DEVLIN LAW FIRM LLC
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW

DEVLIN LAW FIRM LLC
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Alex Chan

PARTNER, UNITED STATES

PRACTICE AREAS

- Intellectual Property Litigation
- Trade Secrets Litigation
- Technology/Commercial Transactions
- Privacy and Cybersecurity Transactions and Litigation

EDUCATION

- J.D., Franklin Pierce Law Center, 2010
- M.S., Electrical Engineering, Columbia University, 2002
- B.S., Electrical Engineering, University of California, Davis, 2001
- New York University, 1998

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

- California
- Texas
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Federal Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of California
- U.S. District Court, Central District of California
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California

Biography

Alex Chan is a Partner at Devlin Law Firm LLC. He was previously an associate at Fish & Richardson, P.C. and Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, LLP, among others.

Mr. Chan is a seasoned trial lawyer with a national practice focused on complex intellectual property litigation, including patent, trade secret, and copyright disputes. He has served as lead or second chair in numerous high-stakes matters before various district courts, the Federal Circuit, the PTAB, and the ITC. His litigation experience spans all critical phases of a dispute—from pre-suit investigation to appellate oral arguments. He often leads expert witness strategy in cases involving technical infringement, invalidity, and complex damages modeling, and is particularly skilled at translating dense technical issues into compelling legal arguments for judges and juries.

As an AI innovator and named inventor on multiple AI-focused patents, Mr. Chan also has substantial transactional experience with first-of-their-kind technology deals. He represents clients across various verticals—including artificial intelligence, machine learning, and networks, software applications, consumer products, energy and energy transition, medical devices, financial services, and semiconductors—in high-value IP transactions. He regularly leads complex IP and commercial due diligence investigations and advises on standalone IP matters such as patent and technology licensing, technology transfer, joint ventures, software licensing, outsourcing, brand licensing, and IP dispute resolution.

In addition, leveraging his deep expertise and global certification in CIPP/US, CIPP/E, CIPM, and CIPT, Mr. Chan regularly advises clients on high-stakes privacy and cybersecurity matters across both transactional and litigation contexts. He is also recognized by the International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP) as a Fellow of Information Privacy, a distinguished designation awarded only to professionals who demonstrate significant privacy and cybersecurity experience and hold multiple professional credentials in those areas. He counsels clients on compliance with U.S., European, and international privacy frameworks, including

- U.S. District Court, Southern District of California
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Texas
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Texas
- Unites States Patent & Trademark Office (Reg. No. 52,713)

Professional Certifications

- IAPP Fellow of Information Privacy (FIP)
- IAPP Certified Information Privacy Professional (CIPP)/United States
- IAPP Certified Information Privacy Professional (CIPP)/Europe
- IAPP Certified Information Privacy Manager (CIPM)
- IAPP Certified Information Privacy Technologist (CIPT)

LANGUAGES

English · Chinese

GDPR, CCPA, CPRA, HIPAA, GLBA, and many others. His transactional practice includes designing and auditing privacy and security programs, structuring governance frameworks, negotiating data processing agreements (DPAs), and embedding privacy-by-design and security-by-default principles into product, engineering, and business operations.

Mr. Chan also advises on cross-border data transfers, localization strategies, vendor and third-party risk management, incident response planning, and AI governance. He integrates best practices from leading security and privacy frameworks—including NIST, ISO/IEC 27001, 27002, and 27701, PCI-DSS, and SOC 2—to help clients align compliance with operational resilience. On the litigation side, he represents clients in enforcement actions as well as in complex civil litigation involving data breach class actions, contractual indemnity disputes, and statutory claims. His practice sits at the intersection of law, technology, and business strategy—helping clients protect innovation, mitigate risk, and scale with confidence.

Honors and Distinctions

- Named a "Northern California Super Lawyer" in 2024, 2025, and 2026 and "Northern California Rising Star" in intellectual property litigation by Super Lawyers Magazine and San Francisco Magazine since 2016.
- Named a "Texas Super Lawyer" in 2024, 2025, and 2026 in intellectual property litigation by Super Lawyers Magazine
- Named to Los Angeles Business Journal's 2023 "Leaders of Influence: Thriving in Their 40s" as an honoree who has "achieved outstanding professional successes and made significant contributions to the community."
- Named to "Lawyers of Colors' 2023 Hot List" by Lawyers of Color as an attorney who has demonstrated "a strong commitment to advancing diversity in the legal profession."
- Named to "IAM Strategy 300 – The World's Leading IP Strategists" by Intellectual Asset Management Magazine (2019-2023)
- Named an "Upstart50" by San Francisco Business Times and San Jose Business Journal as one of "the most inventive and successful people in the Bay Area's entrepreneurial ecosystem" in 2018.
- Named in American Bar Association's 2018 list of "On The Rise" Top 40 Lawyers.
- Named by American Lawyer Media and LegalWeek as "Highly Recommended" for the "Rising Star Innovation Award" in 2018.
- Named in The National Law Journal's 2016 list of "Intellectual Property Trailblazers & Pioneers," which highlights the top 50 intellectual property lawyers "who are raising the bar in intellectual property law."
- Named in The Silicon Valley Business Journal's 2016 list of 40 under 40.

Professional Memberships

- Commissioner, Commission on Judicial Nominees Evaluation, The State Bar of California (2026-Present)

- Fellow, Litigation Counsel of America (2026-Present)
- Board Member, Law360 Intellectual Property Editorial Advisory Board (2024-2025)
- Chair, Committee of the Bar Examiners, The State Bar of California (2017–2025)
- Commissioner, The Blue Ribbon Commission on the Future of the Bar Exam, California State Bar (2021-Present)
- Member, Differential Item Functioning Analysis Working Group, The State Bar of California (2020-2021)
- Member, Informal Working Group for the Administration of the California Bar Exam, The State Bar of California (2020-2021)
- Attorney Member, Testing Design Committee, National Conference of Bar Examiners (2020-2021)
- Co-Chair, Minority Trial Lawyer Committee, American Bar Association (2018-2020)
- Fellow, Law Practice Division, American Bar Association (2017–2019)
- Executive Member, Intellectual Property Law Section Executive Committee, California Lawyer Association (2016–2019)
- Co-Chair, Intellectual Property Section, American Bar Association — YLD (2016–2017)
- Board of Directors, Ars Minerva (a 501(c)(3) non-profit art-based organization) (2016–Present)
- Board Member, Board of Directors of The California Aggie Alumni Association (2017–2019)
- Board Member, Board of Directors of The Northern California Chapter of The Columbia Alumni Association (2017–2019)
- Programs Award Committee Member, American Inn of Court (2016–Present)
- Member, Patent Litigation Committee, American Bar Association (2010–Present)

Selected Articles, Presentations, and Publications

- Alex Chan, “The bar exam experimental study: ensuring fairness and competency,” Daily Journal, Nov. 4, 2024.
- Alex Chan, “Committee of Bar Examiners Stand Ready to Act on February California Bar Exam and Experiment,” Daily Journal, Sept. 25, 2024.
- Alex Chan, Dissenting Opinion to “Blue Ribbon Commission on the Future of the Bar Exam Report and Recommendations,” March 7, 2023.
- Alex Chan, “Relevance Required to Discover Funding Agreements,” Section of Litigation News, American Bar Association, April 13, 2020.
- Alex Chan, “Common Issues to Consider when Arguing Before the Federal Circuit,” Section of Litigation News, American Bar Association, July 30, 2019.
- Alex Chan, “Everything You Need to Know About Foreign Patent Damages,” New Matter, Official Publication of the Intellectual Property Law Section of California Lawyers Association, Sept. 2018.

- Alex Chan, “WesternGeco: Patent Damages Know No Borders,” Daily Journal, Jun. 25, 2018.
- Alex Chan, “Foreign Patent Damages: A Look Back And A Look Ahead,” Law360, Jun. 24, 2018.
- Alex Chan, “A Look At The On-Sale Bar: Part 2—Best Business Practices,” Law360, Nov. 29, 2016.
- Alex Chan, “A Look At The On-Sale Bar: Part 1—The Helsinn Debate,” Law360, Nov. 28, 2016.
- Alex Chan, “Patent Venue Then and Now: Forum Shopping About to Change,” Law360, Jan. 21, 2016.
- Alex Chan, “An Overview, a Summary, and an Update to the Latest Patent Reform,” Intellectual Property & Technology Law J., Sept. 1, 2015.
- Alex Chan, “Second Chance or No Chance,” Bloomberg BNA, Aug. 7, 2015.
- Alex Chan, “Defending Against Inducement Claims Post-Commil,” Law360, Jul. 15, 2015.
- Kevin McBride and Alex Chan, “But I believe the Patent is Invalid!,” Daily Journal, Apr. 20, 2015.
- Alex Chan, “If There’s Knowledge of the Patent Application, Laches Starts to Run When Patent Issues,” Akin Gump Blog Post, Feb. 17, 2016.
- Alex Chan, “Claims for Pre-issuance Damages Require Actual Notice of and Substantially Identical Claims between the Published Application and the Issued Patent,” Akin Gump Blog Post, Feb. 9, 2016.
- Alex Chan, “Post-Complaint Events or Transactions Cannot Cure Prudential Standing Defects,” Akin Gump Blog Post, Feb. 1, 2016.
- Alex Chan, “CAFC: If (No Factual Findings), Then (No Deference),” Akin Gump Blog Post, Jun. 5, 2015.
- Alex Chan, “Invalidity is not a Defense to Infringement but a Defense to Liability,” Akin Gump Blog Post, May 29, 2015.
- Alex Chan, “Objectively Reasonable Invalidity Defense Shields Accused Infringer From Willful Infringement,” Akin Gump Blog Post, Jan. 9, 2015.

Media Mentions and Speaker Engagements

- Media Mention, “AI, technological cashouts and exam reform: Inside the California bar exam crisis,” Daily Journal, Sept. 23, 2025.
- Offered testimony and responses as California State Bar’s representative in relation to Senate Bill 47 and 253, California Senate Judiciary Committee Hearing, May 6, 2025.
- Media Mention, “State Bar Power Struggle Erupts Over Exam Oversight,” Daily Journal, Mar. 19, 2025.
- Media Mention, “Chief Justice Pledges Greater Oversight of State Bar, Help for Test Takers After Exam Snafu,” ALM/Law.com/The Recorder, Mar. 18, 2025.

- Media Mention, “Experimental test-takers can earn points for bar exam, state high court says,” Daily Journal, Oct. 23, 2024.
- Media Mention, C. Solot, “Trying to make sense of the bar exam debate,” Daily Journal, Oct. 18, 2024.
- Media Mention, “Supreme Court Names Appointments to State Bar Board of Trustees and Committee of Bar Examiners,” California Courts Newsroom, Aug 22, 2024.
- Letter to Supreme Court of California, “Recommendation for Approval of a Pilot Portfolio Bar Examination,” State Bar of California, Dec. 15, 2023.
- Official Release, “Public Comment Letter re: ‘Portfolio Bar Exam’ Proposal,” Los Angeles County Bar Association, October, 2023.
- Policy Article, “Enhancing the Validity and Fairness of Lawyer Licensing: Empirical Evidence Supporting Innovative Pathways,” Ohio State Legal Studies Research Paper No. 80, Washington Univ. Journal of Law & Policy, Sept. 13, 2023.
- Media Mention, “State Bar virtual meetings: the good, the bad and the ugly,” Daily Journal, Mar. 23, 2023.
- Media Mention, “‘We Understand the Anger: Remote Bar Exam Vendor Says Tech Problems Are Fixed,” The Recorder, Oct. 15, 2021.
- Media Mention, “ExamSoft Responds To Claims It Ruined The Last Bar Exam,” Marino Legal Academy, Oct. 19, 2021.
- News Release, “California Supreme Court Names Chair, Vice-Chair of State Bar Board of Trustees,” California Courts Newsroom, Aug. 20, 2021.
- News Release, “California Supreme Court Names Members of Blue Ribbon Bar Exam Commission,” California Courts Newsroom, Apr. 27, 2021.
- Speaker, “Leadership Speaks: A Discussion on Racial Injustice,” Section of Litigation, The American Bar Association, Jun. 25, 2020.
- “Relevance Required to Discover Funding Agreements,” ABA Litigation News, Apr. 13, 2020.
- Speaker, “No Limit! The Extraterritorial Reach of Patent Damages,” The 44th Intellectual Property Law Section Institute, Las Vegas, NV, Nov. 16, 2019.
- Moderator, “Latest Development in Awarding Attorneys’ Fees Under Section 285,” Webinar, Section of Intellectual Property Law, California Lawyers Association, Aug. 28, 2019.
- Speaker, “Developing Our Next Generation of Litigators: Creating Opportunities for Courtroom Experience,” ABA Section of Litigation Annual Conference, New York City, May 3, 2019.
- Moderator, Webinar: “Practical Impact of SCOTUS’ Decision in Helsinn v. Teva on Secret Sales,” California Lawyers Association, Intellectual Property Law Section, Feb. 25, 2019.
- Media Mention, “Report of the Delegation of the Intellectual Property Law Section of the California Lawyers Association to Washington D.C.,” New Matter, 2018 Summer Vol. 43, No. 2.

- Media Mention, “Young Lawyers Division honors 40 up-and-coming attorneys,” ABA Journal, 2018.
- “Fed. Circ. Suggests AIA May Not Have Weakened On-Sale Bar,” Law360, May 3, 2017.
- “East Texas Patent Docket Could be Grounded by Federal Circuit,” Law360, Mar. 9, 2016.
- Speaker, “Artificial Intelligence Intellectually Disrupts Patent Litigation,” Artificial Intelligence Startups Conference, San Francisco, May 25, 2016.
- Moderator, “E-Discovery: Tips, Tricks, and Trends for Civil Litigator,” Austin Bench Bar Conference, Apr. 15, 2016.