



MICHAEL N. SPINK SHAREHOLDER

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EDUCATION

J.D., cum laude
The John Marshall Law School, 1999
B.S., cum laude, Mechanical Engineering
University of Michigan, 1996

BAR ADMISSIONS

Michigan
Illinois
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office
U.S. Dist. Court, N.D. Illinois
U.S. Dist. Court, E.D. Michigan

Clients and colleagues alike note that Mike is “one of the most well-rounded intellectual property attorneys, moving deftly between patents, trademarks and copyrights.”

Mike helps clients effectively manage their intellectual assets, including in-house policies and procedures, procurement, licensing and opinions.

He chairs the firm’s Intellectual Asset Management group, helping clients leverage patent data into business efficiencies and growth. He is skilled in portfolio management and support, including performing portfolio classification, mapping and analysis. By linking intellectual asset strategies to business and product strategies, his clients enhance intellectual property protection while reducing risk.

Mike also chairs the firm’s Licensing practice group, and he is a Certified Licensing Professional (CLP). He has extensive experience in complex transactions involving intellectual property, including due diligence, acquisition, disposition, and bankruptcy issues.

His patent practice extends to numerous industries, including the automotive, medical device, and software industries. His trademark practice comprises worldwide portfolio management, clearance, prosecution, licensing and enforcement in federal district court and before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board. Mr. Spink’s copyright practice includes registration and licensing, and he is currently a contributing author on copyright law in a quarterly publication of the American Bar Association.

As a Gen X-er, Mike straddles both the old and new in technology, business, and intellectual property protection.

EXPERIENCE | LEGAL EXPERIENCE

- **Brinks Gilson & Lione**, Ann Arbor, Michigan
Shareholder, 2008-Present
Associate, June 2002-2007
- **Leydig, Voit & Mayer, Ltd.**, Rockford, Illinois
Associate, July 1999-June 2002

PRACTICE GROUPS

Copyright
Licensing
Litigation

Biographies | Michael N. Spink

Patent Prosecution

Post-Grant Patent

Trade Secrets

Trademarks & Unfair Competition

AREA OF FOCUS

Automotive

FORWARD THINKING

Alerts

- Further Clarity For the On-Sale Bar, July 12, 2016
- Brexit's Impact on Intellectual Property Rights in the United Kingdom, July 14, 2016
- Federal Circuit Says "Teaching Away" Must Cover the Entire Claim Scope, October 23, 2017

Blog Posts

- Federal Circuit Says "Teaching Away" Must Cover the Entire Claim Scope, October 23, 2017

Presentations

- "Recent Licensing Decisions," Brinks Learn & Links, Dearborn, Michigan, June 6, 2017
- "Two Brinks attorneys discuss trademarks at WCBA event," Washtenaw County Legal News, Troy, Michigan, March 28, 2016
- "Introduction to BGL and Non-Traditional Trademarks," A2Y Chamber, Early Edition, Ann Arbor, Michigan, November 18, 2015
- "Recent Decisions Affecting IP Licensing," Brinks Learn & Links, Dearborn, Michigan, June 24, 2015
- "Beyond Words: Non-Traditional Trademarks," Brinks Learn & Links, Brighton, Michigan, June 11, 2013
- "Intellectual Property Agreements and Licensing," University of Michigan- Dearborn, Product Realization Technology Commercialization Program, February 6, 2010
- "Corporate IP Conference" Law Bulletin Seminars, July 15, 2009
- "Bankruptcy Issues in Technology Licensing," Ann Arbor Intellectual Property Seminar, June 10, 2009
- "Intellectual Property Fundamentals" Ann Arbor SCORE, February 13, 2008
- "Bankruptcy Issues in Technology Licensing," Ann Arbor SPARK, June 22, 2007
- Podcast: "Trademark Primer," Mitechnews.Com, March 30, 2007
- "Protecting Your Identity: Trademark Fundamentals," Ann Arbor IT Zone, August 25, 2006

HONORS

- Leading Intellectual Property Strategist, *Intellectual Asset Management* magazine's "IAM 300 - A Guide to the World's Leading IP Strategists," 2014, 2017-2019
- Leading Intellectual Property Lawyer, Leading Lawyers Network, Law Bulletin Publishing Company, 2016
- Certified Licensing Professional (CLP), 2010
- Michigan Super Lawyers, Rising Stars 2010-2014
- Staff Editor, *John Marshall Law Review*, 1999

AFFILIATIONS

- American Bar Association
Intellectual Property Section
- American Intellectual Property Law Association
- Licensing Executives Society
Co-chair, Michigan Chapter of LES

- Intellectual Property Owners Association Management Committee, 2014-2015
- Michigan Intellectual Property Law Association

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- *Diamond Power International Inc. v. Clyde Bergemann Inc.* (TTAB 2014). Representing Diamond Power in an opposition proceeding before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board. The TTAB sustained the opposition in favor of Diamond Power.
- *EBC Brakes USA, Inc., et al., v. Allan M. Teagan, et al.*, (E.D. Mich. 2014). Represented EBC Brakes in a trademark, copyright and unfair competition suit. The case settled with a consent judgment.
- *Detroit Tigers, Inc. v. Detroit Muscle, LLC* (TTAB 2007). Represented Detroit Muscle in an opposition proceeding before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board.
- *ASC, Inc. v. Dura Convertible Systems, Inc.* (E.D. Mich 2006). Represented Dura Convertible Systems, Inc., a subsidiary of Collins & Aikman Corporation, in an adversary proceeding in a bankruptcy court. Dura was accused of patent infringement. The case settled.
- *Wilhelm Karmann GmbH v. Dura Convertible Systems, Inc.* (E.D. Mich. 2006). Represented Dura Convertible Systems, Inc., a subsidiary of Collins & Aikman Corporation, in an adversary proceeding in a bankruptcy court. Dura was accused of patent infringement. The case settled.
- *William Beaumont Hospital v. United Physicians, P.C.* (E.D. Mich. 2004). Represented Beaumont in a trademark infringement action. The case settled.
- *William Beaumont Hospital v. United Physicians, P.C.* (TTAB 2004). Represented Beaumont in an opposition proceeding before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board. The proceeding settled.