

Christopher A. Suarez

Associate

Christopher Suarez is a trial and appellate litigator who focuses generally on complex litigation, with an emphasis on technology, antitrust, and education matters.

Chris's technology practice spans both electronics and the life sciences, and comprises intellectual property litigation, licensing, cybersecurity and privacy, and other technology issues. He has represented a wide range of major clients in high technology industries, including leading manufacturers of smartphones, tablets, internet of things technologies, and semiconductors, as well as clients in the oil and gas sector. Chris has handled IP and technology cases before several U.S. District Courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, and the Patent Trial and Appeal Board. He has participated in international arbitrations of patent disputes. Chris has been selected as a *Super Lawyers* Rising Star in Intellectual Property from 2017-2019.

Chris also has extensive education law and pro bono practices. He first chaired a successful effort before an administrative law judge to reduce an excessive school suspension of a DC public school student, and has been an advocate for several DC-area students in need of special education services in both state and federal court. Chris has briefed and argued a pro bono appeal on behalf of a criminal defendant in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit and has been a member of D.C.'s Capital Pro Bono "High Honor Roll" for several years.

Chris is an active member of several bar associations, including the American Bar Association (ABA), the Federal Circuit Bar Association (FCBA), the American Intellectual Property Law Association, the Giles Rich American Inn of Court, and the PTAB Bar Association. In 2018, Chris was nationally recognized in the "ABA On the Rise - Top 40 Young Lawyer List" by the ABA's Young Lawyers Division. In 2016, the ABA's Intellectual Property Law Section selected Chris to serve a three-year term as a Young Lawyer Fellow of the Section, where he serves on the IP Section's Membership Board and Revenue Committees. Chris is also in the leadership of the ABA's Young Lawyers Division (YLD). In the FCBA, Chris serves as the secretary of the PTAB/TTAB committee and is an active member of the Patent Litigation Committee.

Chris has also written articles on intellectual property and education topics that have appeared in numerous law journals and legal publications, and recently co-edited a comprehensive volume on the emerging "Internet of Things." He has spoken on education topics at SXSW Edu and the Education Law Association's annual conference, and has been a speaker



csuarez@wc.com

D 202-434-5279

Education

Yale Law School, J.D., 2011:

Executive Editor, Yale Law and Policy Review; Thurman Arnold Prize Finalist, Morris Tyler Moot Court of Appeals; Stephen J. Massey Prize

Dominican University, M.A.T., 2008

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, S.B., 2006: Tau Beta Pi; Eta Kappa Nu

Recognitions

ABA Intellectual Property Section, Young Lawyer Fellow (2016-2019 Term)

ABA Young Lawyers Division, ABA On the Rise - Top 40 Young Lawyers List (2018)

ABA Young Lawyers Division, Star of the Year (2016-17)

Super Lawyers Rising Star, Intellectual Property Litigation (2017-2019)

Admissions

on several intellectual property webinars and panels organized by the ABA and FCBA.

Born and raised in Chicago, Illinois, a product of Chicago's public school system, and a former K-12 teacher, Chris volunteers on multiple boards relating to educational issues, and is an elected member of the Alexandria City School Board. Chris is also an avid marathoner and a member of the Firm's Wellness Committee.

Publications

- Co-Editor, *The Internet of Things: Legal Issues, Policy, & Practical Strategies* (forthcoming 2019, with Cynthia H. Cwik and Lucy L. Thomson)
- *Forensics and Electronic Discovery in an IoT Era*, TYL (April 2018)
- *How will patents, trademarks, and licensing play out in an era of autonomous vehicles?*, *Automotive World* (April 9, 2018)
- *The Current And Future Scope Of IPR Estoppel*, *Intellectual Property Watch* (April 4, 2017) (with David I. Berl)
- *Navigating Inter Partes Review Appeals in the Federal Circuit: A Statistical Review*, *ABA Landslide* magazine, Vol. 9, No. 3 (Jan.-Feb. 2017)
- Author, *Democratic School Desegregation: Lessons from Election Law*, 119 Penn. St. L. Rev. 747 (2015)
- *Lock Before You "Lock": Standards, Tipping, and the Future of Patent Misuse*, 13 Colum. Sci. & Tech L. Rev. 371 (2012)
- *School Discipline in New Haven: Law, Norms, and Beating The Game*, 39 J. L. & Educ. 503 (2010)
- *Continued DOJ Oversight in the Google Book Search Settlement Defending Our Public Values and Protecting Competition*, 55 N.Y.L. Sch. L. Rev. 175 (2010) (invited contribution to New York Law School's Symposium on the Google Book Search Settlement)
- *Radio Frequency Identification in Hospitals: Balancing Hospital Efficiency and Patient Privacy, in Personal Data Privacy and Protection in a Surveillance Era: Technologies and Practices* (Christina Akrivopoulou and Athanasios Psygkas eds. 2010)
- Note, *Sliding Towards Educational Outcomes: A New Remedy for Education Lawsuits in a Post-NCLB World*, 15 Mich. J. Race & L. 478 (2010)

Illinois

District of Columbia

United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth, Seventh and Federal Circuits

United States District Courts for the District of Columbia, Northern District of Illinois, and District of Colorado

United States Patent and Trademark Office

- Book Note, *Courthouse, Statehouse, or Both? Redefining Institutional Roles in School Finance Litigation*, 28 Yale L. & Pol'y Rev. 539 (2010)

Speaking Engagements

- Panelist, *Net Neutrality: Free Competition or Chaos*, ABA Young Lawyers' Division Spring Conference (May 11, 2018)
- Moderator, *Appeals from the PTAB: What We Know and Don't Know*, All Ohio Institute on Intellectual Property Law (September 13-14, 2017)
- Moderator, *PTAB Hi-Tech Townhall*, Federal Circuit Bar Association Bench and Bar Conference (June 24, 2017)
- Moderator, *Two Years of Federal Circuit Review of PTAB Proceedings: What We Know and Still Don't Know*, Federal Circuit Bar Association Webinar (February 7, 2017)
- Panelist, *That's a Fact! The Role of Factual Disputes in PTAB Institution Decisions in the Life Sciences*, Federal Circuit Bar Association Webinar (November 24, 2016)
- Panelist, *The Use of Fact and Expert Witnesses at the PTAB: Costs, Strategies, and Pitfalls*, Federal Circuit Bar Association Webinar (September 22, 2016)
- Moderator, *The Future of Socioeconomic School Integration*, SXSW Edu Conference, Austin, TX (March 9, 2016)
- Presenter, *Democratic School Desegregation*, Penn State Education and Civil Rights Conference, State College, PA (May 2014)
- Moderator, *A is For Antitrust*, New York Law School Conference on the Google Book Search Settlement, New York, NY (October 2009)

Representative Experience

Though all cases vary and none is predictive, Chris's recent experience includes:

- Represented a major technology company in an international patent licensing arbitration, which was tried before a three-member panel, relating to valuation of standard essential patents and products with billions of dollars in revenue.
- Represented major semiconductor company in matters relating to

licensing, joint ventures, and possible claims relating to trade secrets and breach of contract.

- Represented major Chinese smartphone components manufacturer in patent licensing dispute in Federal court, and provided advice and counseling on numerous matters pertaining to licensing, contract negotiations, and possible future litigation.
- Represented major technology company in patent litigation matter involving its internet-of-things technology; settled on favorable terms.
- Represented Google in a variety of patent matters, both in federal court and before the PTAB, addressing or currently litigating issues related to voice control of computers, wireless standards, graphical user interface technology, and media content matching technology.
- Represented energy services company Petroleum GeoServices in *inter partes review* proceedings against Schlumberger subsidiary WesternGeco relating to patents directed to seismic surveying technology.
- Represented Petroleum GeoServices in plaintiff-side litigation matter in the U.S. District Court for the District of Delaware against Electromagnetic Geoservices.
- Represented Novartis-division Alcon as trial counsel in litigation against generic manufacturers over patents protecting Alcon's Pazeo product.
- Represented major AmLaw firm in response to threatened and actual claims.
- Represented major international corporation in defense of claim arising under the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act (FACTA).

Resources

Publications

- *Inside Views: The Current And Future Scope Of IPR Estoppel*, April 2017