



VLP LAW GROUP LLP

VLP Strengthens Trademark Practice with Addition of Scott Austin

Fort Lauderdale, FL (March 18, 2013) – VLP Law Group LLP is very pleased to announce that trademark attorney Scott R. Austin, Board Certified by the Florida Bar in Intellectual Property Law, has joined the firm from Gordon & Rees LLP.

Mr. Austin has broad expertise in intellectual property matters, including patent, copyright and trademark disputes, UDRP proceedings, and disputes involving antitrust, Internet law and ICANN policy and governance.

Mr. Austin also has a programming background and an IT law practice, which includes assisting clients with software development, cloud computing and service level agreements, online terms and conditions and EULA's, technology licensing and privacy policies. He has represented numerous clients in software litigation, as well as counseling clients in data breach remediation and responding to unlicensed software audits by software copyright enforcement agencies such as the Business Software Alliance and the Software & Information Industry Association.

He has handled patent, trademark and copyright infringement litigation both in federal court and before administrative tribunals such as the ITC and TTAB. He is a panelist arbitrator for the National Arbitration Forum (NAF) which oversees the arbitration of domain name disputes under ICANN's Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy. He has also been involved in the development of ICANN policies as a member of multiple ICANN Working Groups and intellectual property watchdog groups, including the International Trademark Association's Internet Committee Subcommittee on new gTLDs and the Intellectual Property Constituency that comments on ICANN's policies and Internet regulation over gTLD applicants, registrars and registries.

"Mr. Austin's background and experience will add to the depth of our trademark practice, expand our capabilities in opposition and cancellation proceedings, as well as provide us with particular expertise in domain name disputes arbitration and Internet law, allowing us to enhance and expand the IP services we offer our clients," said Brian Davis, member of VLP Law Group's Executive Committee. "We are excited to have him join our growing team."

Mr. Austin has written extensively on intellectual property issues and has taught intellectual property and internet law. He is also active in key legislative committees of the Florida State Bar.

"I am very pleased to be joining VLP Law Group. This is an exciting opportunity for me to pursue recent advances in trademark and IT law and to provide clients with a progressive but cost-effective approach to legal representation," Mr. Austin stated. "I look forward to contributing to the firm's growth and success."

About VLP's Intellectual Property Practice

Our Intellectual Property practice is dedicated to providing the best protection of our clients' intellectual property (IP) at the most cost-effective rates available. We provide services across a range of industries, including biotechnology, high technology, clean technology, pharmaceutical technology, medical devices, software, engineering solutions and other cutting edge technologies directed to meet the particular needs and stage of development of our clients. Our attorneys and specialists can offer companies counseling, strategic advice and specific protection for intellectual property in the fields of patent, trademark, copyright and trade secret.

In addition, we work closely with clients to develop business strategies to enhance intellectual property protection and to advance its commercialization. We oversee our clients' interests in a variety of business transactions, such as licensing, drafting joint development and strategic alliance arrangements and addressing the IP aspects of everyday business endeavors and potential litigation risks.

We specialize in building clients' IP portfolios strategically and cost-effectively, while mentoring clients to achieve the greatest value for their technology and resources and to use their internal resources whenever possible. When it comes to patents, we do not just prepare and file patent applications - we evaluate patent portfolios and analyze existing patent technology licenses, and then structure in-house IP protection processes and draft patent applications based on this knowledge and the intended outcome. We guide protection of branding and marks, including trademark selection, clearance and registration, structuring and restructuring trademark ownership and trademark and copyright support. We represent clients in copyright law and protection of artistic works and find creative ways to protect these valuable, creative works.

About VLP

Founded in 2008, VLP is a business and transactional law firm that delivers top quality, efficient and cost-effective legal services. Our practice reaches across many industry sectors, including high tech, life sciences, angel and venture capital financings, clean tech, retail, consumer product, commercial lending and real estate. VLP has continued its strong growth, and is made up of noted attorneys with significant experience who believe VLP's unique, client-oriented and cost-effective model is the best platform for their practice. Our partners are regularly recognized by their peers as outstanding attorneys, and the firm has been recognized as a top company for its promotion of quality of life in the workplace. Our lean model means that we can provide sophisticated, focused services to our clients, and we can do it at competitive rates.

VLP partners represent clients that vary in size from individual executives and early-stage startups to Fortune 500 companies. Our clients include public and private corporations, venture capital investors, private equity funds, educational institutions, nonprofits and individuals. We provide general corporate, licensing, contract, intellectual property protection and counseling, securities regulation, financing, employment, merger and acquisition, real estate, tax and other legal services.