



Francis J. Duffin

PARTNER

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From startups bringing new products to market, to educational institutions and established companies needing to protect their works, Frank has helped numerous clients develop, protect, and utilize their trademarks, copyrights, and other intellectual property. He has extensive experience in domestic and international trademark law and in trade name and domain name matters, stemming from his foundation as a Trademark Examining Attorney with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. He is also a member of wiggin(x).

Frank is a Partner in the firm's Corporate Department and Chair of the Trademark Practice Group. He counsels clients on trademark clearance, procurement, and maintenance, helping them manage their global trademark portfolios. He oversees all phases of international litigations, oppositions, and cancellation proceedings, including those before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's Trademark Trial and Appeal Board.

Frank also advises clients on policing of their proprietary rights, including copyright counseling and prosecution, domain name disputes, investigations of potential infringers, risk/benefit analysis of legal actions against infringers, enforcement strategies, negotiating settlement and coexistence agreements, licenses, and other creative methods of resolving conflicts.

He co-authored "Best Practices in Protecting and Enforcing Trademarks, Copyrights, and other Intellectual Property Rights," published in the *Franchise Law Journal*, and co-authored "Post-Termination Internet Violations: Who Fixes and How?" appearing in *Franchising World*.

Frank is a member of the Intellectual Property Law Section of the Connecticut Bar Association, the New York Intellectual Property Law Section of the New York State Bar Association, and the International Trademark Association (INTA), where he currently serves on the Leadership Development Committee.

He has been recognized by *Super Lawyers* as one of the top intellectual property lawyers in Connecticut, and he is consistently included in *The Best Lawyers in America* in the IP category.

Frank received his J.D. from Quinnipiac University School of Law and is a member of the Phi Delta Phi legal honors fraternity. He received a B.A. from Central Connecticut State University.

Beyond his client work, Frank is an Adjunct Professor of Trademark and Copyright Law at Quinnipiac University School of Law and is a member of the firm's Diversity and Inclusion Task Force.

Education

- Quinnipiac University School of Law (J.D., 1987)
 - Phi Delta Phi
- Central Connecticut State University (B.A., 1984)

Bar Admissions

- Connecticut
- New York
- Virginia

Court Admissions

- US Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit
- US District Court (District of Connecticut)
- US District Court (Southern District of New York)

Memberships and Affiliations

- The American Bar Association
- Connecticut Bar Association
 - Member, Intellectual Property Law Section
- International Trademark Association
- New York Intellectual Property Law Association
- New York State Bar Association
- The Get in Touch Foundation, Inc.
 - Board of Directors
- Virginia Bar Association

Publications

June 16, 2023

Jack Daniel's Supreme Court Ruling Client Alert

October 17, 2022

New USPTO Rules Shorten Office Action Response Times

June 17, 2022

New USPTO Guide Clarifying Examination Evidentiary Standard for Marks Refused as Generic

May 17, 2022

The U.S. to Issue Electronic Registration Certificates

July 2, 2020

In Booking.com Decision, the U.S. Supreme Court Holds Generic Website Names That Have Acquired Secondary Meaning May Be Registered as Trademarks

May 1, 2020

Recent Supreme Court Decisions in IP

February 26, 2020

Recent Developments in Intellectual Property Law

June 28, 2019

Ban on Immoral and Scandalous Marks Struck Down

March 4, 2019

Recent Developments in Intellectual Property Law Newsletter

March 12, 2018

Recent Developments in Intellectual Property Law

December 15, 2017

Intellectual Property Group Practice Update & Recent Happenings

January 24, 2017

The Year In Intellectual Property: A Look Back at 2016 and a Look Ahead to 2017

January 29, 2016

Intellectual Property 2015 Year In Review

April 10, 2013

India Joins Madrid Protocol for the International Registration of Marks

March 7, 2013

Arrival of New Generic Top Level Domains

September 6, 2011

Limited Window to Exempt Brands from New Adult-Themed Domain

December 1, 2010

Combating Online Infringement and Counterfeits Act (COICA)

September 22, 2010

New York Personal Jurisdiction: Infringers Beware

June 29, 2009

Facebook User Registration

February 20, 2009

Best Practices in Protecting and Enforcing Trademarks, Copyrights, and Other Intellectual Property Rights

Franchise Law Journal, Volume 28, Number 3, Winter 2009

August 29, 2007

Post-Termination Internet, Violations: Who Fixes and How?

Franchising World August 2007