



Francisco A Villegas
Counsel

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Practice Areas

Intellectual Property and Technology, Patent Litigation, Patent - Post-Grant Proceedings, Due Diligence and Corporate Support, Corporate, Private Equity and Venture Capital, Regional Practices, Israel Practice

Education

Cornell University Law School (J.D. 1999); Stanford University (M.S., Mechanical Engineering, 1996; B.S., Mechanical Engineering, 1994; B.A., Political Science, 1994)

Bar Admissions

New York State; California State; Connecticut State; District of Columbia; U.S. District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York; U.S. District Courts for the Northern, Central, and Eastern Districts of California; U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

Francisco Villegas is a member of Cohen & Gresser's Intellectual Property and Technology practice. He represents domestic and international companies at all stages of maturity, from pre-seed to publicly traded, on matters across a wide variety of disciplines, such as media streaming, data analytics, aerospace, massively multiplayer online gaming, heavy machinery, medical devices, social media, fiber optic systems, machine learning, the Internet of Things, and telecommunications.

His IP practice includes counseling and litigation in asset valuation, licensing, enforcement and defense, patent opinions (infringement, validity, and freedom to operate product clearances), trademarks, and patent post-grant proceedings (*inter partes* review, reissues, and *ex parte* reexaminations). He has represented clients in IP matters in the Northern and Central Districts of California, the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York, the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, the Eastern District of Texas, and the District of Delaware.

Additionally, Francisco works with clients in all areas of technology, innovation, and transactions, including advising on mergers and acquisitions, deal sourcing, joint ventures, product development, SaaS, IP monetization, privacy, and venture capital.

Francisco was recognized in the 2014 and 2015 editions of the *Chambers USA* guide in the Intellectual Property: Patent category, has been recognized as a leading patent practitioner by *Intellectual Asset Management's* "Patent 1000" each year since 2015, and has been named one of New York's *Super Lawyers* for Intellectual Property: Litigation each year since 2014.

Before attending law school, Francisco was a mechanical engineer at Johnson & Johnson and General Electric. Prior to joining the firm, Francisco practiced at Ropes & Gray LLP and Fish & Neave LLP. Francisco is fluent in Spanish and is a member of the firm's Diversity Committee.

Software

Defended gaming machine manufacturer against three software patents concerning multiplayer interactive video gaming and networking technology. Obtained multiple jury verdicts of invalidity despite the patents having been confirmed multiple times in reexamination before the Patent Office.

Defended big three automobile manufacturer against a patent licensing entity in a case concerning online sales methods. The matter was settled on favorable terms.

Represented an institutional patent client against a social media site concerning privacy based technology. The matter was settled early in litigation and on favorable terms.

Mechanical Components

Represented fire suppression manufacturer against a leading aerospace company and a major industrial conglomerate in a patent infringement action concerning the use of nitrogen to prevent and extinguish fires. The case settled on favorable terms.

Defended international manufacturer in patent litigation concerning a traction system for use in industrial equipment. Obtained summary judgment of non-infringement.

Represented an industrial automation company against an international manufacturing systems integrator in a patent infringement action concerning scaling temperatures probes. The case settled on favorable terms.

Electronics

Defended accused infringer in a patent infringement action involving semiconductor manufacturing technology.

Represented plaintiff in patent litigation concerning ion generation for mass spectral analysis resulting in a judgment of patent infringement.

Medical Devices

Represented medical device company in patent jury trial concerning cardiac stents resulting in an \$8.3 million jury verdict.

Represented medical device manufacturer in litigation concerning a delivery system for cancer radiation therapy. Settled on favorable terms.

Represented medical device manufacturer in litigation concerning catheters. Settled on favorable terms.

Financial Transactions & Consumer Products

Defended software company in a patent infringement case involving web-based credit application management systems.

Defended major retailer against a patent licensing entity in a dispute concerning debit and gift card transaction technology. Settled on favorable terms following discussions of invalidating prior art.

Defended plastic beverage container manufacturer in litigation concerning patents relating stackable containers.

Telecommunications

Represented plaintiff in patent litigation concerning cellular phone standards. Settled on favorable terms.

Represented a small institutional patent client in litigation against an international telecommunications wholesaler concerning VoIP technology. The case settled early in litigation, and on favorable terms.

Representing an international innovation company against a large telecommunications company in patent litigation concerning electronic program guides.

Defended a telecommunications carrier against a non-practicing entity in patent litigation concerning ring-back tone technology. The case settled early in litigation, and on favorable terms.

Activities and Affiliations

Member, Eastern District of Texas Bar Association

Member, New York Intellectual Property Law Association

Member, International Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property, U.S. National Group

Member, International Trademark Association