BANNER WITCOFF



Darrell G. Mottley

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Darrell is an attorney at Banner Witcoff, and the past president of the D.C. Bar. Darrell provides strategic counseling in intellectual property protection related to patent and trademark matters, including procurement, opinions, licensing and litigation. Darrell's intellectual property practice includes complex technologies in a variety of fields such as telecommunications, internet-related technology, computer-gaming, medical devices, semiconductors, mechanical technologies, and electro-mechanical technologies.

Darrell advised a Fortune 500 company on an anti-counterfeiting project which included opinion analysis and scope and patent identification in a global anti-counterfeiting action using design/registrations. Darrell has advised clients on intellectual property matters in multi-million dollar venture capital transactions. He has successfully represented clients and obtained U.S. utility and design patents through the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), and the firm successfully enforced the patents to protect the core businesses of clients. He has successfully represented clients before the USPTO Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB). Darrell has advised global companies on patent clearance and prosecution in cooperation with local country counsel in countries such as Singapore, Taiwan, Malaysia, Thailand, China, Hong Kong, Europe, Mexico, Russia, Brazil, Peru, and South Africa.

Throughout his career Darrell has worked as an engineer, a project manager, engineering chief for the AAI Corporation, U.S. Army Belvoir Research and Engineering Development Center, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. He has worked in diverse fields such as network

communications, data center design and construction, advanced composite materials, military electronics, and military aircraft logistics and maintenance.

Darrell earned a Bachelors of Science in Engineering Science and Mechanics in 1987 and his Masters of Business Administration from the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in 1994 with a concentration in corporate finance and management science. He earned his Juris Doctor degree, with honors, in 2000 from The George Washington University, where he also served as an editor on the student editorial board of the ABA Public Contract Law Journal. He had an article published in the journal concerning information technology in the Federal Government.

Darrell is the former Chair of the District of Columbia Bar's Council on Sections. He also served as Vice-chair of, Division IV of ABA Section of Intellectual Property Law. Darrell is registered to practice before the United States Patent and Trademark Office and is a member of the National Bar Association concentrating on intellectual property law. He is also a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation, the premier U.S. socio-legal research institute.

Darrell completed a four-year term on the Industrial Advisory Council at the College of Engineering at Virginia Tech. In this capacity he assisted with the recruitment, retention, and development of students in engineering, focusing on under-represented students from diverse backgrounds.

Darrell is Assistant Clinical Professor at the Intellectual Property and Entrepreneurship Clinic at Suffolk University Law School. He is also an adjunct professor at The George Washington University Law School teaching classes in design law. Darrell previously lectured on patent law at Howard University Law School. Darrell is a contributing author to the Thomson Reuters published book, Navigating Fashion Law: Leading Lawyers on Exploring the Trends, Cases, and Strategies of Fashion Law, in which he authored the section “The Tools for Protecting Fashion Law Clients.” He is also a contributing author to the ABA published book, Annual Review of Intellectual Property Law Developments, in which he authored the section “Design Patent Infringement – Egyptian Goddess.” He currently serves on the editorial board for the ABA's Landslide magazine.

Darrell Mottley was appointed as ABA Section Officers Conference (SOC) Liaison to the ABA Standing Committee on Publishing Oversight for the 2025-2026 bar year.

Education

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
1987, B.S., Engineering Science & Mechanics

1994, M.B.A.

George Washington University Law School
2000, J.D.

Admissions

Bar Admissions

2000, Virginia
2001, New Jersey
2002, District of Columbia
2024, Massachusetts

Court Admissions

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

Practices

Counseling, Opinions + Licensing
Design Patents
Patent Prosecution
Trademarks

Industries

Electrical + Computer Technologies

Internet, E-Commerce + Business Methods

Mechanical Engineering

Transportation

Accolades

- Named to “Washington D.C. Super Lawyers,” Super Lawyers, Thomson Reuters, 2026
- Recognized for design patent and patent prosecution, IAM Patent 1000: The World’s Leading Patent Professionals, 2013-2026
- Named an “IP Star” by Managing Intellectual Property, 2017-2026
- Highlighted in The Legal 500 for patent prosecution, 2018

Recent News + Events + Related Publications

NEWS - 05.28.26

Banner Witcoff and Attorneys Recognized for Patent Litigation, Prosecution and Strategy in IAM’s Patent 1000

NEWS - 05.27.26

2026 Super Lawyers and Rising Stars Features 20 Banner Witcoff Attorneys

NEWS - 07.07.25

Banner Witcoff and 16 Shareholders Earn Top Marks in Managing IP’s 2025 IP Stars

NEWS - 06.04.25

16 Banner Witcoff Attorneys Recognized in IP Stars 2025

NEWS - 06.02.25

Nine Banner Witcoff Attorneys Recognized as 2025 Washington, D.C. Super Lawyers, Rising Stars

NEWS - 05.29.25

Banner Witcoff and 14 Attorneys Recognized in IAM Patent 1000

NEWS - 08.14.24

Robert Katz and Darrell Mottley Recognized in Who's Who Legal: IP 2024

NEWS - 06.06.24

IAM Patent 1000 Recognizes 14 Banner Witcoff Attorneys, Patent Prosecution, and Litigation Practices

NEWS - 06.04.24

IP Stars 2024 Recognizes 17 Banner Witcoff Attorneys

NEWS - 05.28.24

IP Alert | The USPTO Issues New Guidance to Examiners for Applying Obviousness in Design Filings in View of the LKQ Corporation v. GM Global Technology Operations LLC Decision

NEWS - 05.22.24

IP Alert | Federal Circuit Overrules over 40 years of Design Law Precedent in Assessing Obviousness in LKQ Corporation v. GM Global Technology Operations LLC

NEWS - 04.22.24

Nine Banner Witcoff Attorneys Named 2024 Washington, D.C. Super Lawyers and Rising Stars

EVENT - 04.03.24

Darrell Mottley Discusses Design Patent Obviousness at 14th Annual Intellectual Property Symposium

NEWS - 03.19.24

Darrell Mottley Recognized as Leading Patent & Trademark Protection Attorney of the Year by Acquisition International

EVENT - 02.06.24

Darrell Mottley Joins LES Webinar: Famous African American Inventors: In Honor of Black History Month

EVENT - 01.04.24

Darrell Mottley Opens American Bar Foundation Fellows Reception