



Michael I. Katz

Attorney at Law | Shareholder

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Michael I. Katz is highly regarded for his combination of creativity, strategic judgment, and courtroom prowess. He has twenty-five years of experience litigating complex business disputes, including intellectual property, software-related disputes, unfair competition, and business disputes of all kinds. He excels at listening to his clients and tailoring solutions to meet their specific needs.

Michael was formerly a partner at Morrison & Foerster, before running his own firm, Katz & Yoon LLP. He began his career at Simpson Thacher & Bartlett, and served as a law clerk to the Honorable Barbara B. Crabb, U.S. District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin.

Michael has been selected as a “Super lawyer®” for Southern California every year from 2004 through 2021 and has been selected by his peers for inclusion in U.S. News & World Reports Best Lawyers in America® for Intellectual Property since 2016. He is rated AV Preeminent by Martindale Hubbell®.

Education

- J.D., New York University School of Law
- A.B., cum laude, Harvard College

Practice Focus

- Business Litigation

- Intellectual Property Litigation
- Software Disputes
- Trade Secrets

Professional Admissions & Associations

- California State Bar
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Central District of California
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York
- Adjunct Law Professor, Trade Secrets Law, University of California Irvine School of Law
- Board of Directors, Two Worlds Dance Foundation (2017-present)
- Board of Directors, Pacific Symphony (2015-2017)
- Board of Directors, Crohn's & Colitis Foundation (2013-2014)

Awards & Recognition

- U.S. News & World Report's Best Lawyers; Litigation – Intellectual Property, Commercial Litigation (2016 – 2021)
 - Lawyer of the Year; Litigation – Intellectual Property (2020)
- Southern California Super Lawyers (2004 – 2021)
- Martindale Hubble, AV Rated – Intellectual Property Litigation, Complex Business Litigation (2004 – 2021)

Representative Matters

Trade Secret Litigation

- **MACOM v. LITRINIUM**: Obtain dismissal of defendant in bet the company lawsuit brought by an industry leader alleging theft of purported trade secrets related to optical networking technology.
- **BEATPORT v. SOUND CLOUD**: Obtain dismissal of SoundCloud executive in a lawsuit alleging theft of purported trade secrets related to software enabling DJs to locally access a music catalog, curate playlists, and playback audio files.
- **SOFTKETEERS v. REGAL**: Obtain preliminary injunction precluding use of source code in a bet the company litigation alleging trade secret theft and copyright infringement.

- **BROADCOM, INC. v. SPACE EXPLORATION TECHNOLOGIES:** Obtained walk-away settlement for five SpaceX engineers in trade secret misappropriation case involving the design of phased array satellite communication chipset and related technology.
- **TECHNOLOGENT v. OnX:** Defended trade secret misappropriation claim, including prevailing on a motion for terminating sanctions for discovery abuse.
- **MRV COMMUNICATIONS v. ZONU:** Defended a fiber optic component manufacturer in a bet the company unfair competition and trade secret misappropriation case, obtaining terminating sanctions.
- **RE3W v. FIRST AMERICAN:** Defended claims of trade secret misappropriation, breach of oral joint venture agreement, and breach of fiduciary duty in connection with commercial real estate app.
- **HERBALIFE v. GLOBENET:** Obtained a preliminary and permanent injunction on behalf of Herbalife on claims of theft of trade secrets of their MLM business model, and for software development.

Business Litigation

- **AUTOCRIB DIRECTORS LITIGATION:** Obtained complete defense verdict for the board of directors of AutoCrib, Inc. in three-week trial on breach of fiduciary duty claims asserted by minority shareholder.
- **RED DIGITAL CINEMA CAMERA v. USABILITY PRO:** Represented software developer against claims alleging failed software development.
- **CUSTER v. MACHINE TOOL SUPPLY:** Obtained favorable settlement after arbitration on behalf of a company against a minority shareholder alleging wrongful dilution of shares.
- **GEORGE v. YNUC:** Prevailed at trial in partnership dispute over ownership of urgent care management company.
- **MLINAR v. NOBLES MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY:** Represented company against aggrieved investor alleging fraud in the sale of shares.

Patent Litigation

- **ON THE GO v. AT&T et al.:** Represented Cricket Communications against claims of patent infringement and prosecuted claims of patent invalidity and unenforceability involving handset-enabled electronic commerce.
- **ANGEION CORPORATION v. CARDIAC PACEMAKERS:** Prevailed on summary judgment in patent infringement case involving implantable heart defibrillator technology, obtaining a \$35 million settlement.
- **GRAPHIC PROPERTIES HOLDINGS v. VIZIO:** Represented the defendant against a charge of patent infringement regarding LCD panels, TV circuits, and video processing.
- **MEC v. MINDSPEED:** Defended a patent infringement action involving ARM's pipelined processor technology.

Copyright, Trademark and Right of Publicity Litigation

- **QUEST SOFTWARE v. DIRECTV:** Obtained walkaway settlement for DIRECTV in an action for copyright infringement and breach of software licensing agreement.
- **GRINDR SOFTWARE THEFT INVESTIGATION:** Managed investigation for social networking app Grindr regarding

alleged theft and copyright infringement of software source code.

- JADE COSMETICS v. DANG: Represented party in trademark infringement and ownership dispute involving a fast growing cosmetics company.
- HANNAH v. CURRIE TECHNOLOGIES INC.: Successfully represent the actress, Daryl Hannah, in right of publicity suit against ecofriendly bicycle company for improper use of her image.

Class Action Litigation

- McDONALD'S PROMOTIONAL GAMES MDL LITIGATION: Represented McDonald's vendor Simon Marketing in over thirty class actions nationwide and in California alleging unlawful conduct of promotional games.
- DAVIS v. ELECTRONIC ARTS: Represented retired NFLers in class action lawsuit alleging improper use of player's likeness in the Madden NFL videogames.
- STRADER v. PHH CORPORATION: Represented homeowners in class action against Realogy and PHH alleging violations of the Real Estate Settlement Practices Act.

