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Practice Areas

Intellectual Property and
Technology

Commercial Contracts - Domestic
and International

Entertainment, Media and
Publishing

Alternative Dispute Resolution

Health Care

Douglas G. Verge

Shareholder

Practice Focus

After 10 years as chair of the Intellectual Property and Technology Group, Doug stepped down from that position in 2010 to focus on his dynamic and challenging IP practice, his tenure culminating in a New Hampshire Business Review "Best of Business" Award for the firm's IP practice. His clients represent diverse business interests, including manufacturing, technology, medical, education, and the arts. He works closely with foreign counsel in numerous countries on both trademark and licensing matters. While Doug practices in most aspects of intellectual property, he concentrates his efforts in the following areas:

- Trademark protection, including initial trademark selection, screening, coordinating with marketing personnel, opinions, prosecution and maintenance of trademark registrations, and dispute resolution.
- Copyright protection, including license agreements, registrations, dispute resolution, endorsement agreements and publishing agreements.
- Licensing, including drafting, reviewing and negotiating software development and license agreements, including open source software agreements, SaaS (ASP) agreements, trademark and copyright license agreements, and other IP agreements, and advises clients on various aspects of the licensing process.
- Healthcare in the areas of electronic records systems agreements and related technology agreements, privacy, security and health information exchange, including business associate agreements.
- Minimum advertised price (MAP) policies and related antitrust issues.

Having litigated and negotiated complex intellectual property, commercial, and corporate cases, Doug's litigation background enables him to bring those insights and skills to the alternative dispute resolution field. Doug completed mediation training provided by the International Trademark Association. His mediation focus is on intellectual property and contract disputes and he has mediated cases involving trademark rights and commercial contracts.

Sample Matters

- Manages the trademark portfolio for a leading manufacturer of motors and motion solutions with a domestic and international presence, for one of the region's leading dental administrators/insurers, for a major amusement park, and for the owner of numerous camps throughout the Northeast.
- Provides counsel on trademark and other IP matters to a leading

manufacturer of vitamins, minerals and nutritional and dietary supplements.

- Drafted substantial copyright materials, including a copyright handbook, copyright policies, TEACH ACT Guide and FAQ for a university.
- Negotiated and participated in the review, drafting and revision of system-wide, multiple license agreements for hospitals, providers of non-profit services, and an educational institution.
- Provides advice to a leading university on open source licensing matters.
- Counsel to a Canadian based museum regarding United States trademark registrations.
- Trademark counsel for a maker of software based games.

Memberships and Admissions

Admitted to New Hampshire and Massachusetts state Bars; admitted to practice before the First and Seventh Circuit Courts of Appeal and the United States District Courts of New Hampshire and Massachusetts. Member of the International Trademark Association. Member of the mediation panels for the United States District Court for the District of New Hampshire and the Superior Court of New Hampshire. Past chair of the New Hampshire Bar Association Intellectual Property Law Section, and member of the American Bar Association.

Community Involvement

Doug serves on the Membership Committee of the Merrimack Valley Venture Forum. He also has provided services in connection with the Lex Mundi Pro Bono Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit affiliate of Lex Mundi, a leading association of independent law firms. Additionally, Doug has served on the Board of Directors of the New Hampshire Performing Arts Center, the United Methodist Foundation of New England (Executive Committee and Secretary; Honorary Director), and St. Joseph Community Services (currently a member of the Audit Committee).

Doug has authored the New Hampshire chapter of the Lex Mundi Intellectual Property World Desk Reference, published by Kluwer Law International. This two-volume reference provides a handy guide to intellectual property law and practice in both the various U.S. states, as well as in numerous foreign countries. He is a frequent speaker at Intellectual Property related events and presentations. He has presented at the International Trade Resource Center, the New Hampshire Bar Association, Franklin Pierce Law Center, Tuck School at Dartmouth, New Hampshire Technical Institute, Babson College, Upper Valley Computer Industry Association, New Hampshire Creative Club, New Hampshire Travel Council, Manchester Area Human Resources Association, New England Professional Photographers Association, and has created and presented the well-received Effective Brand Selection and Authors' Awareness Series seminars.

Honors

New Hampshire Business Review's 2010 "Best of Business" award recipient - Best Law Firm in the Intellectual Property category; recipient of the President's Award for Distinguished Service to the New Hampshire Bar Association's Special Committee on the Rules of Civil Procedure. *Boston College Law School Law Review* (editor and writer, with a published article); Order of the Coif.

Education

B.A., *magna cum laude*, Dartmouth College

J.D., *magna cum laude*, Boston College Law School