

Christopher J. Wiener

Partner

San Francisco

Details

[T 415.293.6472](tel:415.293.6472)

[F 415.989.1663](tel:415.989.1663)

cwiener@coblentzlaw.com

Christopher Wiener is a trial lawyer focusing on intellectual property disputes and complex commercial litigation. He has extensive experience counseling companies on pre-litigation risks, due diligence, intellectual property valuation, and damages modeling, and has successfully represented clients at every stage of litigation through trial.

Focused on the intersection of technology and litigation, Christopher has represented both plaintiffs and defendants in matters spanning a range of technologies, including smartphones, computer virtualization, headphones, surgical devices, semiconductors, water filtration, and computer-aided design. He has deep experience with all forms of intellectual property, including patent, copyright, trademark, and trade dress litigation. He has also litigated and tried complex commercial litigation matters for clients in a variety of disputes including technology licensing, consumer product development, and real estate.

Christopher maintains an active pro bono practice. He represented California school children in a landmark education case brought under the California Constitution that seeks to vindicate the rights of all students to access literacy, no matter their zip code. In February 2014, he secured a favorable mid-trial settlement for a California inmate who sustained injuries due to the use of excessive force while incarcerated.

Prior to joining Coblentz, Christopher was an associate in the IP Litigation Group at Morrison & Foerster LLP in San Francisco for nearly a decade.

Christopher earned his J.D. from the University of California College of Law, San Francisco (Hastings), where he graduated summa cum laude. While at Hastings, he was a senior articles editor for the Hastings Law Journal and was elected to the Order of the Coif. He earned his B.A., magna cum laude, from Boston University.

Notable Representations

Patent

- Smartphone Litigation (N.D. Cal.). Member of team that successfully tried a series of high profile smartphone cases, including a jury verdict of over \$1 billion.
- *Good Technology Corp. v. AirWatch LLC* (N.D. Cal.). Represented AirWatch LLC in a multi-patent infringement suit brought by a competitor alleging infringement by AirWatch's mobile device management software. The case settled after expert discovery.
- *Autodesk, Inc. v. Joseph Alter* (N.D. Cal.). Represented Autodesk in seeking a declaratory judgment of non-infringement of Defendant's patent, and declaration of a license, release and covenant not to sue, in connection with techniques to generate photorealistic animated fur and hair. Obtained summary judgment on all claims.
- *Realtime Data v. NetApp* (E.D. Tex.). Defended NetApp against patent infringement claims relating to data compression and deduplication functionality.

Copyright

- *SoundExchange, Inc. v. Sonos Inc. and Napster* (C.D. Cal.). Representing SoundExchange, a non-profit collective rights management organization, in a copyright infringement suit relating to Sonos and Napster's non-payment of statutory royalties.
- *Bold LLC v. Rocket Resume, Inc. and Stephen Zimmerman* (N.D. Cal.). Represented Defendants in a copyright infringement suit relating to online resume creation services. Won summary judgment of non-infringement followed by a favorable settlement.
- *Glass Egg Digital Media Limited vs. Gameloft, Inc.* (N.D. Cal.). Represented plaintiff Glass Egg in copyright infringement case relating to use of digital assets in mobile video games. The case settled favorably.

Trademark

- *Precision Build Corp. v. Precision Builders Group LLC & Dustin Baxter* (N.D. Cal.). Represented Defendants in

trademark litigation and business separation dispute, resulting in early negotiated resolution.

- *Novadaq Technologies v. Karl Storz GmbH & Co. K.G.* (N.D. Cal.). Represented Novadaq in a trademark infringement and unfair competition suit involving minimally invasive surgical imaging products.
- *Rearden LLC v. Rearden Commerce, Inc.* (N.D. Cal.). Represented Rearden LLC in a trademark infringement, cybersquatting, and unfair competition suit.

Trade Secret

- *Curcio v. Universal Music Group Holdings, Inc.* (Santa Clara Sup. Ct.). Defending UMGHI in connection with a trade secret misappropriation and breach of contract suit. Obtained a judgment following successful demurrers to repeated amended complaints.

Technology Litigation

- *Lamar v. Beats, Dr. Dre, and Jimmy Iovine* (LA Sup. Ct.). Represented Defendants in a breach of written royalty agreement involving the design of Beats headphones and related design patent issues.
- *Cyrus Hodes v. Stability AI Inc., Stability AI Ltd., and Mohammad Mostaque* (N.D. Cal.). Represented Defendants in a breach of contract and fiduciary duty dispute involving ownership in Stability AI. Resisted significant early discovery efforts by Plaintiff and obtained a voluntary dismissal after a successful motion to dismiss.

Commercial Litigation

- DraftKings Litigation (Various). Representing DraftKings in multiple nationwide consumer class actions pending in Illinois, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, and Pennsylvania federal courts.
- *Sutter's Place, Inc. v. S.J. Bayshore Development LLC* (Santa Clara Sup. Ct.). Obtained a \$14.2 million jury verdict for Sutter's Place on its claims and a complete defense verdict on cross-claims asserted against it (seeking \$54 million in damages) in a two-month contract and fraud trial, including leading all expert testimony at trial.

Honors & Awards

Christopher was named by Best Lawyers "One to Watch" for Intellectual Property Litigation (2021 – 2024).

Professional Activities

Christopher is a member of the State Bar of California and the Association of Business Trial Lawyers, and he was named by Best Lawyers as "One to Watch" for Intellectual Property Litigation (2021 – 2024). Christopher participated in the 2023-2024 Leadership San Francisco (LSF) signature program, a ten-month leadership program connected with the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce. He is admitted to practice before the Northern, Eastern, and Central Districts of California, the Eastern District of Texas, and the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

Publications & Speaking Engagements

- "[Supreme Court Extends Copyright Damages Beyond Three Years](#)" (May 14, 2024)
- "[Supreme Court's Bad Spaniels Decision Limits Parody Defense to Trademark Infringement](#)" (June 16, 2023)
- "Trademark Parody vs. Copyright Parody," PLI Intellectual Property Law Institute 2021 (October 19, 2021)
- "U.S. Supreme Court Rejects Willfulness Requirement for Trademark Infringement Profits," (April 28, 2020)

Education

- J.D., summa cum laude University of California College of Law, San Francisco (2011)
- B.A., magna cum laude Boston University (2008)