

Stefan Geirhofer

ASSOCIATE

Technology
Transactions
Washington, D.C.

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FOCUS AREAS

Artificial Intelligence and
Machine Learning
Mobile Devices
Semiconductors
Software
Technology Transactions

HIGHLIGHTS

- Trusted IP and Technology Advisor**
Stefan assists leading technology companies with their most complex and strategic IP and commercial transactions.
- Industry Expertise**
Before his law practice, Stefan worked in the R&D department of a leading semiconductor company and served as a delegate in a large technical standardization group.
- Litigation Experience**
Stefan is experienced in navigating intellectual property disputes, and his litigation background helps him evaluate risks and negotiate favorable outcomes for his clients.

EXPERIENCE

Dr. Stefan Geirhofer is an associate in the technology transactions group of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati. Stefan's practice focuses on transactions involving complex technology and intellectual property issues, including mergers and acquisitions, carve-out transactions, transfers and licenses of intellectual property, collaborations, research and development agreements, and joint ventures. Stefan advises clients in a wide array of technologies with concentration on the high-tech and software fields.

Before focusing on transactions, Stefan worked as an intellectual property litigator and represented clients in patent and trade secret disputes through all stages of litigation, including managing fact discovery, taking and defending fact and expert depositions, dispositive motion practice, trial, and appeal. Stefan has appeared before federal district courts, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, and the Patent Trial and Appeal Board.

Stefan has also helped clients navigate and resolve intellectual property disputes prior to litigation, including commercial disputes and license negotiations related to standards-essential patents (SEPs) involving fair, reasonable, and non-discriminatory (FRAND) licensing obligations.

Prior to becoming a lawyer, Stefan worked as a researcher in Qualcomm's R&D department on cellular communications technology and represented the company as a delegate in a large 3GPP standardization group.

In addition to practicing law, Stefan is also an adjunct associate professor at the American University Washington College of Law.

CREDENTIALS

Education

- J.D., Georgetown University Law Center
Magna Cum Laude; Order of the Coif; Articles Editor, Georgetown Law Journal; Leon Robbin Patent Award; George Brent Mickum III Prize
- Ph.D., Electrical Engineering, Cornell University
- Dipl.-Ing. (joint B.S./M.S.), Electrical Engineering, Vienna University of Technology, Austria

Associations and Memberships

- Vice Chair, IP Transactions and Licensing Committee, American Bar Association, Section of Intellectual Property Law
- Vice Chair, Technical Standardization Committee, American Bar Association, Section for Science & Technology Law
- Board Member, Book Publishing Board, American Bar Association, Sections for Intellectual Property Law and Science & Technology Law
- Young Lawyer Representative, Intellectual Property Committee, American Bar Association, Section of Antitrust Law

Admissions

- Bar of the District of Columbia
- U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

MATTERS

Select Transactional Matters*

- Advised **Anthropic** on its multibillion-dollar strategic commercial deal with AWS
- Advised **Dolby Laboratories** in connection with Via Licensing's acquisition of MPEG LA
- Represented **Qualcomm** in connection with its acquisition of Veoneer, a Sweden-based automotive company
- Represented **General Atlantic** in connection with several investments in the gaming, healthcare, and automotive sectors
- Advised a **major U.S. provider of utility meters** in its spin-off of gas-regulator and gas-meter technology to a solution provider for utility companies
- Advised **Elanco Animal Health** in connection with its \$7.6 billion carve-out of Bayer's animal-health business
- Represented a **major Japanese technology company** in license negotiations relating to 4G LTE standards-essential patents and FRAND issues
- Represented a **large Japanese consumer electronic company** in license negotiations concerning Wi-Fi standards-essential patents
- Advised a **multinational battery manufacturer** in connection with trademark licenses and supply/distribution agreements
- Represented a **major Japanese pharmaceutical company** in connection with an R&D collaboration with a virtual-reality start-up
- Advised a **Canadian pharmaceutical company** in connection with a license and commercial agreement for drugs designed to alleviate chronic pain

Select Litigation Matters*

- Defended **SAP SE** in two related actions concerning alleged trade secret misappropriation and antitrust claims
- Defended **Twitter** in connection with patent infringement claims related to Twitter's social media platform
- Defended **Simmons Bedding Company** in a Federal Circuit appeal concerning Simmons's successful invalidation of two design patents
- Represented clients in connection with more than a dozen *inter partes* review proceedings before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board

* Includes matters handled prior to joining Wilson Sonsini.

INSIGHTS

Select Publications

- Co-author, “AI & New Space: The Next Frontier?” *SatMagazine*, January 2025
- Co-author, “Foundational Models: Building Blocks for Generative AI Applications,” *Competition Policy International*, September 7, 2023
- Co-author, “Do’s and Don’ts for Developing, Extending, and Using Generative AI Models,” *The Computer & Internet Lawyer*, May 2, 2023
- Co-author, “Antitrust Issues Involving Intellectual Property,” *2022 Annual Review of Antitrust Law Developments*, March 2023
- Co-author, “Features of Procompetitive Collaborations in the Life Sciences,” *Competition Policy International*, March 2021
- Co-author, “Network Densification: The Dominant Theme for Wireless Evolution into 5G,” *IEEE Communications Magazine*, February 2014
- Co-author, “Multiple Antenna Techniques for LTE-Advanced,” *LTE, the UMTS Long Term Evolution: From Theory to Practice*, John Wiley & Sons, 2012
- Co-author, “Downlink MIMO in LTE-Advanced: SU-MIMO vs. MU-MIMO,” *IEEE Communications Magazine*, February 2012
- Co-author, “Dynamic Spectrum Access in the Time Domain: Modeling and Exploiting White Space,” *IEEE Communications Magazine*, May 2007

Select Speaking Engagements

- Moderator, “Exploring the Intersection of Open Source and Trademarks,” American Bar Association, Section for Science & Technology Law, February 18, 2025
- Moderator, “MMA Filings: Nuts and Bolts,” American Bar Association, Section for Antitrust Law, February 10, 2025
- Speaker, “How the Law Affects Your Small Business: Intellectual Property Basics,” D.C. Bar Pro Bono Center, February 20, 2024
- Moderator, “Proprietary Interfaces & Technological Tying,” American Bar Association, February 9, 2024
- Panelist, “Nuts and Bolts: Licensing – IP & Antitrust,” American Bar Association, January 8, 2024
- Panelist, “IPRs and the ‘Right to Repair,’” American Bar Association, December 6, 2023
- Speaker, “Managing Intellectual Property for Nonprofits and Small Businesses,” DC Bar Pro Bono Center, March 22, 2023