FOLEY

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP

R. Spencer Montei
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Spencer is an experienced IP lawyer who protects and defends the intellectual property of some of the world's most innovative companies. With a proven record of success in high-stakes litigation, he is an advocate clients turn to when their most valuable assets are on the line. His practice is centered on winning complex IP disputes in the most challenging and fast-paced forums, including U.S. District Courts nationwide, the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC), and the Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB).

A seasoned advocate, Spencer guides clients through every phase of the litigation lifecycle, from pre-suit investigation through discovery, claim construction (*Markman* hearings), summary judgment, trials, and appeals. He excels at translating complex technical concepts into clear, persuasive arguments. His strategic approach is valued by his clients, with one noting:

"He is really detail-oriented and is thinking outside of the box and looking at the bigger pictures to strategize."

Client Testimonial

Thomson Reuters "Stand-out Lawyer" award nomination

Spencer's technical acumen is deep and broad, with experience spanning a wide variety of software and computer technologies, remote monitoring/wireless networks, semiconductors, solar concentrators, cosmetic/aesthetic devices, and plastic bottles/containers. Spencer also has extensive experience in the automotive sector, including automotive experience involving:

- **Automotive Systems:** Autonomous driving and Advanced Driver-Assistance Systems (ADAS), in-vehicle infotainment (IVI), telematics, electric vehicle (EV) battery technology, connected car platforms, engine and emission control, filtration/separation, turbochargers.

- **Software & Computing:** Artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning, cloud computing and SaaS architectures, mobile applications, and enterprise software solutions.

A recognized leader in handling disputes before the ITC, Spencer serves as a Chair of Foley's ITC practice. He has an exceptional track record of successfully defending clients in Section 337 investigations. Navigating the ITC's notoriously aggressive timelines, he has repeatedly secured victories for respondents, defeating requests for exclusion orders and preserving clients' access to the U.S. market. Client's appreciate Spencer's strategic focus and prioritization of winning defenses.

Spencer's practice encompasses the full spectrum of intellectual property. He regularly advises and represents clients in matters involving trademark and trade dress infringement, trade secret misappropriation, copyright disputes, and false advertising claims under the Lanham Act. This holistic understanding of the IP landscape allows him to develop comprehensive enforcement and defense strategies that align with clients' broader business objectives.

Spencer previously chaired Foley's Associates Committee.

Affiliations
- Member of the International Trade Commission Trial Lawyers Association.

Awards and Recognition
- Best Lawyers, Ones to Watch, Litigation – Intellectual Property Law (2025).
- Stand-out Lawyer, *Thomson Reuters* (2025).

Sectors
- Automotive
- International Trade & National Security
- Manufacturing
- Racial Justice & Equity
- Smart Manufacturing
- Supply Chain

Practice Areas
- Commercial Litigation
- Intellectual Property

Education
- University of Wisconsin Law School (J.D., cum laude, 2013)
  - Senior managing editor, *Wisconsin Law Review*
- University of Wisconsin, Madison (B.S., 2007)
  - Civil engineering

Admissions

- Illinois
- Wisconsin
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois
- U.S. District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit