DAN HALL

Attorney, Shareholder



Dan Hall is an experienced litigator who represents clients in a wide range of trials and appeals in state and federal courts. Dan excels at taking complex fact patterns and legal arguments and crafting concise, logical and persuasive arguments to present to courts and juries. Clients benefit from Dan's extensive trial experience, which includes jury and bench trials involving patent infringement, trustee liability, breach of contract, partnership and shareholder disputes, employment termination, and usurpation of business opportunities.

In 2020, Dan was named an Attorney of the Year by Minnesota Lawyer for his work as part of the defense group that defeated a $42 million breach of fiduciary duty claim in a complex trust case following a 20-day trial. Dan's experience trying both patent infringement and business claims makes him uniquely well-suited to handle business disputes concerning intellectual property issues, patents and trade secrets.

Dan focuses on the most efficient strategy to obtain the results his clients want from the beginning of a case through discovery, dispositive motion practice and trial. He has also served as the primary drafter of briefs filed with the Sixth Circuit, Eight Circuit and Federal Circuit Courts of Appeals, as well as the Minnesota Court of Appeals that resulted in favorable decisions for his clients.

CONTACT

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EDUCATION

J.D., magna cum laude, Boston College Law School
B.A., magna cum laude, Carleton College

ADMISSIONS

State of Massachusetts
State of Minnesota
U.S. District of Massachusetts
U.S. District of Minnesota
U.S. Eastern District of Michigan
U.S. Eastern District of Wisconsin
U.S. 8th Circuit Court of Appeals
U.S. Federal Circuit Court of Appeals

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Member, Hennepin County Bar Association
Member, Minnesota State Bar Association
Member, Federal Bar Association
Member, American Intellectual Property Law Association

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Volunteer Attorney, representing the interests of children who have been removed from their homes because they are in need of protection, Children's Law Center of Minnesota

- New FTC Rule Creates Uncertainty About Non-Compete Agreements, Minnesota Lawyer and Finance & Commerce – Partner Content, May 2024
- Recent Appellate Decisions Clarify Minnesota Trust Laws, Minnesota Lawyer and Finance & Commerce – Partner Content, March 2023
- Practical Tips for Fiduciary Disputes, Minnesota Lawyer and Finance & Commerce – Partner Content, February 2022
- Co-author of "Fiduciary Duty Litigation" chapter of Business and Commercial Litigation in the Federal Courts, 5th Edition, 2022, which is the leading complex business litigation treatise.
- Shareholder-employees who report violations of their fiduciary duties may be protected whistleblowers, Minnesota Lawyer and Finance & Commerce – Partner Content, September

AWARDS & HONORS

- Recognized by The Best Lawyers in America, 2027
- Twin Cities Business Notable Litigation and Trial Attorney Honoree, 2026
- Selected as a "Minnesota Lawyer's "Attorney of the Year," 2021
- Selected to the "Minnesota Rising Stars" list by Super Lawyers, 2015 – 2024
- Selected to the "Minnesota Super Lawyers" list by Super Lawyers, 2025 – Present
- Order of the Coif, Boston College Law School

2020

- Is All Patent Infringment Willful?, Attorney at Law Magazine, Minnesota Edition, December 2016
- Will a Minnesota Patent Lawsuit Lead to Meaningful Reform?, Attorney at Law Magazine, Twin Cities Edition, December 2014

RESULTS

EXPERIENCE

DISMISSAL OF $42 MILLION BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY CLAIM AFTER LENGTHY TRIAL

Following a 20-day court trial, the court dismissed a $42 million claim for breach of fiduciary duty against a trustee client. Dan was named a 2020 Attorney of the Year by Minnesota Lawyer for his work with the defense group on the case.

COMPLETE DISMISSAL OF IP OWNERSHIP CLAIMS AGAINST MEDICAL DEVICE CLIENT

Obtained complete dismissal of two lawsuits concerning patent ownership brought against medical device client and two individuals.

$850,000 BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY JUDGMENT FOLLOWING TRIAL

Obtained judgment of over $850,000 for breach of fiduciary duties following trial on behalf of a shareholder in a local medical practice who was unfairly terminated and forced to give up ownership interest. The judgment was affirmed on appeal.

PERMANENT INJUNCTION AND $1.5 MILLION VERDICT IN PATENT CASE

Won $1.5 million award and permanent injunction for client Johnstech International Corp. following jury trial against competitor for willful patent infringement under doctrine of equivalents, including an award of enhanced damages, which was affirmed on appeal. See Johnstech International Corp. v. JF Microtechnology SDN BHD, 315 F. Supp. 3d 1130 (N.D. Cal. 2018), aff'd 773 Fed. Appx. 623 (Fed. Cir. July 15, 2019).

$1.86 MILLION JURY VERDICT IN PATENT INFRINGEMENT LAWSUIT AND SUCCESSFUL APPEAL

Acted as second chair in patent infringement trial that resulted in $1.86 million jury verdict for client. After district court granted judgment as a matter of law, the verdict was reinstated following successful appeal to Federal Circuit Court of Appeals and the defendant was permanently enjoined from future infringement. See Circuit Check, Inc. v. QXQ, Inc., 795 F.3d 1331 (Fed. Cir. 2015).

DISMISSAL OF MULTIPLE PATENT INFRINGEMENT CLAIMS AGAINST DEVICE MANUFACTURER

Obtained orders granting summary judgment of non-infringement of all claims asserted in two lawsuits against particle detector manufacturer. Both decisions were affirmed on appeal to the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals.

JURY AWARD OF $726,000 IN IP OWNERSHIP DISPUTE

Obtained $726,000 jury verdict in dispute over the ownership of intellectual property rights following week-long trial for bank client. The verdict was 100 percent of the client's loss.

COMPLETE DISMISSAL OF $1 MILLION CONTRACT CLAIM BROUGHT AGAINST FORTUNE 100 COMPANY AND ITS SUBSIDIARY

Obtained complete dismissal on motion to dismiss, affirmed by the Eighth Circuit, of former employee's claims for breach of bonus agreement.

DEFENDED ORDER DENYING MOTION TO COMPEL ARBITRATION

Successfully defended an order denying a motion to compel arbitration before the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- What Keeps GCs Up and What Helps Them Sleep Through the Night, Lying, Cheating, & Stealing Seminar 2026 – Moderator, October 2026
- Liars, Cheaters and No Contest Clauses: Who and what do no contest clauses protect? Lying, Cheating & Stealing Seminar 2025, October 2025
- How to Navigate Your First (or Next) Civil Case in Minnesota State Court, Minnesota CLE, May 2025
- Avoiding Contract Disputes With Well-Drafted Terms: Drafting and Negotiating Tips for Ensuring Favorable Outcomes, Strafford, May 21, 2024
- *Litigation Committees: Investigating Derivative Shareholder Claims of Lying, Cheating and Stealing,*Lying, Cheating & Stealing Seminar 2023, October 4, 2023
- How to Make the Most of Depositions, How to Navigate Your First (Or Next) Civil Case in Minnesota State Court, Minnesota CLE, August 2023
- Lying Beneficiaries and the Horses (Advisors) They Rode in On, Lying, Cheating & Stealing Seminar 2022, October 2022
- Business Litigation: Drafting Pleadings and Presenting Motions, Minnesota CLE, November 2019
- 2017 Business Law Institute – Business Litigation: Fiduciary Duty Disputes, Minnesota CLE, May 2017
- How to Write Patents that Win in Court, Presented to Schwegman, Lundberg & Woessner by Courtland Merrill & Dan Hall, September 8, 2014