneys' fees.
- Secured permanent injunction and damages award in counterfeiting case for luxury fashion brand, including temporary restraining order on same day complaint was filed providing for immediate shutdown of counterfeit websites.
- Developed and implemented anti-counterfeiting program for brand company, including monitoring and enforcing trademark rights against counterfeiters.
- Manage patent portfolio for large, international medical device manufacturer. Draft patent applications on broad range of technologies in the surgical suite, from data transmission to optics to graphical user interfaces.
- Manage patent portfolio for Fortune Global 500 company in industrial automation and robotics industries, leveraging expertise in patentable subject matter to obtain claims directed to programmed hardware.
- Manage patent portfolio for international biomedical company, including use of Track 1 to build portfolio in under a year to as company entered competitive US market. Cover various aspects of field from medical devices to chemical compositions to methods of treatment.

## Experience

- Successfully performed global rebrand for international industrial machinery company, including search and registrability opinion followed by clearance, prosecution, and acquisition of trademark protection in dozens of jurisdictions.
- Frequent author of articles on IP strategy.

## Recognition

- New England Super Lawyers, Intellectual Property and Intellectual Property Litigation, 2022

## Education

- J.D., Vermont Law School
- IPSI, University of New Hampshire Franklin Pierce School of Law
- B.S., University of Vermont
  - Computer Science

## Admissions

- Connecticut
- New York
- Massachusetts
- U.S. District Court, District of Connecticut
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York
- U.S. District Court, District of Massachusetts
- U.S. District Court, District of Colorado
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Federal Circuit
- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

## Community Leadership

- Vermont Law and Graduate School, Board Member
- Fraunces Tavern Museum, Law Committee

Stephen has also served as an advisor to various tech incubators, including at the University of Vermont.

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\*Stephen works remotely and is licensed in Connecticut, practicing in Stamford. Contact Stephen via email or phone for in-person/virtual meetings. Use our Boston office address for mail/deliveries.