

MIRA VATS-FOURNIER

PowerHouse Mediation, Arbitration & Global Dispute Resolution

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EXPERIENCE

Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP (formerly Briggs and Morgan, P.A.).

2018 – July 2024

Associate, Intellectual Property Litigation

Law Clerk

2017

Represent clients in complex patent, trademark, copyright infringement, trade secrets misappropriation, and disputes across varied technologies, proprietary business methods, and related claims against domestic and international persons.

- Experienced in all stages of litigation including pre-suit investigation, injunctions, discovery strategy and analysis, drafting pre-trial dispositive and non-dispositive motions, infringement contentions, *Markman* briefs, *Daubert* briefs, mediations, arbitrations, motions *in limine*, post-trial motions, and appeal briefs
- Draft testimony outlines, prepare fact and expert witnesses for testimony at depositions and at trial
- Responsible for financial investigations and financial damages analyses, serve as main contact between client and financial damages experts, assist with expert reports, and manage all AEO data and information
- Manage technical experts, craft discovery requests and bases for comparative analyses, claims to be asserted
- Counsel clients regarding dispute resolution, mediation strategies and proposals, potential liability risk assessments for patent infringement and/or data privacy law violations (e.g., GDPR and CCPA), patent and trademark licensing options, contested trademarks, common law rights, trademark cancellation and opposition proceedings before the TTAB, and due diligence in M&A transactions
- Representative experience includes serving as second-chair counsel at infringement trial in federal court, drafting direct testimony and cross-examination outlines, managing trial exhibits and evidentiary issues, and arguing objections at sidebars during trial; drafting and editing iterations of multi-million dollar settlement agreements reached on the eve of trial; and mediating trademark dispute resulting in withdrawal of trademark opposition proceeding before the TTAB

Merchant & Gould, P.C.

Summer 2013

Summer Associate

- Drafted briefs, topical memos, and client advisory memos for ongoing patent infringement disputes, related Contract and RICO claims, and *ex parte* proceedings before the USPTO
- Presented firm-wide seminar: Impact of the America Invents Act (AIA) Upon Strategies for Ongoing Litigation and Inter Partes Review Proceedings before the USPTO
- Secondment to client: analyzed client's policy and compliance with the Federal Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA), investigated internal records and queries, and attended business partnership negotiation meetings

EDUCATION

Stanford Law School

2023

Certification: Advanced IP/Tech Mediation and Arbitration

Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, London, UK

2016

Member, Chartered Arbitrator; MCI Arb

William Mitchell College of Law

2016

Juris Doctor, cum laude

Rule 114 Qualified ADR Neutral, Minnesota State Supreme Court, 2016

Honors: William Mitchell Presidential Merit Scholarship (full tuition), Mitchell Fellow, 2012-2016;

CALI Award for Tort Law; Kirwin Prize for Representation and Ethics (Oral & Appellate Advocacy)

Queen Mary University of London School of Law

2015

Certification: Global Arbitration Law and Practice

Honors: Top Advocate, Moot Arbitrations at the London Court of International Arbitration (LCIA)

HONORS & ACTIVITIES

- *Best Lawyers® in America: Ones to Watch and Top Attorney*, selected by peers for recognition of professional excellence in ADR, Patent & Intellectual Property Litigation (2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024)
- Editor, *Juriste*, flagship publication of the UIA; Member of Editorial Board, English & French Language Content
- International Trademark Association (INTA), ADR Committee, Arbitration Subcommittee, 2020 – Present
- Arbitrator, Willem C. Vis Int'l Commercial Arbitration Moot Competition, Vienna, AT, 2017 – Present
- Mediator, Fourth Judicial District, State of Minnesota, 2018 – Present
- Mediator, University of Minnesota Law in Practice Program, 2018 – 2020
- Taft Pro Bono Honor Roll, 2021, 2023
- Taft Ambassador and Public Speaker, 2019 – Present
- *North Star Lawyer*, Pro Bono Contributions, Minnesota State Bar Association, 2018, 2019, 2023

PRESENTATIONS & PUBLICATIONS

- “Enforcement, Confidentiality, and Evidentiary Advantages of Transnational Arbitration in IP Dispute Resolution,” World Intellectual Property Forum 2024, Bengaluru, IN, 09-13 January, 2024
- “Arbitration A to Z: Things to Do and Not To Do at the Hearing,” Webinar, upcoming In-Person Seminar at the Annual ADR Institute, Minnesota Continuing Legal Education, 2023 (with David Allgeyer and Madge Thorsen)
- “Litigation Lags? Potential Advantages of Arbitral Expertise in Intellectual Property Disputes,” Topics, International Trademark Association (INTA) Annual Meeting, Singapore, 2023
- “Trademark Modernization Act,” Taft Webinar, 2021
- “Defend Trade Secrets Act,” Taft Webinar, 2020
- “Comparative Arbitration Practices in the US and the EU,” Minnesota State Bar Association, 2019
- “Cultural Considerations in Arbitration and Mediation,” Minnesota State Bar Association/American Bar Association, 2019
- “Arbitration: Pros and Cons for Individuals and Public Policy Considerations,” Minnesota State Bar Association (MSBA)/American Bar Association (ABA), 2018
- “ADR: ‘Alternative’ is in the name – Including Diverse Mediation Methods in Your Practice,” MSBA, 2018
- “Don’t Delay! Addressing Damages Early in International Arbitration,” *Transnational Dispute Management (“TDM”) Journal*, Alan M. Anderson and Mira Vats-Fournier, 2017
- “Legal and Regulatory Framework of Genetic and Genomic Engineering,” UIA Biotechnology Law Commission Annual Seminar, University of Science and Technology of China, Hefei, China, 2016
- Moderator, “Laws and Policies Related to Biotechnology Industrialization,” UIA Biotechnology Law Commission Annual Seminar, University of Science and Technology of China, Hefei, China, 2016

LANGUAGES

Native Proficiency in Hindi, Punjabi (*Gurmukhi* and *Shahmukhi* scripts), and Urdu
 Proficient in French: 1+ years of French Language employment
 Intermediate Proficiency in Spanish

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Minnesota Supreme Court, Attorney License No. 0399692
 American Inns of Court, Warren E. Burger Inn of Court
 Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb), London, UK
 Federal Bar Association
 International Trademark Association (INTA)
 New York International Arbitration Center (NYIAC), New York, NY
 Silicon Valley Arbitration & Mediation Center (SVAMC), Palo Alto, CA
 Union International des Avocats (International Association of Lawyers), Paris, FR