



Ryan C. Steinman

Principal
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Overview

Ryan Steinman is a trusted advisor to clients navigating the full spectrum of trademark and copyright issues, providing strategic counsel across every stage of the intellectual property lifecycle — from brand creation and clearance to prosecution, enforcement, and litigation. His practice covers both domestic and international trademark portfolios, with particular strength in developing and managing global brand strategies for clients in a wide range of industries.

Recognized for his strategic mindset and practical approach, Ryan serves as a highly responsive, solutions-oriented point of contact for clients facing complex trademark or copyright challenges. He is widely regarded for his deep experience before the U.S. Trademark Trial and Appeal Board (TTAB), where he regularly acts as lead counsel in opposition and cancellation proceedings. He is known for his strong track record guiding matters from inception through trial and securing favorable outcomes for clients. His TTAB work is closely integrated with his broader litigation and enforcement practice, where he tailors business-driven strategies to resolve disputes efficiently and effectively.

Beyond his TTAB and litigation experience, Ryan advises on trademark clearance, global filing programs, domain name and social media disputes, and coordinated enforcement efforts in the U.S. and abroad. He has represented leading companies in the consumer products, food and beverage, fashion, hospitality, software, financial services, and entertainment industries.

In addition to his trademark and copyright work, Ryan maintains an active pro bono practice representing low-income artists and cultural institutions. He also assists LGBTQ individuals facing a range of legal challenges, including guardianship and immigration matters. He was previously awarded Immigration Equality's Safe Haven Award, recognizing outstanding advocacy for LGBTQ individuals seeking asylum.

Outside of his legal practice, Ryan enjoys international travel, fitness competitions, and spending time with his son.

Experience

Represented a well-known alcoholic beverage brand in a Trademark Trial and Appeal Board (TTAB) opposition proceeding that ultimately led to a favorable judgment after trial.

Represented famous fashion house in an opposition proceeding before the TTAB, which led to a favorable judgment after trial. (Representation prior to joining Fish)

Successfully defended major insurance company in a cancellation proceeding before the TTAB, which led to a favorable decision after trial.

Successfully defended famous spirits company in a trademark infringement litigation in the Central District of California, which granted the client's motion for summary judgment on all claims. (Representation prior to joining Fish)

Advised national sports association in connection with clearance and filings of new trademarks for a wide range of merchandise and services. (Representation prior to joining Fish)

Represented numerous well-known brands in countless ICANN domain name dispute proceedings that led to favorable judgments.

Provide strategic advice and representation to numerous global corporations regarding the clearance, filing, maintenance, and enforcement of trademark registrations worldwide.

Recognitions & awards

Ones to Watch

Best Lawyers 2021-2025

Pathfinder

Leadership Council on Legal Diversity 2017

Powerful Voice

Conscious Magazine 2016

Best Lawyers Under 40

National LGBT Bar Association 2012

Safe Haven Award

Immigration Equality 2011

Professional associations

International Trademark Association, Law Firm Committee (2024-Present)

Association of the Bar of the City of New York

Insights

Webinar | May 15, 2024

Trademark Scams: Protecting Your Brand Online

Blog | May 21, 2020

Supreme Court Reverses Second Circuit on So-Called "Defense Preclusion" Doctrine in Trademark Infringement Case

Webinar | April 2, 2020

Art vs. Commerce: The Evolution of the Artistic Relevance Test

Blog | January 8, 2020

Supreme Court Holds USPTO Cannot Recover Its Attorney's Fees Under § 145

News

August 15, 2024

101 Fish Attorneys Included in the 2025 Edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*

January 2, 2024

Fish & Richardson Elevates 20 Attorneys to Principal

August 17, 2023

101 Fish Attorneys Included in the 2024 Edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*

August 22, 2022

96 Fish Attorneys Included in the 2023 Edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*

August 19, 2021

Fish Attorneys Recognized in 2022 Edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*

Additional insights

Publications

- "Electronic Discovery Practice Under The Federal Rules," *BNA Books*(2010-2011)
- "Taking a Mulligan: Moral Rights and the Art of Golf Course Design," *51IDEA 47*(2011); *New York State Bar Association's Entertainment, Arts and Sports Law Journal*(2009)

Speaking Engagements

- "Pumped! Privacy and IP in the Fitness Industry" (March 2018)
 - "Litigation Outsourcing & Offshoring: Ethical & Practical Considerations" (April 2010)
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Services

Litigation

Trademark, Copyright & Media Litigation

Trade Secret Litigation

Trademark & Copyright Counseling & Prosecution

Strategic Counseling, Registration & Opinions

Domain Names & Internet

TTAB Oppositions & Cancellations

Digital Millennium Copyright Act

Industries

Electrical & Computer Technology

Software & Internet

Digital Media & E-Commerce

Financial, Business & FinTech Services

Telecommunications

Admissions

U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York

New York

Education

J.D. *magna cum laude*, New York Law School (2009)
M.S., Arts Administration, Boston University (2004)
B.M.A., Musical Arts, University of Michigan (2002)