



SheppardMullin

Intellectual Property Practice

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Sheppard Mullin is a full service Global 100 firm with 1000+ attorneys in 15 offices located around the world.



I. Intellectual Property Practice

Sheppard Mullin's Intellectual Property Practice Group is comprised of more than 110 lawyers in the United States and Asia, with a staff of registered patent agents and legal assistants. The practice is supported by a variety of other practice areas, including Litigation, Privacy, Antitrust, Corporate, Labor and Employment among other key practice areas.

Sheppard Mullin is a leader in the protection of intellectual property rights, as well as in assisting our clients to exploit their commercial potential. We have expertise in all aspects of the laws governing patents, trademarks, copyrights, trade secrets, false advertising and other matters involving intellectual property and the optimal structuring of transactions and negotiations involving such property. We routinely address practical concerns covering a broad array of different technologies such as consumer electronics, semiconductor designs/processes, computer hardware, software - including artificial intelligence and apps for smartphones and tablets, secured internet/network communications and protocols - including Internet of Things (IoT), industrial equipment - including welding, cutting and power equipment, telecommunications, financial services and technology (fintech), automotive and battery technology, medical devices, and sporting goods, among many others. In addition, our attorneys often advise on cutting-edge areas such as antitrust, unfair competition, counterfeiting, grey marketing and product diversion.

We handle due diligence, licensing, product development, partnering arrangements, contract manufacturing, distribution, regulatory issues, and other matters for clients. Not only do we have strong business acumen, we also have a steady track record in representing clients in trials and appeals.

With more than 110 registered members of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Sheppard Mullin's intellectual property attorneys and agents bring educational and industrial expertise in a diverse set of technologies. Examples of some of the degrees held by members of our team include advanced and/or bachelor's degrees in mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, materials science, computer science, mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology and other technical fields.

Our clients range from Fortune 500 corporations to start-up companies and individuals in all types of intellectual property matters, many of which involve complex technology and novel questions of technological advances and legal applications.

II. Patent Prosecution

Sheppard Mullin offers a complete, full-service patent practice, including patent prosecution, licensing and related transactional matters, as well as providing opinions of counsel, strategic audits and due diligence in connection with corporate transactions. Many of our patent practitioners have advanced technical degrees and substantial industry experience.

We have significant expertise in assisting companies in developing and implementing company specific patent strategies, evaluating the patentability of new products and inventions, and preparing and prosecuting patent applications in the United States and throughout the world. Our patent practitioners handle the initial preparation and filing of the applications and the subsequent prosecution of the applications before patent examiners and before the USPTO's Patent Trial and Appeal Board. We also have experience searching and analyzing the prior art to evaluate an invention's patentability and to craft patent claims. We have a support group of highly experienced administrative assistants to handle administrative tasks and post-issuance matters, including the preparation and recordation of assignments. Our expertise with patent prosecution spans foreign countries all around the world.

III. Patent Litigation

Sheppard Mullin has an impressive track record representing clients in disputes across many technology areas. Our clients include leaders in the semiconductor, cloud, telecommunications, networking, and medical devices. The disputes have involved technologies such as industrial equipment, consumer products and electronics, data encryption, wireless communications, standards-based technologies (e.g., 2G/3G, LTE, Bluetooth, 802.11, HDMI, H.264, H.265 and others), media streaming and compression, medical devices and treatment planning systems. Additionally, Sheppard Mullin's patent litigation practice covers all types of patent disputes, including high stakes competitor litigation, FRAND/SEP litigation, and sophisticated non-practicing entity lawsuits. Our group has experience litigating in common forums for patent litigation, including in California, Delaware, and the Eastern District of Texas, as well as before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board in *inter partes* review (IPR) proceedings. We also represent companies in unfair import investigations before the International Trade Commission.

IV. Trademarks Protection and Enforcement

Sheppard Mullin offers a complete international trademark practice, including worldwide trademark portfolio management and brand development services. Such services include international trademark, service mark and trade name clearances, trademark prosecution on a national, regional (e.g., European Union) and international filing bases, as well as international licensing and distribution agreements, supplier, manufacturer and vendor agreements.

Our attorneys have significant experience in large, Fortune 500 international intellectual property and brand acquisitions, as well as other legal services relating to international transactions including international title searches, due diligence and worldwide intellectual property assignments. We have attorneys with more than several decades of international experience in the preparation and prosecution of trademark and service mark applications, including the initial preparation and filing of the application, as well as prosecuting applications before various national Patent and Trademark Offices and other international tribunals.

V. Trademark and Trade Dress Litigation

Sheppard Mullin is an industry leader in the defense and prosecution of trademark and trade dress infringement matters. We handle all aspects of such disputes, ranging from informal negotiations to trial and appeal. Our attorneys take a practical, business oriented approach to resolving these and related disputes, with an eye toward the overall result.

Sheppard Mullin's clients benefit from our attorneys' significant expertise in not only the Lanham Act and its many nuances, but also in its interaction with related federal and state laws (e.g., unfair competition, dilution). Our attorneys have extensive experience litigating in federal court, where most trademark and trade dress disputes are adjudicated, and before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, which oversees cancellation and opposition proceedings. This proficiency and experience, combined with the sheer volume of attorneys practicing in the area of intellectual property law at Sheppard Mullin, has earned our firm a reputation as one of the country's premier intellectual property law firms.

VI. Trade Secrets

Sheppard Mullin's trade secrets litigation practice spans across numerous industries and practice groups, litigating throughout the United States and internationally. Our multi-disciplined team litigates large-scale, bet-the-company misappropriation, employee mobility, and poaching disputes across a range of industries, including but not limited to Aerospace, Automotive, Defense, Energy, Food & Beverage, Fashion, Financial Services, Healthcare, Life Sciences, Manufacturing, Pharmaceuticals, Retail, Security, and Technology. Our trade secret litigation specialists span multiple practice groups – Intellectual Property, Business Trial, Labor & Employment, International Trade, and White Collar – to bring the winning combination of subject matter and industry expertise as well as courtroom know-how to each matter. The broad-

based substantive expertise of our team makes our trade secrets practice your “secret” weapon – both offensively and defensively.

VII. Accolades

- *U.S. News & World Report* and *Best Lawyers 2022* ranked Sheppard Mullin among the “Best Law Firms” in the country, including a national tier one ranking for Intellectual Property Litigation.
- Sheppard Mullin is recognized as a leading law firm in *Managing Intellectual Property’s* 2021 edition of IP Stars, which assesses firms on the strength of their intellectual property teams, workload, outcomes achieved for clients and track records.
- Sheppard Mullin’s Intellectual Property practice group and attorneys have again been recognized in the 2021 *IAM Patent 1000: The World’s Leading Patent Professionals*.
- *Benchmark Litigation 2021* recommends Sheppard Mullin among the best national Intellectual Property firms.
- Sheppard Mullin was recognized as the 9th best performing law firm in the country representing petitioners in the 2021 *Patexia IPR Intelligence Report*. In addition, Harper Batts was recognized among the top 100 most active and named among the top 100 best performing attorneys representing petitioners.
- *Best Lawyers in America* and *Chambers USA* recognized several of our IP lawyers.

VIII. Sheppard Mullin’s Culture

- At Sheppard Mullin, we prize meeting – and exceeding – our clients’ needs above all else. We understand the importance of client service and responsiveness and are guided by an internal client service initiative called “Clients First”. This initiative outlines the client service expectations we place on every attorney and staff member, such as relationship building, communication, and innovation, among others, and rewards attorneys and staff who “go the extra mile” for our clients. Client service and putting clients first are part of our DNA and permeates everything we do.
- We are also keen on efficiency. We understand the need to manage legal expenses closely. Our specialized knowledge and experience means that we can provide sophisticated counsel in a cost-effective manner. We will maintain ongoing and close communication with you to ensure we provide you with the right people and resources over the life of each matter.
- Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) are core values of Sheppard Mullin, and we recognize their importance in our workplace, clients and profession. We are proud of the progress we’ve made. Because of Sheppard Mullin’s commitment to diversity, the Firm consistently and regularly receives diversity-focused awards. Recent awards include:
 - Minority Corporate Counsel Association’s 2019 Thomas L. Sager Award National Winner
 - 2021 HRC Corporate Equality Index 100% rating of LGBTQ+ workplace benefits
 - Ranked #31 on The American Lawyer’s Top Firms for Diversity/2020 Diversity Scorecard

- Named a 2020 Inclusion Blueprint Champion by Diversity Lab and ChIPs
 - 2020 Best Law Firms for Women (Working Mother Magazine)
 - 2020 Mansfield Rule 3.0 Certification Plus Status by Diversity Lab
 - 2019 ChIPs Honor Roll Award
 - Ranked among Law360's Best Law Firms for Minority Attorneys
 - Leadership Council on Legal Diversity's 2020 Top 50 Law Firms
- Pro Bono is a key element of our firm's culture. Approximately 2.3% of the firm's total professional time is dedicated to legal pro bono work, with the firm donating 34,042 hours to pro bono work in 2020. Sheppard Mullin has a distinguished history of encouraging its attorneys to undertake pro bono work and in 2020, took significant measures to strengthen and institutionalize pro bono at the firm. We appointed the firm's first full-time dedicated Pro Bono Partner and hired our first Pro Bono Manager.
 - Sheppard Mullin is deeply committed to giving back to our communities. As an example, in May 2020, we teamed up with the "LA5" Rotary Club of Los Angeles, a group of volunteer healthcare professionals, and several large for-profit donors to launch a volunteer service project to repurpose 187 3D printers to produce and distribute 30,000 face shields to frontline healthcare service providers and emergency first responders in Los Angeles. Lawyers and staff across the firm also donate time and resources to support community food banks, animal shelters, mentoring and children's organizations, and local prison and homeless populations, among many other groups in need. Many of our lawyers also give back by serving in leadership positions with community-based organizations.

IX. The Sheppard Mullin Difference

We are a firm that truly puts clients first. And this sets us apart. In fact, Sheppard Mullin was recognized in BTI Consulting's Most Recommended Law Firms 2021 list. The firm was one of only 21 firms featured in the "Highly Recommended" category. According to BTI, "These firms provide superior client service, demonstrating a culture driven by client focus and understanding clients' business." This year marks Sheppard Mullin's 7th appearance on BTI Consulting's Most Recommended Law Firms list.

Please let us know how we can be of service to you.