



George C. Summerfield

Partner

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OVERVIEW

George Summerfield is admitted to practice in Michigan. He is not currently admitted in Illinois.

George Summerfield has more than 30 years of patent litigation experience, including matters in district court, the U.S. International Trade Commission, the Patent Trial and Appeal Board, and the European Patent Office.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

George began his career as a Staff Attorney with the Office of Unfair Import Investigations of the United States International Trade Commission, where he handled numerous section 337 cases in a variety of technologies on behalf of the Office. After leaving the ITC, George entered private practice, where he began representing private parties, including two major research institutions appearing as complainants, before the ITC. He also began handling matters in various federal district courts throughout the United States, where his clients included several Fortune 500 companies. As with his work at the ITC, George's litigation efforts in private practice have run the technological gamut.

By the time he joined K&L Gates, George had served as first chair patent litigator in several dozen intellectual property litigation matters before district courts and the ITC. He has also served as amici counsel for numerous universities and university-related organizations in intellectual property matters pending before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit and the U.S. Supreme Court. Since joining the firm, George has continued, and expanded upon, his intellectual property litigation practice, having, for example, appeared in more than half a dozen section 337 cases before the ITC in his first three years at the firm.

George is active in the Richard Linn American Inn of Court, which specializes in the practice of intellectual property law. He has also provided assistance to several Eastern European governments in drafting intellectual property laws through programs administered by the United States Department of State, the United States Information Agency, and the Central and Eastern European Law Institute.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Litigation – Patent, 2024

- Two Fulbright Scholarships to Romania

PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Association of University Technology Managers (AUTM)
- ASTP-Proton
- National Association of University and College Attorneys (NACUA)

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

George has made numerous presentations to university related professional associations, including the Association of University Technology Managers (AUTM) and ASTP-Proton.

EDUCATION

- J.D., Wayne State University Law School, 1987
- B.A., King's College, 1983

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of Michigan
- Not Admitted in Illinois
- Supreme Court of the United States
- United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
- United States District Court for the Central District of Illinois
- United States District Court for the District of Arizona
- United States District Court for the District of Connecticut
- United States District Court for the District of North Dakota
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas
- United States District Court for the Northern District of California
- United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

- United States District Court for the Southern District of Iowa
- United States District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin

LANGUAGES

- Chinese (Mandarin)
- French
- German
- Romanian

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP POWERED BY HUB

- 4 March 2024, New USPTO Guidelines on AI-Assisted Inventions Leave Many Questions Unanswered
- 29 February 2024, New USPTO Guidelines on AI-Assisted Inventions Leave Many Questions Unanswered
- 26 May 2021, If San Francisco Is Not Your Final Destination...
- 14 October 2020, Five New Products from China Added to Forced Labor List
- 30 September 2020, Ready, Fire, Aim – Picking the Correct Vehicle for Constitutional Challenges to Administrative Agency Decisions
- June 2020, COVID-19: Paved With Good Intentions – Regulatory Pitfalls to Manufacturing and Marketing COVID-Related Consumer Products
- 13 February 2020, Like a Hawk – The Seventh Circuit is Watching its Appellants and Weighing in on Best Practices on Appeal
- 18 September 2019, K&L Gates Triage: Five Key Questions for Academic Medical Centers About Patent Ownership and Enforcement
- 13 September 2018, Stopping Traffick: Actions Before the U.S. International Trade Commission to Stop Unfair and Unethically-Sourced Competition
- April 2018, General Counsel University: Trade Secret Protection, Enforcement, and Risk Management in a Cyberworld
- February 2018, Patent Law for Environmental Professionals

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- “New US Patent and Trademark Office Guidelines on Artificial Intelligence Assisted Inventions Leave Many Questions Unanswered,” *Intellectual Property & Technology Law Journal*, May 2024

- “Trade Secret Protection for AI Inventions (Part 2),” *startup-together.com*, 2019
- “Trade Secret Protection for AI Inventions (Part 1),” *startup-together.com*, 2019

NEWS & EVENTS

- 4 November 2021, Stretching the Patent Prosecution Dollar: Maximizing the Value of Patent Procurement - Part I, hosted by ASTP
- 18 June 2020, *Financial Times*: Inventors learn to deploy their assets as collateral

MEDIA MENTIONS

- Quoted, Know Your (IP) Rights, *GOLD The Business Magazine of Cypress*, 20 October, 2019

AREAS OF FOCUS

- IP Litigation
- Appellate Litigation