

Samuel J. Ruggio

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Overview

Samuel focuses his practice on complex patent litigation, primarily in the pharmaceutical, chemical, and biotechnology industries. He has represented clients in patent and intellectual property disputes across a range of venues, including district courts, the Patent Trial and Appeal Board, and the Federal Circuit. Whether through litigation, licensing, settlement, or alternative strategies, Sam remains focused on achieving his clients' business objectives.

Sam understands that every case presents a unique and individualized scenario. He diligently works to understand the client's goals and carefully crafts litigation and pre-litigation strategies to exceed expectations. His representative cases involve both patent owners and accused infringers, corporations (large and small) and individual inventors. As a battle-tested patent litigation attorney, Sam has far reaching experience at every stage of a case. From discovery to taking and defending depositions, as well as expert selection and preparation, pre-trial and trial, Sam is keenly aware of what it takes to go the distance to reach the desired outcome.

Sam was previously a Federal judicial intern for the Honorable Judge Thomas Durkin at the Northern District of Illinois. He also worked at the John Marshall Law School Patent Clinic, where he helped small-time inventors protect their ideas.

Sam graduated with honors and received a JD Certificate in Intellectual Property with an emphasis on Patents. He received his law degree from the John Marshall Law School in Chicago, cum laude, where he served as a staff member of the John Marshall Review of Intellectual Property Law (RIPL). He earned a B.S. in Biology from Northern Illinois University.

Representative Matters

- Defended one of the most well-known image sensor companies in a patent litigation involving three image sensor patents in the Central District of California. Obtained a complete judgment of non-infringement as to all claims across all patents.
- Defended leading medical device manufacturer in a six-year long litigation concerning a medical device patent with both apparatus and method claims. Obtained summary judgment of non-infringement as to the method claims, which was affirmed on appeal by the Federal Circuit. The remaining claims were dismissed with prejudice following the appeal.
- Defended software company against claims of patent infringement in Delaware District Court. Initiated an Inter Partes review at the Patent Trial & Appeal Board. Following oral argument, the Board invalidated all the claims asserted in the underlying litigation.
- Represented Feit Electric, a global leader in first-to-market lighting innovations, against claims of patent infringement by a Japanese conglomerate. After years of contentious discovery, the matter proceeded to a nearly two-week jury trial. Ultimately obtained a full defense verdict in favor of Feit Electric.

Credentials

EDUCATION

- University of Illinois Chicago School of Law, 2015, J.D., *cum laude*, Intellectual Property Certificate with emphasis in Patent Law
  - Staff Member and Writer, *The John Marshall Review of Intellectual Property Law*
  - Peking University, Beijing, China 2013 Comparative Intellectual Property Summer Abroad Program
- Northern Illinois University, 2011, B.S., Biology, Minor in Chemistry

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

- Illinois
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit
- U.S. Patent & Trademark Office

Memberships

- Member, American Bar Association
- Member, Chicago Bar Association
- Member, Intellectual Property Law Association of Chicago

Awards & Recognition

- Listed, *The Best Lawyers®* Ones to Watch, Litigation – Patent, 2024-2026
- Listed, Illinois Super Lawyers: Rising Stars, IP Lit, 2025

News & Insights

- 126 Benesch Attorneys Recognized in 2027 Best Lawyers® Rankings
  August 20, 2026 | Press Releases
- 129 Benesch Attorneys Recognized in 2026 Best Lawyers® Rankings
  August 21, 2025 | Press Releases
- 17 Benesch Attorneys Selected to 2025 Illinois Super Lawyers and Rising Stars Lists
  January 23, 2025 | Press Releases
- Benesch Names Eleven New Partners for 2025
  January 3, 2025 | Press Releases
- Benesch and OMNIVISION Secure Total Surrender from VisionX Technologies
  November 21, 2024 | Press Releases
- 132 Benesch Attorneys Recognized in 2025 Best Lawyers® Rankings
  August 14, 2024 | Press Releases
- 16 Benesch Attorneys Selected to 2024 Illinois Super Lawyers and Rising Stars Lists
  January 25, 2024 | Press Releases
- Best Lawyers in America® Rankings 2024
  August 17, 2023 | Press Releases
- Kal Shah, Mircea A. Tipescu, Simeon G. Papacostas, Louis Constantinou, and Samuel J. Ruggio mentioned in Law360 | "Jury Clears Feit of Infringing Nichia LED Light Patent"
  January 25, 2023 | Media Mentions
- Kalpesh K. Shah, Katherine A. Smith and Samuel J. Ruggio mentioned in Law360 | "St. Jude Medical Wins Atty Fees In Catheter Method IP Suit"
  October 26, 2021 | Press Releases