



CHRISTOPHER R. BUTLER

PARTNER



Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP

200 Public Square
Suite 2800
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

phone: 216.274.2333

email: cbutler@hahnlaw.com

PRIMARY PRACTICES

Trademarks

Copyright

Trademark Litigation

Intellectual Property

Licensing & Technology Transfer

Patents

Nonprofit & Art Law

Business Law

Mergers & Acquisitions

Data Privacy

Christopher R. Butler harnesses his background in both intellectual property law and business administration to effectively guide clients through the intricacies of obtaining, protecting, leveraging, and enforcing intellectual property assets, including trademarks, copyrights, trade secrets and patents, as well as understanding and appreciating their effect on larger business decisions. A registered attorney at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Chris focuses his practice on all aspects of trademark and copyright law, including clearance, prosecution, enforcement, licensing, and related transactions. He has helped clients create worldwide portfolios in a variety of industries to safeguard their innovations and support sound business decisions across the globe.

Trademark and Copyright Law

Chris has a wide range of experience in trademark portfolio management and enforcement. He regularly performs domestic and international clearance searches for trademarks and advises clients with respect to the use, registrability and infringement of trademarks throughout the world. Additionally, Chris prepares and prosecutes trademark and copyright applications and works with clients to implement enforcement strategies, including claims in federal courts throughout the United States and trademark opposition and cancellation proceedings before the U.S. Trademark Trial and Appeal Board.

Additionally, Chris works closely with clients to develop comprehensive intellectual property portfolios and handles the negotiation and preparation of license agreements, assignments, non-disclosure agreements, and consent and co-existence agreements relating to all aspects of intellectual property. Through thoughtful consideration of the needs and goals of each client, Chris creates a personalized protection plan for every client portfolio, with an eye toward furthering specific business goals.

Business Transactions

Chris has always held a passion for the impact of intellectual property issues on business matters. He works closely with Hahn Loeser's mergers & acquisitions team to negotiate agreements involving intellectual property assets. Chris brings unique insights to clients on how intellectual property assets influence brand awareness and identity, affect financial and purchasing decisions, and further shape the organizational strategy of a business. He counsels clients in all industries, including the food and beverage, gaming, hospitality, retail, transportation, housing, and museum sectors.

Alcohol Beverage Industry

Chris represents wineries, breweries, distilleries, and other businesses within the alcohol beverage sector, both in the United States and abroad, in matters relating to brand and label creation, expansion, and enforcement. He



is a member of both the International Wine Law Association (AIDV) and the Ohio Wine Producers Association and regularly speaks on issues facing wineries and other businesses in the alcohol beverage sector.

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

Chris serves as global IP counsel to businesses in a variety of industries, including the alcohol beverage, automotive, environmental, fashion and apparel, food and beverage, gaming, hospitality, housing, manufacturing, museum and collections, and trucking industries, with responsibilities including clearance, prosecution, maintenance, and management of over 800 properties throughout the world.

- Helped to develop protocols for use by a museum for determining how and when digital copies of works may be included in an online catalog that is accessed globally.
- Negotiated intellectual provisions with respect to the sale of Ohio Eagle Distributing, a distributor of domestic, imported and craft beers, to Heidelberg Distributing, a company owned by Redwood Holdings.
- Negotiated intellectual provisions with respect to the execution of a transaction for Webster Industries, Inc., an ESOP-owned manufacturing company in Tiffin, Ohio.
- Negotiated intellectual provisions with respect to The Chas. E. Phipps Company's purchase of Machinery & Tool Rentals (MTR), which has been providing Central Ohio with the sale, rental and repair of construction equipment and supplies since 1956.

BAR ADMISSIONS

- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, 2016
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio, 2016
- State of Ohio, 2015
- U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, 2014

EDUCATION

- The University of Akron College of Business Administration, MBA, 2016
- The University of Akron School of Law, J.D., 2015
- Miami University, B.A., Chemistry, 2012

AWARDS & HONORS

- Ones to Watch, Best Lawyers®, Commercial Litigation, 2021-26; Intellectual Property Law, 2022-26, Patent Law, 2023-26; Litigation – Intellectual Property, 2024-26; Non-Profit/Charities Law, 2024-26; Technology Law, 2024-26; Privacy and Data Security Law, 2026
- Rising Star, Ohio Super Lawyers®, Intellectual Property, 2022-26
- Level 2 Award in Wines with Distinction (100%), Wine and Spirits Education Trust, 2021

PUBLICATIONS & SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Copyright, Customs and Other Bad Things at the Border,



November 12, 2021.

- Ten Takeaways for Building & Protecting Your Brand (Numerous Engagements 2022 – present), March 1, 2022.
- A (Plant-Based) Beef (The Trademark Lawyer), June 1, 2022.
- Unfair Practices (Association Internationale des Juristes du Droit de la Vigne et du Vin) (International Wine Law Association), October 18, 2025.

MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

- International Trademark Association (INTA), Member, 2016-present
- American Inns of Court, IP Inn of Court, Member, 2021-2022
- Ohio Wine Producers Association, Member, 2020-present
- Association Internationale des Juristes du Droit de la Vigne et du Vin (International Wine Law Association), Member, 2020-present
- Toastmasters International, Mid-Day Toastmasters Club No. 1790, President, 2018-2020, Member, 2016-2022
- Cleveland Intellectual Property Law Association, 2012-2020

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Law and Leadership Institute, Speaker, 2023-present
- Cuyahoga Valley Trails Council, Volunteer, 2025-present
- The Refugee Response, Student Mentor, 2018-2019
- We Run This City, Volunteer, Registration and Half Marathon Pacer, 2017-2019; Advisory Board Member, 2017-2019
- Junior Achievement, BlitzDay, 2017

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

- Partner, Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP, 2024-present; Associate, 2015-2023; Intellectual Property Law Clerk, 2013-15; Legal Intern, 2009-13