

Daniel Higgs

Of Counsel

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Dan higgs helps medical device, healthcare technology, and industrial clients build, protect, and maximize the value of their patent portfolios.

Dan advises clients on U.S. and international patent prosecution, post-grant proceedings before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), and portfolio strategy and management. His practice includes product clearance analyses, non-infringement and invalidity opinions, patent due diligence, and licensing matters.

In addition to private practice, Dan served as Chief IP Counsel for MedVenture, an investment group focused on medical device and health technology companies. In that role, he managed intellectual property across a portfolio of companies ranging from startup to established, procuring U.S. and international patent and trademark protection, asserting patents against infringers, defending against validity challenges, and advising on intellectual property aspects of acquisitions, mergers, technology transactions, and exits. He also conducted IP risk analyses and due diligence evaluations for potential investments.

Dan draws on that in-house experience to counsel clients from the boardroom to the patent office, helping decision makers align intellectual property strategy with business objectives. Dan's technical background gives him firsthand fluency in a broad range of medical devices, including radiofrequency ablation devices, endoscopes, stents and other implantable devices, vascular access devices, needleless connectors, analyte detection and monitoring systems, patient monitoring systems, orthopedic and intraocular implants, and dental prostheses. His experience also extends to technologies outside the medical space, including automotive safety and fuel conversion systems, hydraulic fracturing, semiconductor fabrication, lidar, and optical systems.

Select Experience

- Avanos Med., Inc. v. Stratus Med., LLC (IPR2024-01209, -01210, -01211, -1212) –

Education

- University of California, Berkeley (J.D., 2005)
- University of Utah (B.S., Physics, 2002)
 - *summa cum laude*

Bar Admissions

- Utah
- California
- United States Patent and Trademark Office

Back-up counsel for owner of U.S. Patent Nos. 10,925,664; 10,736,688; and 10,966,782, directed to radiofrequency neurotomy surgical instruments. Pending. *

- Taprogge GmbH v. K & S Invs., L.P. (Control No. 90/013,995) –Filed request for ex parte reexamination of U.S. Patent No. 9,370,778, directed to industrial eggshell membrane separation processes, resulting in cancellation of all claims. *
- Ultradent Prods., Inc. v. CAO Group (IPR2016-00838) – Lead counsel representing the petitioner challenging U.S. Patent No.8,337,097, directed to surgical laser systems.Settled under confidential terms prior to institution. *
- Chums, Inc. et al. v. Cablz Inc. (IPR2014-01240, IPR2015-00602) – Lead counsel representing the petitioners challenging U.S. Patent No. 8,366,268, directed to eyeglass retainers.All claims found unpatentable. Affirmed on appeal. *

* Experience occurred prior to joining Dorsey.

Court Admissions

- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Central District of California

Professional Affiliations

- Co-founder, ElectraFly, 2017-Present
- Selection Committee Liaison, Utah Innovation Awards, 2012-2013
- Planning Committee, nanoUtah 2009, 5th Annual Utah Statewide Nanotechnology Conference, 2009