

Christopher M. Verdini

Partner

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OVERVIEW

Christopher Verdini is a trial lawyer 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 US$1.17 billion verdict for a client in a patent infringement case; the largest verdict in the United States in 2012 as reported by the *National Law Journal* and the third largest ever in a patent case.

Christopher also obtained one of the largest verdicts in Pennsylvania in 2013 for a client in a patent infringement case. Christopher litigates trademark infringement, copyright infringement, misappropriation of trade secrets and unfair competition and 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 US Patent and Trademark Office.

Among other clients, Christopher 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. Christopher 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.

Christopher 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 Super Lawyers Rising Stars list from 2014-2018. While an undergraduate at Harvard University, Christopher was a two-time letterwinner for the Harvard football team.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® in Pittsburgh

  - Litigation - Intellectual Property, 2022-2025
  - Litigation - Patent and Patent Law, 2023-2025
- Named to the Pennsylvania Super Lawyers Rising Stars list, 2014-2018

PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Barrister, Intellectual Property Inn of Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania
- Fellow, Wendell G. Freeland Society
- 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

- “Under the Wire" CLE Seminar: Coloring Within Shifting Lines – 2023 Workforce Edition – April 2023
- 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
- Supreme Court of the United States
- 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
- 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
- 26 June 2018, Supreme Court Protects Patent Owners Facing Challenges of Globalization
- 11 May 2016, From Behind Closed Doors To The Steps Of The Federal Courthouse: The Defend Trade Secrets Act of 2016
- 7 October 2015, Patent Office Litigation - What You Need to Know

NEWS & EVENTS

- 2 June 2026, K&L Gates IP Practice and Lawyers Recognized in 2026 Edition of IAM Patent 1000
- 18 August 2022, More Than 350 K&L Gates Lawyers Named Among 2023 Best Lawyers in America, Ones to Watch
- 19 August 2021, Nearly 300 K&L Gates Lawyers Named Among 2022 Best Lawyers in America, Ones to Watch
- 11 May 2021, Navigating the Trademark Modernization Act: How to Play Offense and Defense with your Trademark Strategies

MEDIA MENTIONS

- 18 November 2026, *Pittsburgh Business Times* | K&L Gates secures trademark for AI framework

OTHER MEDIA MENTIONS

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

AREAS OF FOCUS

- IP Litigation
- Commercial Disputes

- IP Procurement and Portfolio Management
- Post-Grant Patents
- Technology Transactions and Sourcing
- Trade Secrets Litigation

INDUSTRIES

- Consumer Goods and Services
- Sports

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Represents private university in district court litigation asserting patents relating to digital signal processing for computer hard drives.
- Represents software company in connection with false advertising claims against competitor; obtained Ninth Circuit reversal of CDA Section 230 immunity dismissal by district court and second reversal of Rule 12(b)(6) decision.
- Represents major public research university in district court litigation and related IPR involving patented technology for computer hard drives.
- Obtained summary judgment in favor of robotics investment fund dismissing all claims brought by former member.
- 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 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.
- Represented a leading provider of information security awareness and training software in obtaining successful settlement of a multi-patent infringement case brought by a 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.