Intellectual Property Class 2

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Intellectual Property (IP)

- Reading for this Class
 - Introduction to IP
 - Governing Law, Courts, and Agencies
 - Jurisdiction and Venue in Cases of Intellectual Property and Remedies Available
- Assignment #1 Posted



Federal Court

- Patent cases
 - District Court
 - Appeal \rightarrow Federal Circuit
 - Administrative \rightarrow USPTO (PTAB, etc.)
 - Appeal D.C. District and/or Federal Circuit
- Copyright
 - District Court
 - Appeal \rightarrow Local Circuit Court
- Trademark
 - State or Federal
 - Appeal \rightarrow Local State / Circuit

USPTO

- United States Patent & Trademark Office (Abbr. as USPTO)
 - Tells you the procedures to go through in order to get a patent;
 - Examines patent applications to see if they were done correctly;
 - Determines whether particular patents should be granted or not.
 - MPEP and TMEP

USPTO's website: <u>www.uspto.gov</u>

USPTO will <u>grant</u> a patent... but that office <u>does not enforce</u> patents – go to Federal Court for that.

USPTO.gov

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>> patents>> trademarks

Conference September 14-15, 2012

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USPTO NEWS

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Seeks Comment on Proposed Fee Schedule as Mandated by America Invents Act

http://www.uspto.gov/forms/index.jsp

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- 8. The information may be disclosed to the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) for personnel research purposes as a data source for management information, for the production of summary descriptive statistics and analytical studies in support of the function for which the records are collected and maintained, or for related man-power studies.

U.S. Copyright Office

- NOT an administrative agency. Creates and sustains an effective national © system, which ultimately promotes creativity.
- Part of Library of Congress
- 3 main functions
 - Reviews every © submission to determine whether it's eligible for © protection;
 - Provides information to the public regarding copyrighted works;
 - Builds up the Library of Congress' collection (keeps a copy of every work registered).

US Copyright Office's website: www.copyright.gov/

Copyright.gov

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Beijing Audiovisual Performances Treaty

What's New

Testimony, Online Piracy Judiciary Committee

Testimony, Ensuring Efficiency House Administration Committee

Testimony, FY 2013 Appropriations

Verification of Cable and Satellite Statements of Account

About Copyright

- Copyright Basics (en Español)
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)
- Current Fees
- Taking the Mystery Out of Copyright (for students and teachers)

Search Copyright Records

- Registrations and Documents
- Search Request Estimate
- Notices of Restored Copyrights
- Online Service Providers
- Vessel Hull Designs

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How to Register a Work

eCO Login



How to Record a Document

Record a Document

Law and Policy

- Copyright Law
- Federal Register Notices
- Legislative Developments

Copyright Application

Copyright Office fees are subject to change. For current fees, check the Copyright Office website at www.copyright.gov, write the Copyright Office, or call (202) 707-3000.

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International IP

- Some of the International Agreements Affecting IP Law:
 - The Paris Convention
 - Madrid Protocol / The Trademark Law Treaty
 - The Patent Cooperation Treaty
 - The WIPO Copyright Treaty
- International Treaties
 - NAFTA
 - TRIPS



Venue and Jurisdiction

- So... we know we're bringing an IP case in Federal Court, but the question is: which federal court???
- The US has 94 federal districts.
- Each federal district has at least 1 trial court.
- Many districts have more than 1 federal court.

Where, oh Where, is Proper Venue???

- Usually, plaintiff's choice. Not here though. Ohhhhhhh no... ⁽²⁾
 - <u>Copyright</u> Only in a district where the defendant resides or "may be found."
 - <u>Patent</u> Only in a district where the defendant resides or where he "has committed acts of infringement and has a regular and established place of business."
 - <u>Trademark</u> Only in a district where any defendant resides or where "a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the action occurred."

Remedies Available in IP Cases

- Injunctive Relief (Do this, or stop doing that)
- Monetary Damages (collect lost profits)
- Profits Made by the Infringing Party ("Disgorgement")
- Impoundment or Destruction of Offending Materials ('nuf said...)
- Criminal Penalties (ex. If fraud was committed)
- Attorney's Fees & Costs (reasonable attorney's fees; amount spent)

Assignment 1

In White v. Samsung Electronics, 1992 U.S. App. LEXIS 19253 (9th Cir. 1992),

Wheel of Fortune hostess Vanna White sued Samsung for running a commercial that was, in part, <u>based on her and used something</u> <u>resembling her likeness</u>. In a dissenting opinion, cited above, a judge makes the following remark:

"Saddam Hussein wants to keep advertisers from using his picture in unflattering contexts. Clint Eastwood doesn't want tabloids to write about him. Rudolf Valentino's heirs want to control his film biography. The Girl Scouts don't want their image soiled by association with certain activities. George Lucas wants to keep Strategic Defense Initiative fans from calling it "Star Wars." Pepsico doesn't want singers to use the word "Pepsi" in their songs. Guy Lombardo wants an exclusive property right to ads that show big bands playing on New Year's Eve. Uri Geller thinks he should be paid for ads showing psychics bending metal through telekinesis. Paul Prudhomme, that household name, thinks the same about ads featuring corpulent bearded chefs."

Assignment 1, cont.

Property Right: The intellectual property right at issue in this case is trademark rights, in particular the trademark of a person's face and likeness. The owner of such a trademark acquires the right to prevent his likeness from being used in commerce where it would tend to cause confusion in commerce.

The Lanham Act (15 USC § 1125): Right to protect against false or misleading advertising.

In this case, the use of a likeness of a celebrity could cause misleading advertising, giving the impression that the person supports a certain product. The Act provides a "likelihood of confusion" test and in meeting all of the elements of the test, the likeness will be considered a protected trademark.