SpencerFane®

# Spencer Fane Combines with Global IP Counselors, Expanding IP Capabilities from Washington, D.C.

Spencer Fane LLP is pleased to announce its combination with Global IP Counselors LLP, a longstanding and respected Washington, D.C., intellectual property boutique, effective January 5, 2026. The strategic combination brings together over a dozen patent and trademark attorneys and patent agents with a Spencer Fane intellectual property practice that now includes more than 60 attorneys, agents, and engineers to support the increasingly complex and global needs of our collective clients.

Global IP Counselor's strategic presence and capabilities position Spencer Fane to deliver even greater value to clients both in terms of navigating complex IP challenges as well as serving clients in the nation's capital – the team provides Spencer Fane greater depth in Washington, D.C.

The intellectual property boutique also brings a team of highly skilled patent and trademark prosecution attorneys, agents, and engineers with exceptional technical expertise and IP litigation experience. As an example of its depth, the firm has been recognized for filing more than 1,000 patent applications annually in the U.S. and abroad across diverse technical fields. Its professionals also include former USPTO patent examiners and trademark examining attorneys, and several team members are fluent in Japanese, reflecting the firm's strong ties to international clients.

"We are excited to join Spencer Fane and become part of a platform that shares our commitment to client service and innovation both in terms of practicing law as well as creating a collaborative environment that leads to creative outcomes for clients," said Michael Murphy, Managing Partner of Global IP Counselors. "Our combination also allows us to offer our clients expanded resources and capabilities while maintaining the personalized approach that has defined our success."

As for Spencer Fane, the additions are an extension both of its recent organizational redesign – in which the firm is developing market teams with deep experience in areas such as intellectual property – but also in terms of its commitment to making culture its strategy.

"Our strategy as a firm is not about chasing growth – our growth is simply an outcome of clients and talent opting for our unique values and value proposition," Spencer Fane Chair Patrick J. Whalen said. "Global IP Counselors exemplifies this vision – they are exceptional people with exceptional experience, and we see them as not only fitting with but also strengthening the culture that has been the foundation of our success."

The firm's decision to make culture its strategy is reflected in its standing as the only law firm in the nation to receive a perfect rating by *U.S. News & World Report* in its Best Companies to Work For: Law Firms listing. More recently, the firm has also caught the attention of *Bloomberg* and *Financial Times*, which each recognized Spencer Fane as an inaugural Leading Law Firm honoree and shortlisted firm for the Innovative Lawyers Awards North America 2025, respectively.

Learn more about Global IP Counselors LLP.