

Charles M. McMahon

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Overview

Charles (Charlie) McMahon is a first-chair litigator who focuses his practice on patent, trademark, copyright, trade secret and unfair competition law. Charlie has represented domestic and multinational clients in more than a dozen federal district courts and before the Patent and Trademark Office, the Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB), the International Trade Commission (ITC), the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, and the Supreme Court.

Charlie believes that litigating to win is also the best way to settle a case, and he has extensive experience with mediation and negotiating settlements. Charlie also counsels clients on licensing and litigation avoidance. Collectively, he has advised clients on worldwide IP licensing and settlement deals valued in excess of sixty million dollars.

Charlie is a registered patent attorney with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering and experience helping clients apply for and obtain patents in the United States and abroad. Charlie is experienced in a variety of technical areas, including wireless communications, solid-state electronics, encryption systems, vehicular transmission systems, digital imaging systems, electronic measurement devices, lithium batteries, software applications, and online business-to-business exchange systems.

*Matter completed prior to joining Benesch.

Representative Matters

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Technology Properties Limited v. ZTE Corporation (Fed. Cir. 2019); represented supplier of communications devices in defending favorable PTAB ruling, resulting in affirmance of summary judgment of non-infringement.*

- Certain LTE- and 3G-Compliant Cellular Communications Devices (ITC Inv. No. 337-TA-1138, 2020); defended a supplier of cellular communications devices in this investigation, resulting in a finding of no infringement.*
- Werner Co. v. Louisville Ladder, Inc. (PTAB IPR2019-336, 2020); represented a leading ladder manufacturer as petitioner in this IPR proceeding challenging a competitor's patent, resulting in cancelation of all challenged claims.*
- Louisville Ladder, Inc. v. Werner Co. (Fed. Cir. 2021); represented a leading ladder manufacturer on competitor's appeal from a PTAB decision canceling all challenged claims, resulting in affirmance of the PTAB's favorable decision.*
- Evolved Wireless, LLC v. ZTE Corporation (D. Del. 2021); defended supplier of cellular communications devices in this patent infringement case, resulting in favorable resolution after the PTAB canceled all asserted claims from four of the five asserted patents.*
- TrickleStar Inc. v. AM Conservation Group, Inc. (N.D. Ill. 2021); defendant manufacturer of advanced powerstrips against claims of patent and trademark infringement, resulting in favorable resolution.*
- CoolTVNetwork.com v. Blackboard Inc. (D. Del. 2021); defended a provider of online collaboration services against in this patent infringement case filed by a non-practicing entity, resulting in favorable claim construction and a summary finding of invalidity as to all asserted claims.*
- Wakefield v. Blackboard, Inc. (Fed. Cir. 2022); represented a provider of online collaboration services in defending this appeal filed by a non-practicing entity, favorably resulting in affirmance of the district court's claim constructions and summary finding.*

Credentials

EDUCATION

- George Washington University Law School, J.D.
- University of Notre Dame, BS, Electrical Engineering

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

- Illinois
- Minnesota
- Supreme Court of the United States
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan

- U.S. District Court for the Western District of Michigan
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas

Awards & Recognition

- The Legal 500, 2017 to present
- The Best Lawyers in America, Patent Litigation, 2024
- IAM Patent 1000 - The World's Leading Patent Practitioners 2017 to 2023
- Illinois Super Lawyer 2008 to 2020
- Law Bulletin Publishing Company
- Leading Lawyers Network

News & Insights

- Benesch Represents ASUSTeK in Federal Patent Appeal - Featured in Law360
  June 18, 2025 | Media Mentions
- Partner Charles McMahon Featured in Law360 | "The Top Patent Damages Awards of 2024"
  December 20, 2024 | Media Mentions
- Benesch and OMNIVISION Secure Total Surrender from VisionX Technologies
  November 21, 2024 | Press Releases
- Charles M. McMahon and Andrew J. Meyer mentioned in Crain's Chicago People on the Move
  June 17, 2024 | Media Mentions
- Charles McMahon and David Bluestone quoted in Law360 | "Benesch Grows IP Practice With Chicago Litigation Duo"
  May 9, 2024 | Media Mentions
- Benesch Continues Expansion of Chicago IP Litigation Practice, Adding BigLaw Partners Charles McMahon and David Bluestone
  May 7, 2024 | Press Releases