






Scott Austin

Attorney

 Florida
 (954) 204-3744
 saustin@vlplawgroup.com

Scott Austin is a Florida Bar Board Certified Intellectual Property attorney with a desire and vision to build lasting relationships and secure the brands and innovations that shape online business and technology. He is proud for the past 30 years to have obtained Intellectual Property protection for and defended through litigation some of the most innovative Fortune 500's and start-ups in America and around the world. With an understanding of both the technical (programming background) and business (MBA and business founder) aspects of protecting and monetizing brands and technology Scott views the litigation process as a tool - a means to achieve a business objective. He is also one of seven members worldwide of ICANN's Public Interest Commitment Dispute Resolution Procedure (PICDRP) Standing Panel as well as a member of the National Arbitration Forum panel of neutrals arbitrating international domain name disputes under ICANN's UDRP, URS and PICDRP processes. He has represented clients before the ITC and in federal court on patent, trademark and copyright infringement claims and defending against patent trolls. He also protects brands before the TTAB in trademark oppositions and cancellations, and in DMCA takedowns involving content copyright infringement and online defamation.

Scott also counsels clients in the areas of unfair competition, the protection and misappropriation of trade secrets and trade dress, and related trade regulation matters. Scott's dispute resolution skills are backed by years of experience negotiating and litigating complex technology transaction agreements, such as terms of use, terms of service, cloud storage agreements, privacy policies, COPPA compliance, SaaS, SLA and keyword and adword challenges.

Scott's experience in enforcement and defense of brands, creative works and online content is worldwide and covers many industries, including: fashion houses, film, television and media

producers, health care providers, health and fitness products, professional athletes and college sports teams, news organizations, book publishers, producers of wine, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals and firearms, education and religious institutions, and automobile manufacturers. Scott also has contributed to changes in IP laws, policies and regulations through participation on major committees and working groups for legal and trade associations such as INTA, ICANN and The Florida Bar Business Law Section.

VLP's approach provides the infrastructure to seamlessly team with in-house counsel and utilize client's support staff so that our efforts stay focused on favorable results and settlements within defined budgets. In those roles he learned how to respond aggressively to help executives and managers obtain reliable answers to legal questions they could count on for risk assessment and decisive action.

Prior to joining VLP, Scott served as a partner in the Intellectual Property and Business Transactions practice groups of a national West Coast law firm. Scott has taught intellectual property law as an adjunct professor of law and chaired the Florida Bar Business Law Section's Corporations, Securities and Financial Services Committee for two terms. He has received awards from the Florida Bar for his work on revisions to Florida's business law statutes, which were adopted by the Florida legislature.

Practice Areas

- ➔ Corporate
- ➔ Emerging Growth Companies & Venture Capital
- ➔ Entertainment & Media
- ➔ Intellectual Property
- ➔ Mergers & Acquisitions
- ➔ Technology Transactions
- ➔ Web & E-commerce
- ➔ Education

Admissions

- ➔ State Bar of Florida
- ➔ U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida
- ➔ U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit
- ➔ U.S. Supreme Court

Professional or Trade Affiliations

- ➔ Board Certified in Intellectual Property Law by The Florida Bar
- ➔ Member, ICANN Public Interest Commitment Dispute Resolution Procedure (PICDRP) Standing Panel
- ➔ ICANN Working Group member, Rights Protection Mechanisms
- ➔ ICANN Working Group member, Vertical Integration for Generic Top Level Domains
- ➔ ICANN Working Group member, Internationalized Registration Data

- ➔ International Trademark Association, Top Level Domain Name Subcommittee and Registration Practice and Domain Name Subcommittee
- ➔ Former Chair, Florida Bar - Corporations, Securities & Financial Services Committee
- ➔ Florida Bar Award for work on the development of limited liability company law in Florida
- ➔ Member, Intellectual Property Committee, The Florida Bar

Education

- ➔ J.D., Georgetown University Law Center, (Law Review Editor, Georgetown International Law Journal; Author, Note "Advertising Regulation in the Peoples Republic of China")
- ➔ M.B.A., Ohio University, , Beta Gamma Sigma (emphasis in Finance and Marketing)
- ➔ B.S. *summa cum laude*, Ohio University, (Journalism)

Honors & Awards

- ➔ Florida Superlawyer, Intellectual Property Litigation

Recent Publications

- ➔ VLP Partner Scott Austin Quoted in Bloomberg BNA Article “‘Comic Con’ Trademark Genericness Dispute Heading to Trial” (Sep 27, 2017)
- ➔ VLP Intellectual Property Partner Scott Austin Quoted in Bloomberg Law Article “Did Melania Trump Infringe 2008 Obama Speech?” (Jul 19, 2016)
- ➔ VLP Law Group Partner, Scott Austin Authors IP Watchdog article “The New Generation of Multi-Level Internet Real Estate” (Mar 10, 2015)
- ➔ VLP Strengthens Trademark Practice with Addition of Scott Austin (Mar 18, 2013)
- ➔ VLP Intellectual Property Partner Scott Austin, former columnist, “Law & Technology” for the Daily Business Review; Florida (Apr 1, 2009)
- ➔ VLP Partner Scott Austin Authors “Who's Data is it Anyway,” E-Publications/Technology Committee of the Cleveland Bar Association (Nov 1, 2006)

Blog Posts

- ➔ Your Order is Ready - How ‘Bout Your Website? (Apr 29, 2019)
- ➔ Protecting Your Domain Name: What do Bruce Springsteen and Venus and Serena Williams all Have in Common? (Jan 22, 2019)
- ➔ Why You Should Copyright Your Logo (Jun 27, 2018)
- ➔ Copyright Resolutions and Solutions for 2017 (Jan 19, 2017)