

R. Spencer Montei

Partner

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Spencer Montei is an experienced trial and appellate 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 courtroom advocate, Spencer guides clients through every phase of the litigation lifecycle, from pre-suit investigation through discovery, claim construction (*Markman* hearings), summary judgment, jury trials, and appeals. He excels at translating complex technical concepts into clear, persuasive arguments for judges and juries. This 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 a significant focus on cutting-edge software and computer technologies, particularly for clients in the automotive sector. He has significant experience involving:

- **Automotive Systems:** Autonomous driving and Advanced Driver-Assistance Systems (ADAS), in-vehicle infotainment (IVI), telematics, electric vehicle (EV) battery technology, and connected car platforms.
- **Software & Computing:** Artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning, cloud computing and SaaS architectures, mobile applications, and enterprise software solutions.

His experience also spans conventional automotive technologies (engine and emission control systems, filtration/separation, aftertreatment, turbochargers), as well as semiconductors, solar concentration, health monitoring technologies, cosmetic/aesthetic devices, and plastic bottles/containers.

A recognized leader in handling disputes before the ITC, Spencer serves as 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 complete 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

- Stand-out Lawyer, *Thomson Reuters* (2025).

Sectors

- [Automotive](#)
- [International Trade & National Security](#)
- [Manufacturing](#)
- [Racial Justice & Equity](#)
- [Smart Manufacturing](#)
- [Supply Chain](#)

Practice Areas

- [Commercial Litigation](#)
- [IP Litigation](#)



FOLEY & LARDNER LLP

- [Intellectual Property](#)
- [Trademark, Copyright & Advertising Counseling](#)

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