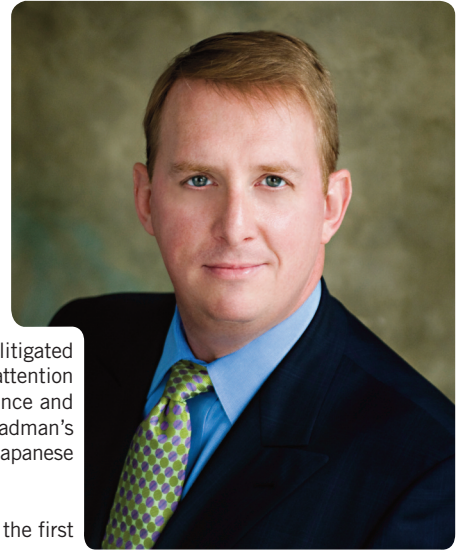


"[Paul] has a unique ability to quickly see the big picture."



Clients recognized Paul Steadman, 39, as a fierce courtroom advocate early on as he litigated their most complex intellectual property cases. Today, clients and peers commend his attention to communications and culture, and credit his unique background in engineering, finance and law for his fresh approach to patent litigation. As a partner at Kirkland & Ellis LLP, Steadman's reputation continues to grow as he garners victories and settlements for a range of U.S., Japanese and other Asian clients.

Steadman is known for his focused strategic approach, preparing a matter for trial from the first day he is retained on a matter. Eric Findlay, an attorney at Findlay Craft in Tyler, Texas, says Steadman "has a unique ability to quickly see the big picture and focus on those issues that really make the difference between a loss and a victory."

Another nominator recounts how Steadman recognized from the start of O2 Micro v. Rohm Co. that the trial would turn on cross-examination of O2's renowned expert witness, a retired University of Texas professor. Steadman prepared for two years, collecting targeted discovery and damaging admissions, then hammered the expert at trial. The case settled shortly before closing argument. This repeated Steadman's performance in the earlier Caterpillar v. Sturman case, where he was also responsible for cross-examining the key experts.

Ms. Naoko Matsuzaki, corporate counsel at Hitachi ESD says, "I have been very impressed with Paul's aggressive approach to discovery, his strategic and logical thinking, and his team and client management." Kei Asatsuma, a partner at Nagashima, Ohno & Tsunematsu echoes that "Paul has remarkable cultural and communication skills and remarkable relationships in Japan for a young attorney."

Steadman displayed those skills early in his career when, as an associate, he was responsible for day-to-day communications with a Japanese client fighting its first serious patent litigation in the United States. In Deere v. Kubota, Deere asserted a patent for a tractor attachment mechanism. The litigation in Deere's home district in Peoria, Illinois threatened Kubota's most profitable mid-size imports. "Paul had a significant role at that trial," says Nobuaki Mukai, a partner at Momo-o, Matsuo & Namba. Steadman was responsible for the cross-examinations of several expert witnesses including one, Mukai says, in which Deere's expert completely lost credibility. The jury verdict of non-infringement and partial invalidity against Deere made the National Law Journal's 2002 list of Top Defense Wins.

Steadman has defended a broad range of Japanese companies in patent litigation, including Nichia Corp., Konica Minolta, DENSO CORPORATION, Toyota Motor Sales U.S.A., Fuji Heavy Industries, and Clarion Co. His U.S. clients include Navistar, BCE Emergis Inc., Magellan Navigation, and Sturman Industries.

Steadman also has a number of noteworthy pro bono successes. A Seventh Circuit appeal for TE TA MA Truth Foundation against Matthew Hale's World Church of the Creator is especially noteworthy. Hale's threats against the judge and Kirkland attorneys in that case eventually led to Hale's conviction and federal imprisonment.

"Paul's life was threatened in that case by radical white supremacists," says Todd Gale, a former Kirkland partner who now practices at Dykema Gosset. "He never backed down – in fact he won attorneys fees and sanctions."

Beyond client work, Steadman maintains active involvement in the community. He is a past chairman of the Young Professionals Committee of the Japan America Society of Chicago, and a current board member of Lawyers for the Creative Arts. He also teaches legal topics at seminars and courses in the United States and Japan.

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