



Christopher M. Verdini

Partner

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OVERVIEW

Mr. Verdini is a trial attorney who focuses on intellectual property litigation and intellectual property counseling. He played a lead role in the pretrial and trial efforts that led to obtaining a \$1.17 billion verdict for a client in a patent infringement case; the largest verdict in the U.S. in 2012 as reported by the *National Law Journal* and the third largest ever in a patent case. Mr. Verdini also obtained one of the largest verdicts in Pennsylvania in 2013 for a client in a patent infringement case. Mr. Verdini litigates trademark infringement, copyright infringement, misappropriation of trade secrets and unfair competition/false advertising cases. He counsels entertainment, media and consumer product clients on trademark clearance, registration, maintenance and enforcement issues and litigates trademark opposition and cancellation proceedings before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Among other clients, Mr. Verdini represents World Wrestling Entertainment, Inc. in trademark infringement cases, trademark opposition and cancellation proceedings and intellectual property and contract disputes. He also has litigated trademark infringement and false advertising claims involving popular consumer brands and seized counterfeit merchandise utilizing the anti-counterfeiting provisions of the federal Lanham Act. He leads the intellectual property enforcement efforts of a well-known music band and has counseled a large retailer on trademark, trade dress and copyright issues. Mr. Verdini has tried patent infringement and copyright infringement cases and managed large intellectual property litigations through all major stages, including arguing summary judgment, pretrial and post-trial motions.

Mr. Verdini was appointed by the Judges of the Western District of Pennsylvania to be a member of the Advisory Committee for the Study of the Local Patent Rules and a member of the Local Civil Rules for the Western District of Pennsylvania, is co-author of the intellectual property chapters in the "Expert Witness Answer Book" that the Practising Law Institute published annually from 2012-2017 and has been selected to the Pennsylvania Rising Star List from 2014-2018. While an undergraduate at Harvard University, Mr. Verdini was a two-time letterwinner for the Harvard football team.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Selected to the Pennsylvania Rising Stars List, 2014-2017

PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Barrister, Intellectual Property Inn of Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania
- Member of Advisory Committee for the Study of the Local Patent Rules for the Western District of Pennsylvania, 2014
- Member of Advisory Committee for the Study of the Local Rules for the Western District of Pennsylvania, 2014

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Moderator, K&L Gates GC University Series, March - November 2018
- Panel Member, "How to "Deal"" with Artificial Intelligence," Western Pennsylvania Association for Corporate Counsel, June 2018
- Patent Office Litigation - What You Need to Know, K&L Gates Webinar, October 2015
- Panel Member, 2014 Federal Circuit Bar Association Advanced Complex Patent Litigation Series, Western District of Pennsylvania, March 2014

EDUCATION

- J.D., Emory University School of Law, 2004 (*with honors*)
- A.B., Harvard University, 2001 (*cum laude*)

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of Pennsylvania
- United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit
- United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP POWERED BY HUB

- 25 May 2021, USPTO Proposes Rulemaking to Implement Provisions of the Trademark Modernization Act of 2020 (*Alerts/Updates*)

- May 2021, Navigating the Trademark Modernization Act: How to Play Offense and Defense with your Trademark Strategies (*Webinar*)
- 23 April 2020, COVID-19: IP Strategies for Universities and Nonprofits During the Pandemic – Mitigating Patent Infringement Risks When Making PPE and Other Health-Related Supplies (*Alerts/Updates*)
- November 2018, GC University: Ethical Engagements (*Webinar*)
- July 2018, GC University - Session Three - Commercial Contracting and Insurance Coverage (*Webinar*)
- 26 June 2018, Supreme Court Protects Patent Owners Facing Challenges of Globalization (*Alerts/Updates*)
- May 2018, GC University - Session Two - Sexual Harassment and Social Media in the Workplace (*Webinar*)
- May 2018, GC University - Session One - Managing Risk in a World of Rapidly Evolving Digital Technology (*Webinar*)
- 11 May 2016, From Behind Closed Doors To The Steps Of The Federal Courthouse: The Defend Trade Secrets Act of 2016 (*Alerts/Updates*)
- 7 October 2015, Patent Office Litigation - What You Need to Know (*Webinar*)

MEDIA MENTIONS

- "Security Firm Granted Response Deadline Extension In False Advertising Lawsuit," *Mealey's IP/Tech*, 8 December 2020

AREAS OF FOCUS

- IP Litigation
- Complex Commercial Litigation and Disputes
- IP Procurement and Portfolio Management
- Post-Grant Patents
- Technology Transactions and Sourcing

INDUSTRIES

- Consumer Products
- Sports

EMERGING ISSUES

- Social Media Law

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Represented Fortune 500 company in two-week copyright infringement/breach of contract trial that successfully settled during closing argument
- Defended inventor of hybrid air technology against a claim of co-inventorship. Case successfully settled on the eve of trial
- Represented famous punk rock music band in obtaining successful settlement of litigation over ownership of trademark rights related to the band
- Represented Fortune 500 company in obtaining successful settlement of trademark infringement case brought by direct competitor
- Leading developer of lifestyle-content for television and the Internet in action seeking to prevent use of phrase "Dream Home"
- Defended manufacturer of personal protective equipment in claim of misappropriation of trade secrets relating to development of safety device. Case successfully settled
- Represented Fortune 500 company in obtaining successful settlement of trade secret misappropriation case against direct competitor in matter involving government contracts
- Represented pet food manufacturer in defense of false advertising claims relating to packaging. Motion to Dismiss granted by E.D. Mich. And affirmed on appeal by the Sixth Circuit
- Defended manufacturer and seller of dog food in patent infringement suit relating to a method for making dog chews. Case successfully settled prior to claim construction.
- Obtained summary judgment of trademark infringement and obtained permanent injunction
- Obtained summary judgment against one of the largest electrical transformer manufacturers in the world in a declaratory judgment action requesting termination of contract for the purchase of grain oriented electrical steel. After obtaining summary judgment that required continued performance under the contract, the case successfully settled
- Represented software company in obtaining successful settlement of Lanham Act/commercial disparagement lawsuit brought against commercial website
- Represent software company in obtaining successful settlement of patent infringement case brought by direct competitor
- Obtained a multi-million dollar jury verdict on behalf of a private company that develops software for and hosts computer-mediated auctions of financial and legal instruments.