



## Thad C. Kodish

Principal  
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## Overview

Thad Kodish is a noted leader in the courtroom representing clients in high-conflict cases across the U.S. He is a first-chair trial lawyer and developer of intellectual property strategy for some of the firm's largest clients.

Thad has served as the managing principal of Fish & Richardson's Atlanta office since 2011.

Over the years, Thad has delivered impressive wins for clients on summary judgment, at trial, and on appeal, as well as before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and the U.S. International Trade Commission.

His matters span a wide range of computer software, electrical, medical device, chemical, and mechanical technologies, including ENT medical devices, radiofrequency ablation, healthcare software, microprocessor design, ethernet and wireless network communications, security software, operating system software, chemical compound formulation, product activation software, telecommunications networking systems, computer storage devices, point-of-sale software and hardware, computer-aided design, wearable software and hardware, and textile and laminate flooring.

Most recently, Thad led a team through jury trial in the Eastern District of Texas, obtaining a January 2025 defense verdict up against a \$2 billion demand – the largest ever patent damages demand tried to verdict in EDTX (*Headwater Research, LLC v. Samsung Electronics, Inc. et al.*, 2:22-cv-00422). Alongside fellow principals Mike McKeon and Ben Thompson, Thad's team obtained a judgment of non-infringement that the accused handset software did not practice any of the asserted patent claims. The verdict came on the heels of evidentiary wins trimming the plaintiff's case, including a sanctions order levied due to Fish exposing the plaintiff's discovery misconduct.

Thad additionally led a team through District Court litigation, Patent Office IPR proceedings, and Federal Circuit Court of Appeals proceedings for a complete victory for client, Tide International, USA. Thad's team invalidated the plaintiff's asserted patent claims before the PTO in *inter partes* review proceedings, which victory was thereafter affirmed by the Federal Circuit. *UPL NA, Inc. v. Tide International (USA) Inc.* (C.D. Cal. 2019-23) (adverse to Finnegan Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner, LLP).

He and his fellow Fish principal, Christopher Green, tried and won a patent jury verdict in the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Georgia for the Velcro Companies in a contentious patent infringement case. His Federal Circuit win for Shaw Industries concerning the scope of IPR estoppel was hailed by *Law360* as one of the "Top AIA-Related Decisions" and the "Top Patent Cases" of the year. Whether arguing before federal court judges and juries, the USPTO, or the ITC, time and time again, Thad's well-reasoned arguments and trial strategy have won the day.

Thad takes a hands-on approach to his matters. He gains a deep understanding of his clients' business and their business objective, and then quickly provides them with targeted guidance on vital issues and opportunities that arise during litigation.

Thad is a devoted alumnus of the Emory University School of Law. He has taught the course on patent law, as well as presented for myriad law school classes. He was a member of the law school alumni board for nearly 10 years, including a two-year term as alumni board and alumni association president (2013-2015). Thad has also delivered two commencement addresses for the Emory Law graduating classes. Thad began his tenure as a member of the Emory University Alumni Board in the fall of 2023.

Thad has also championed numerous pro bono causes. He argued before the Georgia Supreme Court on a long-running habeas corpus petition, trial, and appeal. He has also obtained temporary protective orders for women subject to domestic abuse for the Safe Families Project through the Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation, for which AVLf named him its "Intimate Partner Abuse Volunteer Lawyer of the Year" (2022).

Prior to his legal career, Thad was a chemical engineer responsible for chemical technologies for jet engines at Pratt & Whitney Aircraft.

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## Experience

*Ward Participations BV v. Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd., et al.* (W.D. Tex.; PTAB; Fed. Cir.) Fish represented Samsung in an infringement matter targeting cryptographic technology used within Samsung Knox. Fish challenged both asserted patents in three post-grant petitions and won final written decisions of invalidity in each. These decisions were affirmed on appeal, after which the plaintiff dismissed the District Court case with prejudice.

*UPL NA, Inc. v. Tide International (USA) Inc.* (C.D. Cal. 2019-23) (Lew, J.), (PTAB), (CAFC): Lead trial counsel for Tide in a patent dispute concerning agrochemical pesticide formulations. Obtained a stay of case proceedings following successful institution of *inter partes* review proceedings at the USPTO, followed by a 2022 PTAB Final Written Decision that Plaintiff's asserted claims were all unpatentable. The Federal Circuit Court of Appeals then affirmed the PTAB Decision, and all claims against Tide were dismissed with prejudice by the District Court.

*Berall v. Verathon, Inc.*, (W.D. Wash. 2020-23): Took over defense of longstanding medical device patent litigation for Verathon concerning otolaryngology and laryngoscope technologies. Obtained a settlement and case dismissal following the filing of numerous dispositive motions for Verathon.

*Headwater Research LLC v. Samsung Electronics, Co., Ltd., et al.* (E.D. Tex. 2022-23): Counsel for Samsung in two patent infringement cases concerning data and power saving software for wireless communication devices.

*Communication Technologies, Inc. v. Samsung Electronics, Co., Ltd., et al.*, (E.D. Tex. 2021-23): Counsel for Samsung in District Court and PTAB post-grant proceedings concerning computer security software. Obtained instituted *inter partes* review and stay of District Court proceedings.

In the Matter of Certain Video Processing Devices, Components thereof, and Digital Smart Televisions Containing the Same, Inv. No. 337-TA-1222 (ITC 2020-21): Counsel for Respondent Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd. in ITC investigation defending against allegations concerning patents describing video processing technologies.

Lead counsel for a manufacturer of indoor LED and laser lights in a patent infringement case concerning lighting hardware and software technologies. Obtained dismissal with prejudice for failure to state a claim.

Lead counsel for a sports equipment manufacturer in a patent infringement case concerning football helmet design. Obtained the institution of a *inter partes* review proceedings before the PTAB and the invalidation of the plaintiff's patent.

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## Testimonials

"He's an outstanding patent litigator with very high-stakes litigation, and he does a very good job at protecting our company." — Client Testimonial, *Thompson Reuters Stand-Out Lawyers List* (2023)

"He is an excellent communicator and I trust him with high-dollar litigation." — Client Testimonial, *Thompson Reuters Stand-Out*

"He's trustworthy and knowledgeable. We know we are getting the best advice possible when we reach out. He is a team lawyer with us." — Client Testimonial, *Chambers and Partners* (2019)

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## Recognitions & awards

Best Lawyers in America

*Best Lawyers* 2018-2025

IAM Patent 1000

*IAM* 2020-2025

Ranked Lawyer

*Chambers USA: Georgia* 2011-2025

Georgia Super Lawyer

*Super Lawyers* 2014 - 2024

Stand-out Lawyer

*Thomson Reuters* 2022-2024

IP Star

*Managing IP* 2013-2024

Intimate Partner Abuse Volunteer of the Year

*Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation (AVLF)* 2022

Distinguished Leaders

*ALM Daily Report* 2017

Young Alumni Award

*Emory University School of Law* 2015

Georgia Top 40 under 40 attorney "On the Rise"

*The Daily Report* 2013

Georgia Rising Star

*Super Lawyers* 2007, 2009 - 2013

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## Professional associations

Atlanta IP Inn of Court, Member and Master of the Bench (2010-2022)

Adjunct Professor, Emory School of Law, teaching Patent Litigation (2016)

President, Emory Law Alumni Association (2013-2015)

Emory Law Alumni Board (2006-2016)

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## News

News | June 6, 2025

Fish & Richardson Earns "Band 1" Nationwide Rankings for Intellectual Property and ITC Practices in Chambers USA 2025

News | May 30, 2025

Fish & Richardson Receives Top Rankings in 2025 Edition of *IAM Patent 1000: The World's Leading Patent Professionals*

News | January 30, 2025

Fish & Richardson Defeats Multi-Billion Dollar Demand at EDTX Jury Trial

Media Coverage | January 24, 2025

Fish & Richardson Trial Team Named *Law360's* 'Legal Lions of the Week' for \$1.95 Billion Patent Case

*Law360*

News | October 4, 2024

Fish & Richardson Ranked Highly by *Managing IP*; Attorneys Named IP Stars

News | August 15, 2024

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

News | June 11, 2024

Fish & Richardson Receives Top Rankings in 2024 Edition of *IAM Patent 1000: The World's Leading Patent Professionals*

News | June 10, 2024

Fish & Richardson Earns "Band 1" Nationwide Rankings for Intellectual Property and ITC Practices in *Chambers USA 2024*

News | October 5, 2023

Fish & Richardson Ranked Highly by *Managing IP*; Attorneys Named IP Stars

News | August 17, 2023

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

News | June 27, 2023

Fish & Richardson Receives Top Rankings in 2023 Edition of *IAM Patent 1000: The World's Leading Patent Professionals*

News | June 1, 2023

Fish & Richardson Earns "Band 1" Nationwide Rankings for Intellectual Property and ITC Practices in *Chambers USA 2023*

News | September 8, 2022

Fish & Richardson Receives Top Rankings in 2022 Edition of *IAM Patent 1000: The World's Leading Patent Professionals*

News | August 22, 2022

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

News | June 3, 2022

Fish & Richardson Earns "Band 1" Nationwide Rankings for Intellectual Property and ITC Practices in *Chambers USA 2022*

News | June 2, 2022

Fish & Richardson Named a Top ITC and Life Sciences Firm by *Managing IP*; Attorneys Named IP Stars

News | August 19, 2021

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

News | July 7, 2021

Fish & Richardson Receives Top Rankings in 2021 Edition of *IAM Patent 1000: The World's Leading Patent Professionals*

News | May 26, 2021

Fish & Richardson Ranks in Top "Band 1" Nationwide Rankings for Intellectual Property and ITC Practices in *Chambers USA 2021*

News | November 5, 2020

Fish's Atlanta Office Principals Christopher Green and Thad Kodish Support Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation (AVLF)

News | August 12, 2020

Fish & Richardson Receives Top "Gold" Ranking from *IAM Patent 1000* for National Litigation Practice; National Rankings in the Plaintiff Firm and Prosecution...

News | August 4, 2020

32 Fish & Richardson Attorneys Named 2020 "IP Stars" by *Managing Intellectual Property* Magazine

News | June 2, 2020

Fish & Richardson Receives Top "Band 1" National Rankings for Intellectual Property and ITC Practices in *Chambers USA 2020*

News | May 22, 2019

Fish & Richardson Announces 32 Attorneys Named "IP Stars" by *Managing Intellectual Property* Magazine

News | May 21, 2019

Fish & Richardson Receives Top "Band 1" National Rankings for Intellectual Property and ITC Practices in *Chambers USA 2019*

News | August 15, 2018

47 Fish Attorneys Named to The Best Lawyers in America 2019 List

News | May 22, 2018

Fish & Richardson Receives Top "Band 1" National Rankings for Intellectual Property and ITC Practices in *Chambers USA* 2018

News | May 21, 2018

Fish & Richardson Announces 39 Attorneys Named "IP Stars" by *Managing Intellectual Property* Magazine

News | November 29, 2017

Fish & Richardson Wins Jury Verdict for Velcro Companies Against YKK Corp. in Middle District of Georgia

News | July 25, 2017

Fish & Richardson Receives Top "Band 1" National Rankings for Intellectual Property and ITC Practices in *Chambers USA* 2017

News | June 23, 2017

Fish & Richardson Announces 36 Attorneys Named "IP Stars" by *Managing Intellectual Property* Magazine

News | May 23, 2017

Fish Principals to Receive Professional Excellence Awards

News | June 8, 2016

Fish Receives Top "Band 1" National Rankings for Intellectual Property and ITC Practices in *Chambers USA* 2016

News | June 2, 2016

Fish & Richardson Announces 36 Attorneys Named "IP Stars" by *Managing Intellectual Property* Magazine

News | March 1, 2014

Fish's Thad Kodish Talks to Emory School of Law About Diversity at Law School and at Law Firms

News | September 16, 2013

Fish Principal Thad Kodish Named 2013 "Rising Star" by *Daily Report*

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## Additional insights

### Speaking engagements

- "Willful Patent Infringement," *Georgia Chapter of the Association of Corporate Counsel* (October 2019)
- "IP Chat Channel webinar on IPR Estoppel in District Courts," *Intellectual Property Owners Association* ("IPO") (March 2017)
- International Patent Law and Policy, Emory School of Law (March 2017)
- Panelist on the importance of diversity at law firms at the Georgia Asian Pacific American Bar Association (April 2016)
- "Making Sense of *Inter Partes* Review Proceedings," *Cantor Fitzgerald's Inaugural Healthcare Conference* (July 2015)
- Columbia Insurance Company 4th Annual IP Conference (June 2015)
- "Post-Grant Patent Practice and Legislative Developments," *Korean Intellectual Property Protection Association Lecture* (March 2014)
- "Patent Litigation and Legislative Developments," *Seoul National University Law School Lecture* (March 2014)
- "Joint Infringement – Recent Updates and Practical Impact," *Association of Corporate Patent Counsel 2014 Winter Meeting* (January 2014)
- "Hot Topics in Intellectual Property," *Daily Report's In-House Counsel CLE Seminar* (July 2013)
- "Claim Construction Re-Set," *24th Annual All Hands Meeting* (December 2012)
- "Indirect and Divided Infringement in the Wake of CAFC's Akami and McKesson Rulings," *Emory Law Alumni Intellectual Property Society* (November 2012)
- "Understanding New Proceeding for Patent Review," *Litigation Patent Disputes Conference* (November 2012)
- "Valuation of Intellectual Property from an Enforcement Perspective," *What Israel Companies Really Need to Know About IP Protection and Enforcement in the U.S.* (January 2011)

### Publications

- Featured in several issues of *Emory Lawyer Magazine* as the Law School Alumni Board President ([Fall 2013](#) p. 26-27, [Summer 2014](#) p. 18, [Winter 2015](#) p. 25)
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## Services

IP Licensing, Transactions & Agreements  
Litigation  
Post-Grant  
Patent Litigation  
Trade Secret Litigation  
Trademark, Copyright & Media Litigation

## Industries

Energy & Chemicals  
Digital Health  
Electrical & Computer Technology  
Software & Internet  
Manufacturing

## Admissions

Georgia (2000)  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (2003)  
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit  
U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia  
U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Georgia  
U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas

## Education

J.D., Emory University School of Law (2000) Member, *Emory Law Journal*  
B.S. *cum laude*, Chemical Engineering, University of Michigan (1996)