



## FRANCISCO A. VILLEGAS

### PARTNER

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Francisco Villegas is a partner in the firm's Intellectual Property practice group.

Representing domestic and international companies, Francisco advises on IP litigation and transactional matters involving a wide range of subjects. He has extensive experience in matters related to media streaming, aerospace, artificial intelligence, online gaming, heavy machinery, medical devices, telecom, social media, pharmaceuticals and the Internet of Things.

His patent experience includes litigation assertion and defense, portfolio development, asset valuation, licensing, opinions (validity, infringement and freedom-to-operate clearances) and post grant proceedings including *inter partes* review, reissues and *ex parte* reexaminations. In addition to his patent work, Francisco regularly represents clients in domestic and international trademark matters.

On the transactional side, Francisco advises clients on mergers and acquisitions, deal sourcing, joint ventures, product development, SaaS, IP monetization, privacy and venture capital.

Francisco's practice also includes early stage companies. He represents startups, incubators, innovation labs and investors that seek to exploit new technologies or apply mature products and services in new ways.

Additionally, Fortune 50 companies have frequently requested that Francisco present on topics at the intersection of law and science, such as emerging technologies, ethics and artificial intelligence and general trends in IP law.

### BACKGROUND

Before joining Armstrong Teasdale, Francisco practiced at two large New York-based IP boutiques, and then at a litigation-focused law firm.

Prior to practicing law, Francisco worked as a mechanical engineer for two of the largest and most innovative consumer brands in the U.S.

### EDUCATION

- Cornell Law School (J.D., 1999)
- Stanford University (M.S., 1996)
  - Mechanical Engineering

### SERVICES AND INDUSTRIES

Intellectual Property  
Intellectual Property Litigation  
Patent  
Post Grant Proceedings  
Trademark  
Technology  
E-Discovery  
Emerging Companies  
Outside General Counsel

### ADMISSIONS

New York  
California  
Connecticut  
District of Columbia  
U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York  
U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York  
U.S. District Court, Northern District of California  
U.S. District Court, Central District of California  
U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California  
U.S. Court of Appeals, Federal Circuit

- Stanford University (B.S.B.A., 1994)
  - Mechanical Engineering
  - Political Science

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- New York Intellectual Property Law Association
- International Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property, U.S. National Group
- International Trademark Association
- Eastern District of Texas Bar Association

## ACCOLADES

- *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers in Business* for Intellectual Property: Patent (2014-2015)
- IAM Patent 1000: The World's Leading Patent Professionals (2015-present)
- *New York Metro Super Lawyers*®, Intellectual Property: Litigation (2014-present)

## LANGUAGES

- Spanish

## EXPERIENCE

### **Gaming Machine Manufacturer Patent Dispute**

Defended gaming machine manufacturer against three software patents concerning multiplayer interactive video gaming. Obtained jury verdicts of invalidity despite the patents having been confirmed multiple times in reexamination before the Patent Office.

### **Defense of Auto Manufacturers in Nonpracticing Entity Dispute**

Defended several domestic and foreign automobile manufacturers against a patent licensing entity in a case concerning online sales methods. The matter was settled on favorable terms.

### **Favorable Settlement for Patent Client in Social Media Case**

Served as enforcement counsel to an institutional patent client in U.S. District Court for the District of Delaware against a leading social media site involving user privacy technology. The matter was settled early in litigation and on favorable terms.

### **Israeli Streaming Company Succeeds in High-Stakes Litigation**

Enforced a foundational media streaming patent in the Northern District of California against one of the largest software companies in the world, leading to a positive business resolution.

### **Aerospace Patent Matter Ends in Success**

Represented an international fire suppression manufacturer against an infringing aerospace company and a major industrial conglomerate in a patent infringement action

concerning the use of nitrogen to meet FAA fuel tank inerting requirements. The case settled on favorable terms.

#### **Successful Representation in VoIP Matter**

Represented a small institutional patent client in litigation against an international telecommunications wholesaler concerning VoIP technology. The case settled on favorable terms.

#### **Summary Judgement for International Manufacturer in Patent Litigation**

Defended international manufacturer in patent litigation concerning a traction system for use in industrial equipment. Obtained summary judgment of noninfringement.

#### **Successful Outcome for Canadian Industrial Automation Company**

Enforced a foreign industrial automation company's patent against numerous manufacturing systems integrators in an infringement action concerning IoT scaling temperatures probes. The case settled on favorable terms.

#### **\$8 Million Jury Verdict for Medical Device Company**

Represented medical device company in patent jury trial concerning cardiac stents resulting in an \$8 million jury verdict.

#### **Defense of Major Retailer Against Patent Licensing Entity**

Defended major retailer against a patent licensing entity in a dispute concerning debit and gift card transaction technology. Settled on favorable terms following discussions of invalidating prior art.

#### **Telecom Carrier in VoIP Matter Prevails Against Nonpracticing Entity**

Defended in the Eastern District of Texas a leading telecommunications carrier and its prime contractor against a nonpracticing entity in a matter concerning VoIP user-adjustable features. The case settled on favorable terms.

#### **Medical Device Company Embroiled in FDA, Patent Litigation Succeeds in Litigation-Driven IPR Strategy**

Served as defense counsel to a medical device company in FDA and patent matters regarding a fluid delivery system. One of the few cases before the Hon. R. Gilstrap in U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas to be stayed pending *inter partes* review.

#### **International IoT Company Obtains Early Dismissal of Suit**

Served as defense counsel to an IoT company in matter in U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas involving technologies such as accelerometers, piezo-resistive films and magnetic field sensors.

#### **Counsel to Pharma Company in Diabetes Drug Patent Litigation**

Counseled a pharmaceutical company in an action before U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina concerning its IP rights to an SGLT2 diabetes drug.

## **THOUGHT LEADERSHIP**

May 16, 2016

#### **Three Key Implications of the Defend Trade Secrets Act**

January 20, 2015

**Initial Case Strategy Should Account for Jurisdictional Variances in Damages**

New York Law Journal

September 19, 2014

**No Assumptions**

Patent Lawyer Magazine

September 10, 2013

**IP: Patent Litigation E-Discovery Procedures Should Be Evaluated Early in the Case**

Inside Counsel

July 30, 2013

**Uneven Playing Field for Defendants in Patent Cases**

Inside Counsel