

Bracewell Expands Seattle IP Team With Patent Attorney

By **Lauren Berg**

Law360 (December 12, 2022, 7:29 PM EST) -- Bracewell LLP on Monday announced the hiring of an intellectual property litigator with experience in a range of technologies, including medical devices, software and telecommunications, to join its Seattle office.

Jeffrey E. Danley comes to Bracewell as a partner from Seed IP Law Group LLP, bringing his experience as a first-chair patent litigator to represent companies on intellectual property enforcement and defense matters for a host of technologies, including software and internet, electronics and semiconductors, medical devices and telecommunications, the firm said in a statement.



Jeffrey E. Danley

Danley, a registered patent attorney, works on all parts of patent prosecution and intellectual property litigation, including trade secrets and copyright issues, according to Bracewell.

"We are excited to welcome Jeff to the firm," Bracewell managing partner Gregory M. Bopp said in the statement. "His extensive experience in IP litigation adds additional depth to our market-leading IP litigation practice and enhances our ability to serve the intellectual property needs of clients across various industries."

Danley told Law360 on Monday that his foray into law was by chance. He moved to New York in 2001 with his now-wife, where she was a student at New York University School of Law, and he had plans to find a job after earning his master's degree in electrical engineering from the University of California, Berkeley.

His wife was taking a patent law class that semester and said he should check it out.

"I'd always enjoyed reading and writing — much more so than writing computer code — so I sat in on a couple of her classes, found it interesting, and decided at that point to go to law school," Danley said.

Danley earned his law degree from UC Berkeley School of Law in 2005.

His eventual focus on intellectual property law seemed like a natural fit given his engineering background. The attorney said he enjoys learning about technology and IP law gives him the opportunity to talk to creators and the products they've developed.

Danley then worked as an associate at a number of law firms, including Morrison & Foerster LLP and Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP, before joining Seed IP in Seattle in 2016, where he became a partner in 2021, according to his LinkedIn profile.

The attorney now joins Bracewell's intellectual property team, which advises companies in the U.S. and outside the country on a range of matters, including U.S. patents, trade secrets, trademark and copyright litigation, IP enforcement, international trademark clearance and licensing, the firm said.

In Monday's statement, Doug Stewart, managing partner of Bracewell's Seattle office and chair of the IP litigation practice, said he had known Danley for years and looked forward to working with him as a colleague.

"Jeff's technical background and experience as a first-chair patent litigator further strengthens our ability to serve the growing IP needs of our clients," Stewart added.

Back in 2012, Danley was part of the Simpson Thacher team representing Apple Inc. in sprawling patent litigation accusing it and other technology companies of infringing two patents covering computer processes. The tech giants won the dispute at the Federal Circuit, which refused to rehear the case.

On Monday, Danley expressed his excitement about joining Bracewell, saying he's looking forward to "working with a dedicated team of highly skilled and accomplished patent litigators."

"Bracewell is a highly regarded IP litigation firm that offers me the opportunity to expand my practice," he said. "I've also known Doug Stewart professionally for a number of years and have worked with Bracewell in a co-counsel capacity in the recent past."

"I gained a tremendous amount of respect for the team here through those points of contact, which led me to believe that Bracewell would provide a great platform to serve clients," he added.

--Editing by Karin Roberts.