



Richard T. "Rick" Matthews

Partner

Raleigh, NC

P: 919.981.4070

F: 919.981.4300

rmatthews@williamsmullen.com



Rick Matthews concentrates his practice on intellectual property matters, including patent, trademark, copyright, trade secret, licensing and related litigation. He has represented companies in intellectual property disputes in over 40 states as a first-chair trial attorney and in bet-the-company litigation. He has extensive experience handling every aspect of litigation through trial and appeal. His cases have spanned federal courts across the country and before the Patent Trial and Board (PTAB), International Trade Commission (ITC), Trademark Trial and Appeal Board (TTAB), Fourth Circuit, Sixth Circuit, Federal Circuit and Supreme Court.

While Rick has been practicing patent law since 2003, he is also certified by the North Carolina State Bar Board of Legal Specialization as a Specialist in Trademark Law. Rick has been recognized by *Chambers USA* for Intellectual Property Law (2019). He has also been named among North Carolina's "Legal Elite" by *Business North Carolina* (2014-present); listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Trademark Law and Patent Law (2017-present); listed in *North Carolina Super Lawyers* for Intellectual Property Law (2011-2016); and named among the Top 40 Lawyers Under 40 in Intellectual Property for North Carolina by the American Society of Legal Advocates.

Rick is licensed to practice law in North Carolina, Virginia and the District of Columbia, and he is registered to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). Rick received a B.S. in chemistry with a focus in biochemistry from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; a J.D. from the Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law at Campbell University; and a Masters of Law degree in intellectual property law from the George Washington University Law School. He clerked in the ITC's Office of Unfair Import Investigation, focusing on Section 337 patent cases. In addition, he interned at the U.S. Court of Federal Claims for the Honorable Judge Susan G. Braden.

Practice Areas

- Intellectual Property
- Trademarks
- Patent Prosecution
- Copyrights
- Education
- IP Due Diligence & Opinions
- Trade Secrets, Employee Mobility and Restrictive Covenants
- Intellectual Property Litigation
- Emerging Technology
- Solar & Energy Storage
- Renewable Energy
- Wind Energy
- Emerging Companies

Education

- George Washington University School of Law (LL.M., Intellectual Property), 2005
- Campbell University School of Law (J.D.), 2004
Campbell Law Observer ? Editor-in-Chief and Case Law Editor
- University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (B.S., Chemistry, Biochemistry Focus), 1999
American Chemical Society Freshman Chemistry Achievement Award

Professional Affiliations

- American Intellectual Property Law Association ? Special Education Committee; Amicus Committee Member; Membership Committee Board Member; Former NLC-CLE Subcommittee Founder and Chair; Former NLC Vice Chair
- North Carolina Bar Association ? IP Section Council; Ethics Committee co-chair; Litigation Committee co-chair
- Federal Bar Association
- Federal Circuit Bar Association
- American Bar Association ? IP Section
- International Trade Commission Trial Lawyers Association
- Association of University Technology Managers
- U.S. District Court for Eastern District of North Carolina Local Patent Rules Committee Member

Awards

- *Chambers USA* ? Intellectual Property (2019-present)
- *Business North Carolina's* - "Legal Elite," Intellectual Property (2014-present)
- *The Best Lawyers in America*© ? Trademark Law, Patent Law (2017-present)
- *North Carolina Super Lawyers* ? Intellectual Property Law (2011-2016)
- American Society of Legal Advocates ? Top 40 Lawyers Under 40 in Intellectual Property for North Carolina