

People



## Kourtney A. Mulcahy

Partner, Intellectual Property  
Trademarks

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vCard

” [Kourtney] provides practical, business-focused advice and is always highly responsive. I trust Kourtney implicitly.

- *Best Lawyers*

Kourtney Mulcahy focuses her practice on IP counseling and managing domestic and international trademark portfolios. She regularly implements cost-effective trademark clearance, procurement, and protection strategies for her clients. Kourtney has experience in all areas of trademark law, including: domain name issues, right of publicity, social media, digital and print advertising, and marketing.

Kourtney also handles licensing matters for clients — drafting and negotiating license agreements — in the areas of entertainment, technology, sports, pharmaceutical, fashion, cosmetic, consumer products, manufacturing, food and beverage, retail, restaurant, educational, and charitable services.

In addition, Kourtney advises franchises looking to protect their valuable intellectual property assets and strengthen their brands globally. She represents an American fast casual restaurant chain with over 400 locations worldwide in trademark enforcement actions. She also assists the franchisor of early education centers with enforcement and trademark prosecution.

### Areas of Experience

Copyrights  
Intellectual Property  
Trademarks  
Intellectual Property Licensing  
Cannabis  
Franchise and Licensing  
Sports and Entertainment Law  
Transactional Risk

### Education

LL.M., University of Illinois Chicago School of Law,  
Intellectual Property, 2004  
J.D., University of Illinois Chicago School of Law, 2001  
B.A., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 1997

### Admissions

#### Bars

Illinois

#### Courts

U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois

### Related Content

Akerman Partners Named 2025 *Lawdragon* 500  
Leading Global Entertainment, Sports & Media  
Lawyers  
March 20, 2025

NIL Rules Come With Benefits And Challenges  
May 19, 2023

Trademark Protection and the Cannabis Sector  
October 04, 2019

### Notable Work

**Entertainment:** Representing a world-renowned hip-hop artist and entrepreneur in connection with prosecuting, maintaining and enforcing trademark rights worldwide.

**Alcohol and Beverage:** Representing an award-winning spirits company in connection with trademark prosecution in over 60 countries.

**Sports:** Representing a high-profile athlete, business owner and public speaker in connection with publicity rights, brand management, and trademark enforcement.

**Professional Services:** Representing a leading consumer research, data and analytics firm in connection with managing its worldwide intellectual property portfolio.

**Manufacturing:** Representing an industrial manufacturer in its enforcement of trademark rights against several trademark trolls.

**Agriculture:** Representing a leading agricultural company in connection with drafting settlement agreements, consent agreements, license agreements and co-existence agreements.

**Gaming:** Representing a leading professional esports organization in connection with prosecution and enforcement of its copyright and trademark rights.

**Cannabis:** Representing a leading cannabis company in securing federal and state trademark registrations.

**Alcohol and Beverage:** Secured trade dress registrations on behalf of an award-winning spirits company for its unique bottle designs and packaging in the United States and multiple foreign jurisdictions.

## Published Work and Lectures

- *The Trademark Lawyer Magazine*, Co-Author, Issues 2, “The Many Faces of IP in Name, Image, and Likeness,” 2023
- Thompson Reuters Westlaw’s Aspatore Books, *Challenges in Defending IP in the Age of the Internet*, Co-Author, Chapter 8, “Managing Intellectual Property in Cyberspace: Leading Lawyers on Developing an Effective Internet IP Strategy,” 2012 Edition
- *Inside Counsel*, Author, “Lanham Act Extended for Trademark Infringement Occurring in Foreign Nations,” February 22, 2011

## Honors and Distinctions

- *Lawdragon* 500, 2025, Listed as One of the Leading Global Entertainment, Sports & Media Lawyers for Copyright, IP, Sports, Entertainment
- *Leading Lawyers*, 2017, Listed as a “Leading Lawyer”
- *Leading Lawyers*, 2015-2016, Listed as an “Emerging Lawyer”
- *Super Lawyers Magazine* 2010, Listed in Illinois as a Rising Star