

Mayer Brown Nabs IP Litigator From Kilpatrick Townsend

By **Stewart Bishop**

Law360, New York (March 14, 2013, 8:48 PM ET) -- Mayer Brown LLP on Wednesday said it has recruited a former Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP patent litigator with experience representing technology companies to join the firm in Washington, D.C., as a partner in its intellectual property practice.

Stephen Baskin has led and chaired numerous high-profile patent actions for over 20 years. He is well-versed in representing a broad array of companies in patent disputes, ranging from giant multinational corporations to small startups and technology companies, among other entities, according to the firm.

"Steve is a highly regarded patent litigator with a well-established reputation for handling complex cases, and his proven managerial talents will further strengthen our patent litigation capabilities in Washington, D.C., and beyond," Alan Grimaldi, co-leader of the firm's global intellectual property practice said in a statement.

Baskin regularly defends companies involved in disputes connected to computer software, electrical, telecommunications, mechanical and business method patents, the firm said.

"Our practice has grown dramatically in recent years, particularly in the technology and life sciences industries, through the addition of leading lawyers, such as Steve, who have the requisite technical expertise to meet our clients' needs," said John Mancini, who also heads up Mayer Brown's global IP practice.

Baskin also has considerable experience representing financial services, software and technology companies in other kinds of complex litigation, such as the enforcement of trade secrets and noncompetition agreements, managing internal corporate investigations and other types of high-stakes business litigation.

He said Mayer Brown's stellar reputation for handling high-level patent litigation, along with its top-notch talent, global platform and capabilities across a wide array of practice areas was especially appealing to him.

"They have a really strong group nationally and in D.C. that's strategically focused on growing the patent litigation and IP practices," Baskin told Law360. "I'm looking forward to being able to enhance that vision for growth."

Over the past few years, Baskin's practice has been focused on the software and electrical sectors, and he said each individual action brings its own nuances that keep it interesting.

"In each case, you've got a different client that's involved in a different kind of technology," Baskin said. "It's very interesting to me to learn the ins and outs and really get immersed in that technology. Every case is unique."

Going forward, Baskin said he plans to take advantage of Mayer Brown's international platform to bolster his practice in D.C., nationally and beyond.

An active community member, Baskin is chair of the corporate executive council for the American Cancer Society and is on the boards of ThanksUSA, which supports armed forces members and their families, and Washington-area advocacy group DC Appleseed. He also speaks on issues related to the D.C. legal market.

He is admitted to practice in Virginia, D.C., D.C. federal court, the Eastern District of Texas, the Eastern District of Virginia, the Northern District of Ohio, the D.C. Circuit, the Ninth Circuit and the Sixth Circuit.

Baskin earned his law degree from Case Western Reserve University School of Law, and his bachelor's degree from Ohio University.

--Editing by Katherine Rautenberg.

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