

NAMWOLF Intellectual Property Practice Area Committee New Co-Chair Announcement

The NAMWOLF Board of Directors is pleased to announce the selection of Nancy J. Mertzel, a partner at Schoeman Updike Kaufman & Stern LLP, New York, NY, as the new Co-chair of the NAMWOLF Intellectual Property Practice Area Committee ("IP PAC"), effective September 2014.

Ms. Mertzel protects brand names, products, content and technology. Her diverse intellectual property practice includes handling both transactional and litigation matters. Ms. Mertzel has represented clients engaged in a variety of business endeavors including consumer goods, entertainment, financial services, health care, hospitality, publishing, music, software development and technology. Since 2009, she has been listed among the New York Super Lawyers for Intellectual Property Litigation.

Ms. Mertzel's litigation experience includes obtaining numerous preliminary injunctions in trademark and copyright infringement actions in the federal courts, handling disputes before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board, and recovering dozens of domain names from cybersquatters. Her notable victories include obtaining a summary judgment ruling that the individual numbers comprising a financial index were not copyrightable, proving "striking similarity" in a music trial, and recovering a generic domain that was hijacked from a client's account by an anonymous overseas registrant. She has handled numerous disputes between software developers and customers, has an affinity for cases involve technology, source code and data, and enjoys deposing computer programmers.

On the transactional side, Ms. Mertzel clears brands for new products, prosecutes trademark applications, and negotiates license agreements. She handles transactions involving source code and online distribution issues, and has drafted software development agreements, software licenses and online publishing agreements. She has also negotiated advertising agreements and provided strategic advice regarding online distribution of musical performances, ringtones and other content.

Ms. Mertzel is an active member of the American Intellectual Property Law Association, where she will be joining the Board of Directors this month, and serves as co-chair of its LGBT diversity sub-committee. She has also been an active member and Trustee of the Copyright Society of the USA.

The NAMWOLF Intellectual Property Practice Committee includes a group of law firms and attorneys having a focus on all aspects of intellectual property law. The IP Practice Committee was organized to foster collaboration with its members, and to provide a resource to other non-IP NAMWOLF attorneys and law firms as well as a resource for corporate counsel desiring opportunities to work with NAMWOLF firms on IP-related matters. The IP Practice Committee's member firms have significant experience in all aspects of patent, trademark, copyright, trade secret, unfair competition, data rights, computer/internet/privacy law, and other IP-related areas including prosecution, litigation, licensing, and transactional matters. The IP Practice Committee strives to facilitate opportunities for corporate entities and NAMWOLF member firms to develop mutually beneficial partnerships to advance the goals of all parties. Furthermore, the IP Practice Committee provides continuing legal education (CLE) programs, organizes corporate on-site meetings, and works on policy and other initiatives to further advance NAMWOLF's goals and to help establish practical relationships and engagements with corporate counsel and within the IP bar as a whole.