



SpencerFane®

Jeffrey (Jeff) Ratinoff

Partner

Contact

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Overview

Jeff Ratinoff is an intellectual property litigator in the firm's San Jose office. With 25 years of experience advocating on behalf of clients, he represents clients in technology-driven litigation in state, federal, and appellate courts and in front of the International Trade Commission. Jeff's patent litigation practice includes representing clients in a wide variety of sectors including computer design and manufacturing, data storage device manufacturing, software, smartphones and tablets, network security providers, semiconductor and memory chip fabricators, electro-optical device manufacturers, and the defense and firearms industries.

In addition, Jeff has extensive experience protecting and defending clients' intellectual property rights in trade secret misappropriation, trademark infringement, unfair competition, antipiracy, false advertising, trade libel, and copyright infringement matters.

Complementing his extensive litigation experience, Jeff regularly advises clients on intellectual property protection and enforcement programs, including implementing procedures and safeguards for protecting inventions, trade secrets, and other confidential information. He counsels clients on brand protection and anti-counterfeiting strategies and provides strategic counseling to clients on creating, valuing, licensing, and registering intellectual property.

In addition to his intellectual property practice, Jeff is actively involved with the Santa Clara (California) County Public Defender's Office where he takes on trial-level pro bono felony cases and appeals.

Education

- Vanderbilt University Law School, 1998 (J.D.)
- University of California, San Diego, 1995 (B.A.), *magna cum laude*

Bar Admissions

- California, 1998

Court Admissions

- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California
- U.S. District Court for the Central District of California
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas

Community Involvement

- Vanderbilt Alumni Association
- West Valley Red Hawks Lacrosse Club, Youth Coach

Memberships

- Santa Clara County Bar Association, former Chair of the Executive Committee of the High Tech Law Section
- Silicon Valley Intellectual Property Law Association
- International Trademark Association (INTA)

Presentations and Publications

- ["U.S. Supreme Court Reinforces Corporate Separateness in Trademark Disputes,"](#) *IP Watchdog*, March 2025
- ["Patent Marking Steps After Fed. Circ. Opens Lanham Act Door,"](#) *Law360*, November 2024
- ["2nd Circ. Provides NY Pathway for Fighting Foreign Infringers,"](#) *Law360*, October 2024

Related Experience

- First chair counsel in trademark, unfair competition, false advertising and Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) case involving dual-licensed software.
- Obtained a writ of mandamus from the Federal Circuit overturning the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas' denial of a motion to stay or transfer a patent infringement action to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California.
- Successfully represented a leading flash memory maker in various patent infringement suits before the ITC and in federal district courts.
- Represented brand-name electronics and computer manufacturers in a patent infringement suit involving microprocessor and clocking system design.
- Obtained terminating sanctions on behalf of a leading circuit design and EDA software company in a trade secret misappropriation action.
- Represented a Silicon Valley-based company in a patent infringement action relating to network load balancing technology.
- Represented an international manufacturer of office products in a software copyright infringement action.

- Obtained an early dismissal of a design patent infringement action filed against a manufacturer of light emitting diodes used in consumer electronics.
- Represented maker of graphics processing cards in a trademark infringement and unfair competition lawsuit.
- Represented client in a trade secret misappropriation and unfair competition action relating to electron beam wafer inspection technology.
- Represented a leader in Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) technology in a software copyright infringement and trade secret misappropriation action.