



Ferillia V. Roberson

Partner

US CO-CHAIR, INDUSTRIALS SECTOR

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Ferillia V. Roberson is a Chambers-ranked trial attorney who focuses her intellectual property practice on complex patent and trade secrets litigation in district court, the US International Trade Commission and proceedings before the US Patent Office. Ferillia also advises counseling on all aspects of patent, trade secrets, and trademark related matters.

Ferillia's patent litigation experience covers a broad range of technologies, including consumer goods, mobile communications devices, railroad car sets, data storage systems, advanced medical devices, pharmaceuticals, industrial and manufacturing equipment and processes, biochemistry, hazardous waste materials, heat exchangers, welding equipment, GPS navigation systems and automotive devices, among others.

Ferillia has experience representing her clients in patent and trade secrets jury trials, ITC hearings inter partes reviews proceedings and before the Federal Circuit. Ferillia has extensive trial and courtroom experience, including handling dozens of ITC cases and district court litigations.

- Intellectual Property and Technology
- Patent Litigation
- Cross-Border Litigation
- International Arbitration
- Antitrust and Competition
- Commercial Contracts Disputes

Ferillia has achieved significant courtroom successes for clients in complex intellectual property cases in a variety of Federal District Courts popular with patent plaintiffs, including the Western, Eastern Districts of Texas, the Eastern District of Michigan, the Northern District of Illinois, the Northern District of California and the District of Delaware, among others.

Ferillia also has extensive experience in Section 337 patent investigations before the International Trade Commission and has represented some of the world's largest technology companies in complex, multi-patent ITC litigation. She is well-versed in the particularities of ITC litigation from both the Complainant's and Respondent's perspective, including recent experience representing many of the world's largest technology, industrial, and automotive companies in several different large-scale investigations involving several patents.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- *Certain Infotainment Systems, Components Thereof, and Automobiles Containing the Same* (ITC Investigation No. 337-TA-1119)

Represented car manufacturers and suppliers in patent infringement action related to video and display systems in vehicles

- *In the Matter of Certain Thermoplastic-Encapsulated Electric Motors, Components Thereof, and Products and Vehicles Containing Same II* (ITC Investigation No. 337-TA-1073) Represented car manufacturers and suppliers in patent infringement action related to thermoplastic motors in vehicles
- *In the Matter of Certain Thermoplastic-Encapsulated Electric Motors, Components Thereof, and Products and Vehicles Containing Same* (ITC Investigation No. 337-TA-1052) Represented equipment suppliers and chip manufacturers in patent infringement action related to pump technology
- *Intellectual Ventures II LLC v. Denso Corporation et al.* 1:17-cv-00297 (D. Del.)
- *Lincoln Electric Co. v. ESAB Group* (E.D. Tex.) Represented ESAB in patent infringement action related to hardware and software technology for welding power supplies
- Advised largest manufacturer of evaporative heat rejection and thermal storage equipment in connection with evaporator and coolant production redesign following representation of client in related patent infringement case
- Advised Midwest chemical waste company in connection with successful redesign of new production and processing systems, including conducting patent portfolio and freedom to operate analysis
- Trial counsel for a leading mobile device communications company in a patent infringement case in the International Trade Commission relating to mobile device graphics technology
- Represented defendant, a leading pet food manufacturer, in a patent infringement case relating to nutrigenomics in the Southern District of California. Resolved case in defendant's favor after court granted section 101 summary judgment motion
- Trial counsel for defendant, a leading mobile device manufacturer in a patent infringement jury trial in the Northern District of California relating to wireless device activation and management. The district court overturned jury's verdict in favor of defendant after granting JMOL motion
- Trial counsel for plaintiff, a leading mechanical system manufacturer, in a patent infringement case relating to heat exchangers in the District of Maryland

CREDENTIALS

Admissions

- Illinois

Recognitions

- Recognized as "Up and Coming" in Illinois Intellectual Property, *Chambers USA* 2021
- 2018 National Bar Association "Top 40 Under 40 - Nation's Best Advocates" Award Recipient
- Named to Crain's Custom Media's 2018 list of Chicago's Notable Women Lawyers
- "Ferillia recognized as an Emerging Leader by the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce," March 19, 2017

Education

- J.D., Northwestern University School of Law 2008
2008 PILI Fellow, Legal Aid Bureau
2005 American Intellectual Property Law Foundation/Sidney B. Williams Scholar
2008 National Convention Coordinator, National Black Law Students Association (NBLSA)
- B.S., Chemical Engineering, Illinois Institute of Technology 2005
with high honors
2001 Coca-Cola Scholar
2001 Wade H. McCree Jr. Scholar, Chemical Engineering

Courts

- United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas
- United States District Court for the Northern District of California
- United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois
- United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio
- United States District Court for the Southern District of California

Memberships

- The Richard Linn American Inn of Court
- Board Member, Lawyers' Committee for Better Housing (LCBH)
- Chicago Women in IP (ChiWIP)
- Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce, Emerging Leaders Program
- American Bar Association (IP Law Section)
- American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA)
- Chicago Committee Minorities In Large Law Firms
- National Bar Association (IP Section)
- Black Women's Lawyer's Association of Greater Chicago
- Chicago Bar Association

INSIGHTS

Publications

Common Ground, Uncommon Purpose

16 February 2021

The firm's forefront commitment to equality is all-encompassing.

- Trade secrets are more important, and trade secret litigation is more common, 29 Sep 2017
- Trade secrets are more important, and trade secret litigation is more common: 7 questions to ask yourself about protecting your company, 3 Aug 2017
- Co-author, "Corporate Counsel Should Carefully Consider the Company's Trade Secret Position and Form a Game Plan to Protect the Company," *IPWatchdog*, November 3, 2017
- Author, "How Alice has fared in Delaware," *World Intellectual Property Review*, March 18, 2016

Events

Ferillia regularly gives lectures offering CLE credit on intellectual property, patent and trade secret issues and frequently speaks in the US on a variety of topics relating to US patent litigation and the legal profession.

- Co-presenter, "US Supreme Court IP Review: Notable Patent Law Decisions, Related Strategies and Predictions," DLA Piper's 2017 Global Seminar (Japan), October 17, 2017
- Co-panelist, "Understanding the Supreme Court's Recent Patent Decisions," DLA Piper Women In IP CLE Program, October 3, 2017
- Co-presenter, "An Integrated Approach To Balancing Strong Patents Against Protection And Enforcement Of Trade Secret," Global

Intellectual Property Professional Institute Seminar (Japan), May 18, 2017

- Moderator, "Losing the Keys to the Castle: What In-House Counsel Need to Know About Trade Secret Litigation," Association of Corporate Counsel (ACC)-Chicago, February 2, 2017
- Co-presenter, "iLEAD-Lessons from Women in Leadership," Chicago Urban League Women's Board Luncheon, November 12, 2016
- Co-presenter, "Abbot Laboratories Patent Day Program," Inter Parties Review (IPRs) Panel, May 19, 2016
- Co-presenter, "Hot Topics in IP Law: Copyright Infringement In the Cloud: Examining the Challenges of the 'Digital Storage Locker,'" ABA IP Litigation Committee Roundtable, February 10, 2016
- Moderator, "Lawyers in Charge: Meet GCs in Illinois Government," BWLA's Government Services Subcommittee Meeting, January 21, 2016
- Co-presenter, "Joint Defense and Indemnification - Getting Along with Others," Practising Law Institute's 2015 Patent Litigation Conference

NEWS

DLA Piper announces new sector leadership

10 March 2021

DLA Piper is pleased to announce several recent changes to the firm's sector leadership.

MEDIA MENTIONS

- "DLA Piper launches Forward Thinking education seminar series in Chicago," *DLA Piper*, March 27, 2017