

Charles

T.J. Weigell, III

Partner

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Overview

“Clients often come to me with a new technology or they want to protect a discrete component or aspect of a product but aren’t sure of the best way to do it. It could be designs for handbags, shoes, and packaging or it could be computer icons, the layout of computer graphics, or user interfaces. They don’t know whether they should seek a trademark, a copyright, or a design patent and, in many cases, the answer may be all three.”

Charles Weigell’s deep experience in protecting products at the intersection of trademarks, copyrights, and design patents is invaluable — both for fashion and fragrance clients and for clients with technical products like machinery, digital icons, tools, and medical and dental devices, for which it is especially important to secure the proper IP protection.

Charles has extensive experience advising clients on issues involving three-dimensional marks, functionality, design searching, demonstrating

secondary meaning, and the interface between design and utility patent protections. He also has deep knowledge of the new standards for prior art, prior disclosures, anticipation, and obviousness under the America Invents Act.

In addition to handling searching, clearance, filing, and prosecution of trademarks, Charles provides advice and counseling on trade dress and manages large trademark portfolios. He writes design patent validity and infringement opinions, and advises on oppositions, cancellations, and concurrent use matters before the USPTO’s Trademark Trial and Appeal Board, as well as appeals before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board.

Education

George Washington University National Law Center (JD, 1989)

University of Southern California (BA, *cum laude*, 1985)

Admissions

Bar Admissions

California

New York

Court Admissions

U.S. Patent Office

Focus

- Consumer Products
- Fashion
- Jewelry & Watches

Services

- Trademark
- Design
- International

Associations

New York State Bar Association (Member of the Executive Committee, Intellectual Property Law Section, 2004-present; Chair, Intellectual Property Law Section, 2014-2016)

Recognition

The Legal 500 US 2025

World Trademark Review's WTR 1000 2021-25

“Charles adds tremendous value with his combination of trademark, copyright and design patents know-how.”

Who's Who Legal IP – Trademarks Global Leader 2018-2023; Thought Leaders IP-Trademarks 2025

Decisions

- In re Lego Juris A/S

Languages

German

Speaking Engagements

Protecting Industrial Designs with Copyright, 2023

AIPPI World Congress in Istanbul, Turkey (panelist), October 2023