

Matthew Horton

Senior Counsel

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Matthew Horton is an intellectual property lawyer with Foley & Lardner LLP. His practice focuses on patent law and intellectual property protections, particularly in cybersecurity platforms and processes, artificial intelligence and machine learning, mobile devices and applications, cloud computing systems, and computer hardware.

Matthew regularly helps clients with strategic IP portfolio development and patent litigation. With hands-on knowledge of software code and complex mathematics, he is able to engage engineers, computer scientists, and cybersecurity professionals at a technical level, bringing a combination of legal and technical knowledge easily tailored to address legal issues associated with high technology innovation. Matthew has also advised clients on cybersecurity and data privacy issues related to the launch of new technologies.

Matthew has extensive information technology and cybersecurity experience, having previously served as a systems engineer and cybersecurity engineer at Lockheed Martin and Electronic Warfare Associates. He played key roles on various cybersecurity and network engineering teams overseeing federal network infrastructures. As a member of both cybersecurity and network engineering teams servicing agencies such as the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the U.S. Department of Defense, and the U.S. State Department, he contributed to anti-malware and anti-intrusion efforts, conducted anti-intrusion and network vulnerability assessments, and consulted on improving the cybersecurity postures for networks he supported.

Representative Experience

Portfolio Development

Matthew regularly counsels clients on developing strategic intellectual property portfolios, helping them to identify and develop business-oriented and industry-oriented portfolio strategies. Matthew has successfully drafted and prosecuted a variety of high-technology patents, including patent applications directed to cybersecurity technologies, artificial intelligence and machine learning, high-performance computing, high-

availability infrastructures, cloud computing, mobile and web applications, mobile devices, business processes and database management, computer hardware, and semiconductors.

- Counseled **biometrics “unicorn”** with growing a patent portfolio protecting the company’s pioneering artificial intelligence and machine-learning technologies and products.
- Counseled **late-stage, wireless-charging startup** with developing a patent portfolio to protect innovative technology and cultivate investor engagement.
- Provided **midsize and large financial institutions** with strategic guidance in identifying and protecting inventions for secure payments, blockchain and distributed ledger applications, and mobile applications.
- Advised **electronics and software companies** of all sizes, from pre-seed startups to *Fortune* 100 corporations, with identifying protectable inventions and preparing and prosecuting value-add patents.

Patent Litigation

In addition to portfolio counseling, Matthew also represents large consumer electronics companies and financial institutions in patent litigation cases. Matthew has represented clients in federal district and appellate court and in post-grant proceedings at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

- Defended large **electronics and mobile device company** in lawsuits asserting telecommunications and mobile application patents against the company’s commercial products.
- Defended large **banks** in lawsuits asserting patents for mobile applications, cloud software, cybersecurity, and help desk systems.
- Represented large **medical device company** asserting its patents against a competitor in district court.
- Counseled large **mobile application company** in post-grant invalidation proceedings at the USPTO to invalidate patents asserted against company in district court.
- Defended **mobile electronics startup** against competitor who filed a post-grant invalidation action at the USPTO seeking to invalidate the client’s patents.

Awards and Recognition

- Received, *Best Lawyers®* Ones to Watch, Intellectual Property Law (2024-2026)

Affiliations

- Member, American Bar Association Intellectual Property Law Section
 - Chair, High-Tech & Software Industry Patents
 - Past chair, Patent-Eligible Subject Matter Policy Subcommittee for High-Tech & Software Industry Patents
 - Chair, Task Force on Patenting Artificial Intelligence
 - Past member, Task Force on Intellectual Property Protections for Artificial Intelligence
- Member, American Bar Association Science & Technology Law Section

- Member, American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA)
- Member, Federal Circuit Bar Association
- Member, Intellectual Property Owners Association (IPO)
- Member, International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP)

Community Involvement

- *Anderson v. Florida*: Represented client in death row appeal at the U.S. Supreme Court, advocating for client's right to a jury under the Sixth Amendment
- *American Legion v. American Humanist Assoc.*: Represented amicus client in U.S. Supreme Court brief challenging religious display under First Amendment
- *Hispanic Nat'l Law Enforcement Assoc. v. Prince George's Cnty, MD*: Represented police officers and police organizations in their suit challenging police department's discriminatory practices and policies

Publications and Presentations

- Co-author, "Recent Developments in Cybersecurity and Data Privacy," *Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Law Journal*, ABA (Spring 2020)
- Co-author, ABA Comments to USPTO on Patenting AI Inventions (November 8, 2019)
- Co-author, ABA Comments to USPTO on its "Guidance for Examining Computer-Implemented Functional Claim Limitations for Compliance with 35 U.S.C. 112" (March 7, 2019)
- Presenter, "NFTs: Legal Issues and Opportunities," ABA Business Law Section (September 24, 2021)
- Adjunct Instructor, Patent Law Clinic, Tulane Law School (August 2018-May 2019)
- Presenter, "Engineering an IP Portfolio," USENIX Large Installation System Administration (LISA) Conference, Nashville, TN (October 31, 2018)

Sectors

- Artificial Intelligence
- Blockchain & Digital Assets
- Cloud Computing Infrastructure & Solutions
- Health Care & Life Sciences
- Health Tech & Genomics
- Innovative Technology
- International Trade & National Security
- Manufacturing
- Medical Devices
- Non-Fungible Tokens (NFTs)
- Racial Justice & Equity

Practice Areas

- Electronics
- IP Litigation

- Intellectual Property
- PTAB Trials

Education

- The George Washington University Law School (LL.M., 2013)
 - Intellectual property law
- Tulane University Law School (J.D., 2012)
- University of Pennsylvania (M.S., 2008)
 - Computer and information technology
- George Mason University (B.S., 2007)
 - Information technology

Admissions

- District of Columbia
- Virginia
- Federal Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas
- U.S. Patent and Trademark Office