

William L. Shaffer

Partner

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Services

Post-Grant Proceedings
Asset Creation - Prosecution &
Counseling
Intellectual Property
Patents

Industries

Technology
Electronics & Computer
Technology

Mr. Shaffer (Bill) focuses his practice on patent prosecution and counseling, patent portfolio building/management, patent analysis and post-grant patent procedures, including reexamination and reissue proceedings. He has been a trusted advisor to a number of the largest companies in the electronics and software industries helping the companies grow their patent portfolios and navigate complex patent issues. Specific technologies Mr. Shaffer has experience with include, among others, thin film processing, semiconductor manufacturing equipment, photovoltaic systems and films, chip-level packaging, computer generated imagery (CGI) animation, computer architecture, LIDAR, consumer products, and software- and Internet-based technologies.

During the course of his 25+ year career as a patent attorney, Mr. Shaffer has assisted patent litigation efforts in jurisdictions including the Northern District of California, the Eastern District of Texas, the Eastern District of Virginia and the International Trade Commission. He has also been the lead or co-lead attorney for a dozen reexaminations, including both inter partes and ex parte matters, many of which involved patents in litigation, representing both patent owners and challengers. Mr. Shaffer has also advised prominent venture capital backed start-ups and provided in depth analysis of individual patents and patent portfolios in connection with venture capital investments and corporate acquisitions.

Prior to joining the legal profession, Mr. Shaffer worked both as a software engineer writing assembly language code for consumer electronics products as well as writing ADA code for a large government-based contract in the defense industry.

Mr. Shaffer was recognized as a Northern California "Super Lawyer" in the area of Intellectual Property by *Super*



Lawyers magazine (2011-2018). He was recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America*[®] for Patent Law (2021). Mr. Shaffer was recommended by *Legal 500 US* for Patent Prosecution (2012-2017). He was named an "IP Star" by *Managing Intellectual Property* magazine (2013-2020). Mr. Shaffer was recognized as a top patent practitioner by *IAM Patent 1000 – The World's Leading Patent Practitioners* (2013-2020). He was named by *Legal Media Group* in its 2013 Guide to the World's Leading Patent Practitioners. Mr. Shaffer was listed as "Best of the Bar" in 2014 by the *San Diego Business Journal*.

Experience

Lead counsel successfully defended multiple reexaminations on a family of computer patents with concurrent litigation, enabling over \$100 million in licensing revenue for our client.

Education

Southern Methodist University J.D. (1992) Thompson Scholar, *The International Lawyer*, Articles Editor
Vanderbilt University B.S. (1988) Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

Admissions

California (1992)

Court Admissions

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (1993)

Professional & Community Activities

American Bar Association

American Intellectual Property Law Association

San Francisco Intellectual Property Law Association

Insights

[News Releases](#)

Record-Breaking Recognition for Kilpatrick Townsend in *The Best Lawyers in America*[®] 2021
August 20, 2020

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Kilpatrick Townsend Attorneys Named 2020 Managing Intellectual Property IP Stars
June 1, 2020



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Kilpatrick Townsend Receives High Rankings in 2019 IAM Patent 1000

July 11, 2019

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Kilpatrick Townsend Attorneys Named 2019 Managing Intellectual Property IP Stars

June 17, 2019

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Kilpatrick Townsend's Megan Chung to Lead Firm's Growing San Diego Office

January 9, 2019

[Perspectives](#)

What's Happening in...San Diego

August 20, 2018

[News Releases](#)

Twenty-Six Kilpatrick Townsend Attorneys Named 2018 Northern California Super Lawyers & Rising Stars

July 23, 2018

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Kilpatrick Townsend Recognized in 2018 IAM Patent 1000

July 2, 2018

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Kilpatrick Townsend Attorneys Named 2018 Managing Intellectual Property IP Stars

June 19, 2018

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Kilpatrick Townsend Recognized by Prestigious 2017 Legal 500 US

October 2, 2017

[In The News](#)

Firm Hits the Beach for Some Pro Bono Work for Environment

September 18, 2017



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Twenty-Four Kilpatrick Townsend Attorneys Named 2017 Northern California Super Lawyers & Rising Stars
August 9, 2017

[News Releases](#)

Kilpatrick Townsend Attorneys Named 2017 Managing Intellectual Property IP Stars
June 27, 2017

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Kilpatrick Townsend Receives High Rankings in 2017 IAM Patent 1000
June 8, 2017

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Kilpatrick Townsend's William Shaffer and Kandace Watson Recognized by Prestigious 2016 Legal 500 US
June 23, 2016

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Kilpatrick Townsend Recognized by Prestigious 2016 Legal 500 US
June 20, 2016

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Kilpatrick Townsend Attorneys Named to 2016 IAM Patent 1000
June 2, 2016

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Thirty-Two Kilpatrick Townsend Attorneys Named 2016 Managing Intellectual Property IP Stars
May 26, 2016

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Kilpatrick Townsend Attorneys Named 2015 Northern California Super Lawyers
July 21, 2015

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Kilpatrick Townsend Recognized by Prestigious 2015 Legal 500 US
July 15, 2015



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Kilpatrick Townsend's Media Report June 19-25, 2015

June 26, 2015

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Twenty-Two Kilpatrick Townsend Attorneys Named to 2015 IAM Patent 1000

June 18, 2015

[News Releases](#)

Twenty-Nine Kilpatrick Townsend Attorneys Named 2015 Managing Intellectual Property IP Stars

May 6, 2015

[In The News](#)

Kilpatrick Townsend's Media Report April 17-23, 2015

April 24, 2015

[In The News](#)

Kilpatrick Townsend's Media Report March 27 - April 2, 2015

April 3, 2015

[In The News](#)

Kilpatrick Townsend's Media Report February 6-12, 2015

February 13, 2015

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Kilpatrick Townsend Names Bill Shaffer Managing Partner of San Diego Office

February 4, 2015