

A portrait of Ziyong "Sean" Li, a man with glasses, wearing a grey suit, white shirt, and blue patterned tie, standing in a modern office hallway. The hallway has a blue carpet and recessed ceiling lights.

Ziyong "Sean" Li

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Overview

Sean is a seasoned attorney who focuses his practice on intellectual property (IP) law, harnessing his background in physics and psychology to offer clients a unique blend of technological acumen and intuitive legal strategy. Sean's diverse portfolio includes both hard science patents and the softer facets of trademarks, copyrights and trade secrets. He consistently shields clients from potential damages that could scale to hundreds of millions of dollars.

Practice Focus:

Sean is well-versed in representing clients in a range of litigation and dispute resolution forums, including federal and state courts, arbitration tribunals and before government entities such as the United States International Trade Commission, the Patent Trial and Appeal Board, and the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board. As lead counsel, he has successfully defended clients against multi-million-dollar copyright and trademark infringement claims. Moreover, Sean is skilled at representing IP owners in patent and trade secret disputes, particularly related to employee migration.

Technological Expertise:

Leveraging his physics background, Sean bridges the gap between complex legal challenges and cutting-edge technologies. He has hands-on experience in reading and interpreting code across multiple languages-including C, C++, VHDL and Java-as it pertains to real-world products. His litigation experience further encompasses analyzing code for state-of-the-art AI models, standard essential telecommunication systems and advanced microprocessors.

Strategic Consultation:

Beyond his prowess in litigation, Sean advises clients on the strategic application and protection of their intellectual property. His guidance, enriched by his extensive litigation background, provides a comprehensive view on IP strategy, making him a preferred consultant for many clients. Additionally, Sean extends his legal proficiency to high-tech companies, assisting them in navigating complex technology transactions, mergers and acquisitions, corporate governance and privacy issues. Sean is a Certified Information Privacy Professional for the United States (CIPP/US).

Representative Matters

- Represented Surrion in a design patent infringement case involving its electric off-road motorcycle, securing a complete trial victory after a one-week jury trial. Directed and cross-examined design expert witnesses for both parties at trial.
- Represented Rokid, Inc. as lead counsel in *Fu v. Rokid, Inc.* (N.D. Cal.).
- Represented ASUSTek Computer in a federal bench trial involving semiconductor design in the Eastern District of Texas, delivering the opening statement and conducting the direct examination of the client's technical expert.
- Represented SHEIN in multiple copyright, trademark, design and privacy matters, and successfully guided disputes toward early and favorable resolutions.

Credentials

EDUCATION

- University of Washington School of Law, 2011, Juris Doctor
- Peking University, School of Transnational Law, Master of Law in Intellectual Property Law
- Peking University, Bachelor of Science in Physics (major) and Psychology (minor)

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

- California
- Washington
- United States Patent and Trademark Office
- Certified Information Privacy Professional/United States (CIPP/US)

Memberships

- Member, American Intellectual Property Law Association
- Member, International Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property

News & Insights

- [Benesch Represents ASUSTeK in Federal Patent Appeal — Featured in Law360](#)
June 18, 2025 | Media Mentions
- [Exploring First Amendment and Editorial Judgment Protections for Large Language Models](#)
July 15, 2024 | Client Alerts & Insights
- [The Potential Applicability of Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act in Search Engines in the AI Age](#)
June 14, 2024 | Client Alerts & Insights
- [Rethinking Copyright Law: The Case for Protecting AI-Generated Content and Rewarding Those Who Truly Know What They Want](#)
May 13, 2024 | Client Alerts & Insights
- [Sean Li published article in Law360 | "AI Takes Transformers Beyond Robots in Disguise"](#)
January 30, 2024 | Contributed Content & Presentations
- [Sean Li mentioned in Law360 | "Benesch Adds Ex-Quinn Emanuel IP Pro In San Francisco"](#)
September 2, 2022 | Media Mentions
- [Benesch Adds Intellectual Property/3iP Partner in San Francisco](#)
August 31, 2022 | Press Releases