

# STEVEN M. LEVY, ESQ.

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## SUMMARY

I am currently a UDRP domain name dispute panelist and have issued over 350 decisions. I am also a retired attorney with many decades of experience in the fields of trademarks, domain names, copyrights, and related intellectual property.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

ACCENT LAW GROUP, INC. – Philadelphia, PA, 2008 – Present

### President

- UDRP domain name dispute Panelist for the FORUM, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the Czech Arbitration Court (CAC), the Canadian International Internet Dispute Resolution Centre (CIIDRC) and the Asian Domain Name Dispute Resolution Centre (ADNDRC)
- Enforcement of client's trademark rights against domain names and other infringing uses.
- Client counseling and education on intellectual property, commercial, and related legal issues.
- Draft and negotiate transactional and settlement agreements concerning intellectual property.
- Conduct trademark searches and prosecute applications for clients in a variety of industries.

FAIRWINDS PARTNERS – Washington, DC, 2008 – 2023

### Consultant

- Trademark enforcement for famous, international brands including DUNKIN' DONUTS, ORACLE, XEROX, LA-Z-BOY, TARGET, MARRIOTT, and many others.
- Global Uniform Dispute Resolution Procedure (UDRP) and ccTLD claims through the FORUM, the World Intellectual Property Organization, and other bodies.
- Enforce trademark rights against infringing social media usernames on Facebook, Twitter, etc.
- Draft and negotiate transactional and settlement agreements.
- Educate clients on legislative and regulatory developments, as well as best practices on domains.
- Meet with members and staff of U.S. Congress regarding proposed legislation affecting domains.

THE HOME DEPOT – Claymont, DE and Atlanta, GA, 1998 –2008

**Senior Director – Legal** (Reporting directly to the General Counsel)

**Also President and Chairman of Homer TLC, Inc. (IP holding company), Home Depot Development Holdings, Inc. (REIT holding company) and THD Holdings, LLC (M&A holding company)**

- Created, grew and managed all aspects of company-wide and internationally focused in-house intellectual property practice, including a team of eight associates in two geographically distant offices (3 attorneys, 3 paralegals and 2 assistants).
- Managed all daily operations of Homer TLC subsidiary IP holding company.
- Successfully reduced \$2+ Million budget each year including outside counsel fees.
- Set long-term IP strategy and goals for worldwide enterprise and created IP compliance policy (reported policy directly to CEO and EVPs and secured approval).
- Registered "THE HOME DEPOT" and other marks and domains in 110 countries.
- Negotiated and drafted NASCAR, IT and other sponsorship and joint development agreements.
- Obtained declaration of famous mark status in Mexico, UK, Germany, Venezuela, and Turkey.
- Favorably settled \$38M trademark infringement claim against company by competitor in Florida.
- Pursued €110+M trademark claim against former joint venture prospect in Germany.
- Defeated Lemelson barcode patent suits by participation in retail industry joint defense group.
- Managed successful divestiture of HD Supply division's IP assets.
- Recovered homedepot.biz from pirate in Sri Lanka who obtained domain during sunrise period.
- Met with Rep. Lamar Smith and successfully lobbied for amendment to Anti-Dilution bill.

PROSKAUER ROSE LLP, New York, New York, 1993 –1998

**Senior Associate, Intellectual Property Practice Group**

- Interim management of eight member practice group including interviewing, hiring and training of junior associates and staff and coordination of all practice functions.
- Conducted anti-counterfeiting efforts for BSA, RIAA and the Orthodox Union
- Handled TM portfolio and enforcement for Henry Schein, the largest supplier of dental and medical products in North America.
- Defeated preliminary injunction claim against former editor of Marvel Comics.
- Favorably settled publicity rights DJ action by NHL against players union.
- Obtained copyright consent injunctions and damages for Estate of the artist Keith Haring.

SONY CORPORATION, Tokyo, Japan, 1992 - 1993

**Special Counsel to the Trademark & Design Division, Legal & Intellectual Property Group**

- Registered SONY, WALKMAN and other marks in 20+ countries.
- Revised and updated SONY brand identity manual.
- Managed anti-counterfeiting campaign against video/audio tapes and players in Southeast Asia.
- Served as advisor on company's brand generation committee.
- Successfully lobbied for improved intellectual property legislation and protection in India.

AMSTER, ROTHSTEIN & EBENSTEIN, New York, New York, 1989 - 1992

**Associate**

- Pursued successful anti-counterfeiting campaign for Polo Ralph Lauren sportswear line, Hermés of Paris fashion line, and others.
- Settled claim against Panasonic (MEI) arising from use of PRISM brand on TV sets.
- Provided due diligence and opinion for securitization of Warnaco apparel brands by GE Capital.
- Second-seated deposition of Jerome Lemelson in VCR patent case against Panasonic.
- Searched and filed new marks for Mongoose bicycle and accessories product line.

**ASSOCIATIONS**

Member, International Trademark Association (INTA) (1997 – Present)

- Internet Committee – 2020-2021 Term
- ADR Committee – 2018-2019 Term
- Internet Committee – 2014-2017 Terms
- Internet Governance Committee – 2012-2013 Term
- Legislation & Regulation – US Subcommittee, 2006 – 2008
- Chair, Membership Services Committee, 2003 – 2005
- Co-Chair, Trademark Administrators Meeting 2002

Member, US Copyright Society, New York City Chapter (1995-1998)

**SELECTED SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

- *Domain Name Disputes Annual Update*, PBI Internet Law Update 2015-2023
- *Brands As Registrants*, Beyond The Dot 2015
- *New Domains Update: What Brand Owners Need To Know*, 8th Annual PBI IP Law Institute 2014
- *Trademarks and the Internet*, PBI Internet Law Update 2014
- *Fair Use and Clearance*, PBI Essentials Of Copyright Law 2013
- *Best Practices in UDRP and ccTLD Disputes*, INTA Annual Meeting 2013
- *New Domain Name Rights Protection Mechanisms (RPMs): The New Era Of Enforcement*, 7th Annual PBI IP Law Institute 2013
- *Scaling The Internet Landscape To Your Company*, INTA – Trademarks & The Changing Internet Landscape, 2013
- *Trademark Licensing In The Digital Epoch*, AIPLA Annual Meeting 2012
- *Domain and Username Recovery* - IP Trademark, Copyright & Licensing Counsel Forum 2012

## PRO BONO ACTIVITIES

Philadelphia Volunteer Lawyers For The Arts (PVLA), October 2010 – Present

- Trademark applications and agreements for local performing artist
- Negotiating release of publishing rights for biographer of artist Kathe Kollwitz who was famous and influential in the feminist movement.
- Prepared commission and sale agreements for local sculpture artist.
- Reviewed and negotiated recording contract, with Capitol Records, for newly discovered rap artist.

Member, ICANN Working Group for Review of Rights Protection Mechanisms, 2016-Present

Private European-American Consortium, October 2009 – May 2010

- Drafted partnership, licensing, model release and other agreements.
- Provided legal support and advice for independent documentary film project entitled "*Bartitsu - the Lost Martial Art of Sherlock Holmes*."

## SELECTED PRESS

*New gTLDs and Higher Burden of Proof Distinguish URS Rulings*, Bloomberg BNA (February 25, 2015) (Interviewed and quoted on adoption of the URS by brand owners)

*Doubts Preside Over Cybersquatting Prevention in New .VOTE TLD*, Bloomberg BNA (February 18, 2015) (Interviewed and quoted on use of domain names by legislators and political parties)

*Domain arbitrator lashes brand owner in cybersquatting row*, World Intellectual Property Review, (August 16, 2012) (Interviewed and quoted) <http://www.worldipreview.com/newsstory.asp?ID=22>

*Firms Fight Back in Site Name Game*, Washington Post, p. D1 (December 1, 2007) (Quoted on success in .biz URDP dispute against Sri Lankan registrant)

*Summation*, IP Law & Business, p. 50 (February, 2005) (Featured biographical interview with emphasis on enforcement war stories)

*Doing It Their Way*, Managing Intellectual Property, p. 20 (May, 2003) (Interview on in-house IP management strategies and practice styles)

## EDUCATION

**J.D.**, Brooklyn Law School, Brooklyn, New York, 1989

### Honors:

- Brooklyn Law Review, Published: Note, Single Copyright Registration For Computer Programs, 54 Brooklyn L. Rev. 965 (1988).
- First Prize: Nathan Burkhan Memorial Competition
- American Jurisprudence Award for Legal Writing

**B.S. Exercise Physiology**, S.U.N.Y. at Buffalo, Buffalo, New York, 1985

**Admitted To Bars Of:** Pennsylvania, New York, and the District Of Columbia.