

DeAnna Allen

Partner



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Intellectual Property Litigation
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Internet and Social Media
Software
Technology
Washington, DC Employee Mobility, Competitive Hiring and Unfair Competition

DeAnna is a trusted legal strategist known for humanizing technology to craft compelling client narratives while delivering legal solutions that drive business success. A seasoned intellectual property (IP) litigator and counselor, DeAnna focuses on technology-centric disputes, including patent and trade secret defense, competitor-based intellectual property enforcement, contractual disputes, strategic licensing, and related counseling – especially in high-stakes matters involving private entities or the US federal government.

She has successfully represented clients in federal district courts, the US Court of Federal Claims, and the US Patent Trial and Appeal Board across a range of innovative technologies, including:

- Virtual and augmented reality
- Machine learning, text-to-speech and other generative artificial intelligence technologies
- Semiconductors and signal processing
- Imaging systems
- Mobile devices, wearables and other consumer electronics
- Cancer treatments, nutraceuticals and biological testing devices
- Defense technologies, including improvised explosive device (IED) detection and software-based weapon systems
- Gaming platforms, multimedia networks and more

DeAnna also is experienced in the transfer of rights in IP, including technology transfer agreements and IP-related deal due diligence. She is a member, by judicial invitation, of the Court of Federal Claims advisory council for IP and has been referred to as a “hi-tech specialist” by The Legal 500 US.

DeAnna is a past president and executive board member of the National Association of Women Lawyers (NAWL). Her industry leadership also includes serving as co-chair of the University of Miami Law Alumni Association’s national advisory council, as a former sub-committee co-chair of the American Bar Association (ABA) Section of Litigation’s IP litigation committee, and as a former chapter editor of the ABA Section of Intellectual Property Law’s “Patent Litigation Strategies Handbook.”

DeAnna is also certified as an engineer in training.

Representative successes include:

- Lead litigation counsel for Fortune 100 tech defendants in mobile phone patent litigation, resulting in early summary judgment
- Co-lead counsel for a large government contractor, resulting in favorable patent litigation and licensing outcomes relating to Army-procured augmented reality systems
- Lead patent litigation counsel for small government subcontractor, resulting in one of the largest patent litigation settlements paid by the US federal government in decades
- Co-lead counsel for a startup-phase industry disrupter, resulting in favorable resolution of patent and trade secret defense
- Co-lead defense counsel to mobile technology companies regarding global positioning systems (GPS)
- Counsel in multiple patent defenses for a Fortune 100 international communications platform, each resulting in favorable outcome
- Lead counsel in multiple patent litigation defenses for a Fortune 100 mobile technology provider, each resulting in favorable outcome
- Lead counsel in multiple patent litigation defenses for a Fortune 100 consumer retailer, each resulting in favorable outcome
- Business-oriented IP advisor to entities of varying life cycle stages and economic profiles in connection with navigating risks and rights stemming from patents, tech-centric trade secrets, standard essential patent (SEP) practices, IP-related deal diligence and IP rights in government contracting

Education

University of Miami School of Law JD, cum laude, 1996

University of Maryland, College Park BS, 1990

Admissions & Credentials

District of Columbia

US Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)

Court Admissions

US District Court for the District of Columbia

US Court of Appeals for the First Circuit

US Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit

Rankings & Accolades

Lawdragon: 500 Leading Global IP Lawyers (2025)

Benchmark Litigation: Future Star (multiple year recognitions)

Benchmark Plaintiff: National and Washington, DC Litigation Star

The Legal 500 US: Recommended for Patents: Litigation (Full Coverage)

The Legal 500 US: Recommended for Intellectual Property: Patent Prosecution

National Diversity Council: Most Powerful and Influential Women, DC-Maryland-Virginia

Profiles in Diversity Journal: Women Worth Watching

Black Enterprise: "Hot List" of professional and entrepreneurial powerhouses

Memberships & Affiliations

National Association of Women Lawyers (NAWL)

American Bar Association (ABA)

National Bar Association

American Intellectual Property Law Association

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