

## William Zac Duffy



### Overview

Shareholder [Dallas](#)  
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### Education

J.D. from South Texas College of Law Houston *cum laude*

- *Currents International Trade Law Journal* (Editor in Chief)
- Order of the Lytae (Top 10%)

B.B.A. from University of Oklahoma

### Bar Admissions

Texas

United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

United States District Court for the Eastern, Northern,  
Southern and Western Districts of Texas

### Related Practices

Intellectual Property  
Intellectual Property Litigation  
Litigation  
Employment Litigation  
Intellectual Property Litigation  
Trade Secrets

### Related Industries

Financial Services

Zac focuses his practice on commercial litigation and intellectual property law. He received his undergraduate degree in Management Information Systems (MIS) at the University of Oklahoma and spent several years working as a technical resource at a software company that served banks and other financial institutions. Zac counsels companies on a number of legal issues relating to intellectual property, technology and data privacy.

Zac's technical background has been invaluable to clients in litigation that involves some form of technology, including copyright infringement, patent litigation and complex trade secret cases. He has also assisted clients with software contracts, including software as a service (SaaS) agreements and contracts to develop new software applications.

He also helps his clients protect their intellectual property by identifying relevant assets and then executing a strategy to protect those assets. He has filed a large number of trademark applications with the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) and has represented clients in trademark opposition proceedings brought by competitors before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board (TTAB). In addition, Zac has worked with clients to seize internet domain addresses registered by competitors in bad faith pursuant to the Uniform Domain Name Registration Policy (UDRP) established by the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN).

Zac provides counsel on data privacy and cyber security law, including the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA) and European General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). He has also assisted companies in responding to data breach incidents, and has represented

Manufacturing  
Retail  
Technology & Telecommunications  
Restaurants

clients involved in regulatory actions by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) related to data security and privacy, such as FTC enforcement actions under the United States Privacy Shield program.

## Achievements

*Thomson Reuters* – Texas Rising Stars (2011-2018)

## Experience

### Privacy Shield Program

Defended a company in enforcement action by the FTC alleging it did not comply with the Privacy Shield program and made misleading statements in its website privacy policy.

### Patent Litigation

Represented local beauty supply company in a series of cases to enforce a patented hair styling device and method and assisted them in building their portfolio of trademarked brands.

### Trade Secrets

Won summary judgment on behalf of an executive and his new company in a case alleging he had misappropriated trade secrets and violated a covenant not to compete by doing business with customers of his former employer.

### Software and Tech

Worked with expert witness to review and analyze competitor's source code as part of dispute over the manner in which their application performed certain functions.

### Patent Litigation

Handled complex patent litigation involving a variety of products, including software applications, video cameras, network routers and medical devices.

### Design + Manufacturing

Represented companies and former business partners in disputes over which party owns the rights to product designs and the use of a manufacturing process.

## Patent Litigation

Represented a company that created a new hair styling product in litigation to enforce patent. (Northern District of Texas).

## Patent Litigation

Represented two security service companies, Trover Group, Inc. and The Security Center, Inc., in a case involving the enforcement of patents related to digital video security systems. (Eastern District of Texas).

## Patent Litigation

Defended Lennox Industries, Inc. in a patent infringement lawsuit filed by a non-practicing entity over mobile software applications.

## Copyright, Patent + Trademarks

Represented a manufacturing company based in China and Los Angeles, California in a variety of intellectual property disputes relating to products that it designs and sells to retailers worldwide.

## Trademarks

Represented franchisee sued by franchisor for unpaid royalties, trademark infringement and related violations of the Lanham Act.

## Trademarks

Represented a beverage company in a trademark opposition case before the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

## Trademarks

Served as counsel for a non-profit that was sued for trademark infringement, dilution, domain name cybersquatting and other claims. (Northern District of Texas).

## Employment Disputes

Defended client against allegations of breach of covenant not to compete and misappropriation of trade secrets.

## FLSA

Served as counsel for employer in a class action by former employees who alleged that the company failed to pay overtime and minimum wages as required by the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA).

## Newsroom

**Press Release:** Munsch Hardt Announces 2022 Promotions to Equity Shareholder and Shareholder

**In The News:** Leo India Films Order of Dismissal

**Article:** Does Your Trade Secret Attorney Know Patents?

**Article:** The Top Blockchain Patents of 2018

**In The News:** Munsch Hardt Doubles IP Litigation Practice through Acquisition

**In The News:** Dallas Trial Boutique to Close as Munsch Hardt Hires Its Lawyers

**Press Release:** Munsch Hardt Joins Forces with McDole Williams, Strengthening Its Commercial Litigation and IP Practices

**Article:** Fifth Circuit Overrules NLRB on Collective Action Waivers

**Speech:** Employment in the Energy Sector, Key Terms in Employment Agreements and Workplace Policies