Copyright Registrations and Enforcement

Banner Witcoff routinely secures copyright registrations for software and multimedia assets across industries. We assist software developers with copyright registrations for enterprise software and video games, including clients such as CD Projekt Red, Wargaming.net, Jagex Limited, and Trane Industries. We have registered copyrights for commercial software, game artwork, code, and immersive elements in titles involving blockchain, networking, and user interfaces.

We have obtained hundreds of copyright registrations for original visual works, including merchandise designs and graphical user interfaces (e.g., Microsoft's first 3D GUI design patent with copyright overlays). We handle audiovisual copyrights for animation, storylines, and content in entertainment, securing protections for artwork, media, video/film studios and media productions worldwide.

As plaintiffs' counsel, we have secured injunctions, damages, and domain seizures in software and gaming disputes. These victories underscore our success in protecting software integrity in massive multiplayer online games (MMOGs), where copyrights safeguard code, graphics, and user experiences.

Banner Witcoff also robustly defends clients accused of infringement, particularly in music licensing and performance rights disputes. We have led numerous litigations against performance rights organizations (PROs) like ASCAP, focusing on fair use and licensing defenses. We have defended venue operators and content creators involving ASCAP alleging of unauthorized public performances of copyrighted music.

Drawing on expertise in copyright counseling, we challenge overreach in licensing demands, securing dismissals or favorable settlements by asserting defenses like implied licenses or de minimis use. We have defended multiple clients in cases brought by copyright trolls such as Malibu Media, successfully minimizing damages as well as minimizing the impact and stigma of these cases on the defendants' ongoing concerns.

Banner Witcoff also represents clients in transactional matters involving copyrights, including licensing music for video games and corporate events, acting as outside counsel for the use

of open-source software by commercial entities, and assisting with software licensing for commercial partnerships.

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Please click ____ to email us for more information about our Copyright practice.

Relevant Practices

Appellate Litigation

Brand Protection

Counseling, Opinions + Licensing

Counterfeit Goods Seizure

Design Patents

Jury Trials

Litigation

Patent Interferences

PTAB Litigation

Patent Prosecution

Section 337/ITC Litigation

Trade Dress

Trade Secrets

Trademarks

Representative Experience

ZRD, L.L.C. Afroman Music v. ZRD LLC, 1:23-cv-3570, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

We served as defense counsel, representing the accused infringers in disputes over music performances in bar and restaurant venues in the Chicago area, mitigating damages in high-profile music copyright claims tied to ASCAP enforcement.

Apprio, Inc. Zaccari v. Apprio Inc., 1:18-cv-01560, U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia

Represented Apprio, Inc. in litigation filed by a former employee who sought $63 million for the alleged infringement of copyrighted software

Wargaming.Net LLP Wargaming.Net LLP v. Changyou.com, 1:13cv03444, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

Representing World of Tanks® developer Wargaming.net, the firm won a temporary restraining order, preliminary injunction, and final judgment against operators of WorldOfTankShop.com for copyright infringement, trademark counterfeiting, and false affiliation.

Jagex Ltd. Jagex Ltd v. Impulse Software, 10-cv-10216-NMG, U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts

For RuneScape® creator Jagex, Ltd., we obtained judgments for copyright infringement, DMCA violations, trademark infringement, computer fraud, and tortious interference against bot software developers.

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