

Intellectual Property

Overview

Taft's Intellectual Property Practice Group is interdepartmental. Client matters involve interdisciplinary collaboration among individuals with experience in corporate transactions, regulatory and administrative law, finance, health care, litigation, tax, and antitrust. The clients served by this practice group include Fortune 500 companies, hospitals and research institutions, individual authors, artists, inventors, scientists, and entrepreneurs.

In addition to trademark, copyright, and patent, the attorneys in the group advise clients with respect to protection of trade secrets, unfair competition, false advertising, and the right of publicity. Members of our group were involved in the drafting and negotiation of the Ohio Right of Publicity Act.

We represent computer software licensors and licensees in drafting and negotiating software license and software development agreements, as well as related application service, consulting, distribution, support, and maintenance agreements. Our litigators handle lawsuits involving disputes between software developers and owners regarding alleged software defects and breaches of licenses.

Our firm assists individual inventors and research institutions in licensing technology of all types, such as monoclonal antibodies to tumor proteins, prosthetic devices, surgical instruments, software, manufacturing processes, and business methods. Members of our IPTC Practice Group deal with technology from the early research and development stage through commercialization. They also have experience with mature technologies, as well as those not protectable by patent.

We handle a wide variety of disputes involving claims by and against our clients



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with respect to rights in intellectual property and technology commercialization. Some of these disputes can be resolved short of litigation; others require litigation in federal or state courts or before government agency tribunals. We work to maintain productive business relations between the disputing parties, where appropriate, by creative licensing and other constructive arrangements.

We are experienced in handling intellectual property rights issues in Internet Web site development, hosting, co-branding, and content license agreements. We provide advisory services to Internet start-up businesses, as well as many established companies, based in Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, and throughout the U.S.

Taft is a member of:

- International Trademark Association
- BIO/START
- Edison BioTechnology Center
- Licensing Executives Society (LES)
- Association of University Technology Managers (AUTM)
- Greater Cincinnati Regional Technology Initiative (sponsored by the Greater Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce).