



Thomas M. Williams

Partner

Thomas Williams specializes in trademark and unfair competition litigation, as well as trademark prosecution and counseling. His practice includes representing clients in federal district and appellate courts, and before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board of the USPTO. He has also represented clients in alternative dispute resolution proceedings.

Mr. Williams has extensive experience representing clients with both traditional trademarks and non-traditional marks, including trade dress, color marks, and sound marks. He has successfully represented brand owners in domain name disputes under the UDRP and ACPA.

Thomas M. Williams

321 North Clark St.
Suite 3400
Chicago, IL 60654
t. +1 312.846.5620
f. +1 312.595.2250

WilliamsT@howrey.com

ADMISSIONS

Illinois

EDUCATION

University of Illinois (JD, 1996)

Law Review

University of Wisconsin - Madison
(BA, 1993)

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- *Trademark Infringement: General Electric Co. and GE Healthcare AS v. Taejoon Pharm Co., Ltd. and Accuzen Co. Ltd.* (Case No. 08-C-6742) Obtained Temporary Restraining Order barring defendants from using, promoting, or displaying infringing trademark during radiology industry's largest trade show.
- *Trademark Infringement and Dilution.* Successful representation of plaintiff/counter-defendant in civil action between competitors in commercial truck manufacturing industry.
- *Trademark Infringement.* Successful representation of trademark owner in civil action involving competitor's use of infringing marks as meta tags on web site.
- *False Advertising.* Successful representation of plaintiff in civil action challenging literally false and misleading statements by competitor in commercial truck manufacturing industry.
- *Trade Dress Litigation.* Obtained permanent injunction against competitor's use of infringing and dilutive color trademark in connection with medical products.
- *Trade Dress Litigation.* Obtained permanent injunction against competitor's infringing and dilutive product configuration trade dress for game puzzle.
- *USPTO Trademark Trial and Appeal Board.* Successful ex parte appeal of genericness and descriptiveness refusal in connection with major online retailer's service mark.
- *USPTO Trademark Trial and Appeal Board.* Inter partes oppositions involving audible sound marks used in connection with telecommunications devices.
- *Domain Names.* Numerous successful UDRP actions against bad faith

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registration and use of brand owners' trademarks as domain names.

- ADR. Successful representation of plaintiff in JAMS arbitration involving trademark infringement and breach of contract.

PUBLICATIONS & SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

ARTICLES

"*Winter v. NRDC: A Stricter Standard for Irreparable Harm in Trademark Cases?*" *Journal of the Patent and Trademark Office Society* Vol. 91, No. 10, 11, 12 (October - December, 2009).

"Fed. Circ. Stance on 'The Cold War Museum' Mark." *Law360* (December 1, 2009).

"The Bell Tolls for Inherently Distinctive Sound Trademarks." *Patent Trademark & Copyright Journal (BNA)* Vol. 77, No. 685 (April 17, 2009).

"The Sound of Unconventional Marks in the US." *World Trademark Review* Vol. 8 (July - August, 2007): 94. (Co-author).

"Thinking of Updating Your Trademark? Think Again." *Managing Intellectual Property* (July - August, 2000).

SPEECHES

"Social Media Pros and Legal Cons: Legal Issues in Social Media." ICLA, Webinar (November 16, 2009).

"Trademark Fraud: Recent Developments in the *Medinol* Doctrine." Howrey Seminar: Ethics for In-House IP Counsel, Chicago, IL (June 30, 2009).

"Managing and Enforcing a Trademark Portfolio in a Global Downturn." Howrey Seminar, Chicago, IL (January 27, 2009).

"Litigation Alternatives: TTAB and UDRP." Practising Law Institute, Chicago, IL (June 20, 2008).

"ICANN Proceedings: A Cost-Effective Alternative to Litigation." Northwestern University, Chicago, IL (2001).

"WIPO Bodyslams Cybersquatter." Seminar, Chicago, IL (2000).