

Stephen J. Strauss

Los Angeles, California
Shareholder

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Areas of Practice & Industry Specialties

Intellectual Property Law; Franchise Law; Cannabis & Hemp Industry Law Group; Internet Law, E-Commerce & Social Media; Start-Ups & Early Stage Companies; Entertainment Industry Law; Social Media Influencers

Stephen J. Strauss is a Shareholder and Co-Chair of the Firm's Entertainment Industry Group. For over 30 years, Mr. Strauss has specialized in domestic and international trademark, copyright, and unfair competition matters, including licensing, Internet domain name disputes, and litigation. He has prosecuted over two thousand U.S. and foreign trademark and service mark applications, and won over 60 UDRP decisions. Mr. Strauss also provides various legal production services for documentary and narrative films and scripted and unscripted television projects (including development, rights acquisition, rights and title clearances, and IP protection and enforcement).

Mr. Strauss represents a number of internationally recognized celebrities, sports personalities, recording artists, chefs, authors, social media influencers, and media and entertainment companies. He also represents a wide range of diverse clients including restaurants, banks and financial institutions, clothing and toy manufacturers, and magazine and book publishers.

Recent Projects

- *Paw Project #2* (Documentary Film – 2023)
- *Claim to Fame* (Reality Competition TV – 2022)
- *Cooking with Curtis* (Reality TV – 2022)
- *Lookalike Love* (Reality TV – 2021)
- *Rock Camp: The Movie* (Documentary Film – 2021)
- *Making Apes: The Artists Who Changed Film* (Documentary Film – 2019)
- *Amazing Grace* (Documentary Film – 2019)

Representative Matters

- *Todd McFarlane and TMP International LLC v. ye chen*, FA2301002029529 (Forum March 3, 2023)
- *My Fist Productions, Inc. v. Portfolio Admin/Old Mill Sites*, FA2004001891154 (Forum May 10, 2020)
- *Jeanine Amapola, Inc. v. Courtney Perkins Ferreira*, FA2004001891168 (Forum May 6, 2020)
- *Daniel Handler v. Masanori Toriimoto/PLAN-B Co. Ltd.*, FA1803001778986 (Forum May 7, 2018)
- *Screen Actors Guild-American Federation of Television and Radio Artists v. Lan Wei*, FA1606001681144 (Forum August 3, 2016)
- *Robert Downey Jr. v. Shashank Argawal*, FA1409001581490 (Nat. Arb. Forum Nov. 10, 2014)
- *Screen Actors Guild-American Federation of Television and Radio Artists and Screen Actors Guild, Inc. and American Federation of Television and Radio Artists v. Secured Financial Group / Steve Snyder*,

FA1204001439293 (Nat. Arb. Forum May 17, 2012)

- *Idris Elba and Myone Media Inc. v. Direct Privacy ID 6D6CC*, FA1108001402898 (Nat. Arb. Forum Sep. 15, 2011)
- *WIDE awake-Death Row Entertainment LLC v. LogoMaster.com*, FA1104001382039 (Nat. Arb. Forum May 17, 2011)
- *Eva Longoria v. Momentum Technology Corporation c/o Paul Barbell*, FA1103001380027 (Nat. Arb. Forum May 3, 2011)
- *Anthony Hopkins and The Trustees of The Samson Holding Trust, dated December 12, 2005 v. Private Whois Service c/o anthonyhopkins.com*, FA1007001337181 (Nat. Arb. Forum Aug. 26, 2010)
- *Janet Jackson v Twisted Elegance Interactive*, FA0909001286306 (Nat. Arb. Forum 2009)
- *George Hamilton v. BWI Domain Manager c/o Domain Manager*, FA0904001259771 (Nat. Arb. Forum 2009)
- *Christine Ellen Hynde a/k/a Chrissie Hynde v. LOVEARTH.net*, FA0809001223929 (Nat. Arb. Forum 2008)
- *Patrick Dempsey and TDS 66 Productions, Inc. v. Jennifer Frisby*, FA0808001218786 (Nat. Arb. Forum 2008)
- *SeeMore Putter Company v. shoebotech c/o You Kwon Kim*, FA0804001180718 (Nat. Arb. Forum 2008)
- *Jason Bateman v. Yin Sung*, FA0711001114949 (Nat. Arb. Forum 2008)
- *Richard Starkey v. Mr. Bradley*, FA0612000874575 (Nat. Arb. Forum 2007)
- *Amanda De Wolf (formerly Moon) and the Estate of Keith Moon v. Dennis Schimka*, FA0608000780199 (Nat. Arb. Forum 2006)
- *Fred Astaire v. Pingtjin Thum*, FA0601000637404 (Nat. Arb. Forum 2006)
- *Dame Elizabeth Taylor, The Elizabeth Taylor Cosmetics Company & Interplanet Productions Limited v. K Myers*, FA0508000547795 (Nat. Arb. Forum 2005)
- *Stevland Morris a/k/a Stevie Wonder v. Unofficial Fan Club c/o Web Master*, FA0504000453986 (Nat. Arb. Forum 2005)
- *June Bug Enterprises, Inc. v. Mercedita Kyamko*, 73 U.S.P.Q.2d 1310 (NAF 2004)
- *Sebastian International, Inc. v. Longs Drug Stores Crop.*, 34 U.S.P.Q. 2d 1720 (9th Cir. 1995)
- *Cheatham v. Paisano Publications, Inc.*, 891 F. Supp. 381 (W.D. KY 1995)
- *Sebastian International, Inc. v. Longs Drug Stores Crop.*, 30 U.S.P.Q.2d 1785 (C.D. Cal 1994)
- *Leegin Creative Leather Products, Inc. v. M.M. Rogers and Company*, 33 U.S.P.Q.2d 1158 (C.D. Cal 1994)
- *Printer's Services Co. v. Bondurant*, 20 U.S.P.Q.2d 1626 (C.D. Cal 1994)
- *Advanced Cardiovascular Systems, Inc. v. SciMed Life Systems, Inc.*, 988 F.2d 1157 (Fed. Cir. 1993)
- *Randomex, Inc. v. Scopus Corp.*, 849 F.2d 585 (Fed. Cir. 1988)

Publications

- Beat The Clock: The Effect of Section 412 of the Copyright Act on Post-Infringement Registration, *Journal of the Patent and Trademark Office Society* Volume 72, August 17, 2017

Presentations

- Speaker, "Ethics and AI in Legal Practice: Navigating the Intersection of Technology and Professional Responsibility," The Southwestern Law School American Inn of Court, October 11, 2023
- Panelist , "Stephen J. Strauss, Panelist for the International Intellectual Property Law Association IP

- Summit," International Intellectual Property Law Association IP Summit, October 2, 2023
- Speaker, "Dialogues on Freedom," 20th Annual Dialogues on Freedom Program , April 27, 2023
 - Panelist, "Destination: Moon - The Future of IP Law in the Offworlds," Southwestern Law School, April 11, 2023
 - Guest Lecturer, "Curves and Grids of Light – The Metaverse (3.0): IP Fundamentals/Overview," Southwestern Law School, February 23, 2023
 - Adjunct Associate Professor, "Trademark Law," Southwestern Law School, January 11, 2023
 - Speaker, "By the Hoary Hosts of Hoggoth: IP Protection for Super Heroes (and Other Fictional Characters)," The Southwestern Law School Homecoming 2022, October 28, 2022
 - Adjunct Associate Professor, "IP Licensing Law," Southwestern Law School, October 19, 2022
 - Moderator, "Evidentiary Conundrums," The Southwestern Law School American Inn of Court, March 9, 2022
 - Adjunct Professor, "Trademark Law," Southwestern Law School , January 10, 2022
 - Panelist, "Personal Brands and Beyond: The Rise of the Celebrity Chef and International Restaurant Chains," INTA 2021 Annual Meeting Virtual +, November 18, 2021
 - Panelist, "IP Rights: The Increasing Importance of Designs and Copyright in Protecting Brands," International Intellectual Property Law Association IP Summit, November 5, 2021
 - Adjunct Professor, "Trademark Law," Southwestern Law School , June 1, 2021
 - Panelist, "Trademark v. Copyright Protection for Fictional Characters," the International Intellectual Property Law Association Virtual IP Summit, October 22, 2020
 - Speaker, "Sometimes Words Are Not Enough – Trademarks v. Copyright Protection for Fictional Characters," The Southwestern Law School American Inn of Court, October 14, 2020
 - Featured Guest, "Stephen Strauss, Featured Guest on The Music Combine Podcast," The Music Combine Podcast, July 3, 2020
 - Adjunct Professor, "Trademark Law," Southwestern Law School, May 28, 2020
 - Speaker, "Entertainment Law," IAC Arts & Entertainment - Revolving Tables, November 5, 2019
 - Adjunct Professor, "Summer Trademark Law Course ," Southwestern Law School , May 29, 2019
 - Moderator, "The Copyright Registration Paradox – How Will the Supremes' Rule," Southwestern Law School, February 27, 2019
 - Speaker, "Stephen Strauss, Speaker at SAG-AFTRA University," SAG-AFTRA University, September 28, 2018
 - Panelist, "Intellectual Property – Start to Finish," MyLawCLE IP Webinar, June 19, 2018
 - Adjunct Professor, "Trademark Law," Southwestern Law School, May 31, 2018
 - Speaker, "Bewitched, Bothered and Bewildered," Hilton Portland Downtown, March 28, 2018
 - Speaker, "Panelist at the LAIPLA Law School Road Show," Southwestern Law School, March 5, 2018
 - Speaker, "With a Little Help From my Friends," William Morris Entertainment, January 19, 2018
 - Panelist, "Stephen J. Strauss, Panelist at the California Copyright Conference," Sportsmen's Lodge Events Center, Studio City, CA, November 15, 2016
 - Speaker, "Stephen J. Strauss, Speaker at the Southwestern Law School's Annual Entertainment & Intellectual Property Law Symposium," November 12, 2016

Education

Mr. Strauss received his B.A. and M.A. in Political Science from American University, and a J.D. degree from Southwestern Law School.

Bar Admissions

- California
- District of Columbia

Court Admissions

- U.S. District Court Central District of California
- U.S. District Court Southern District of California
- U.S. Court of Appeals 3rd Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals 9th Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals Federal Circuit

Community

- Member, Chartered Institute of Trade Mark Attorneys
- Member, The Television Academy
- Member, Recording Academy (NARAS)
- Member, British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA)
- Member, Visual Effects Society, a non-profit professional, honorary society representing visual effects practitioners in all areas of entertainment
- Adjunct Associate Professor and Member, the Alumni Association Board of Directors and Executive Board of the Biederman Entertainment & Media Law Institute at Southwestern Law School.
- Co-Founder, The Southwestern Law School American Inn of Court
- Lecturer, Entertainment Intellectual Property Law and Celebrity Branding: the American Bar Association, the International Trademark Association, the International Intellectual Property Law Association, the USC Gould Institute of Entertainment Law and Business, the Beverly Hills Bar Association, the Association of Corporate Counsel, WME, SAG-AFTRA, and the National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST).