

**Catherine T. Dobrowitsky**

Admitted in Michigan, Massachusetts  
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Catherine T. Dobrowitsky is the founding member and president of Rivenoak Law. She focuses her practice on intellectual property counseling and litigation involving trademarks, copyrights, patents, false advertising, unfair competition, counterfeiting, and domain names. As an active litigator, Ms. Dobrowitsky has served as lead trial counsel in state and federal courts in intellectual property infringement cases. She has also successfully represented clients in opposition and cancellation proceedings before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and in Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP) actions. Experienced in resolving contentious disputes quickly and favorably, Ms. Dobrowitsky currently serves as a neutral case evaluator in complex commercial cases by appointment of the Oakland County Circuit Court.

Complementing her litigation work, she also heads the firm's U.S. and international trademark clearance and prosecution practice. Ms. Dobrowitsky advises clients in developing cost-effective brand protection programs, handles all aspects of trademark and copyright registration and maintenance, and negotiates intellectual property licenses and agreements. In 2013 and 2014, dBusiness magazine named Ms. Dobrowitsky a "Top Lawyer" for intellectual property. Benchmark Litigation and SuperLawyers have also recently identified her as a Michigan "Rising Star" attorney.

Representative legal matters include the following:

- First-chair trial counsel for intellectual property owner in trademark infringement and breach of contract action. Following a four-day bench trial, the court ruled in client's favor on all issues and awarded full damages, including treble damages, costs, interest, and attorneys fees.
- Lead defense counsel in trademark infringement litigation in federal court and in concurrent opposition proceeding before Trademark Trial and Appeal Board, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. The court granted summary judgment in favor of client. Plaintiff's unsuccessful challenge to ruling was dismissed on appeal by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.
- Won targeted injunction on behalf of boutique store owner against national cable television network in trademark infringement case involving reverse confusion.
- Successfully obtained judgment and permanent injunction in U.S. against trademark infringer on behalf of e-commerce company. Advised client on protecting its brand abroad, including in Europe and Latin America, then worked with foreign counsel to secure trademark registrations and preliminary injunctions against the infringer in targeted countries worldwide.
- Represented defendant in all aspects of patent infringement case as key member of litigation team. After a week-long trial, the jury reached a verdict of non-infringement. Briefed case on appeal and appeared for oral argument before U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

- Guided client in launch of brand for innovative sports equipment sold in U.S. and abroad. Cleared potential trademarks, obtained trademark registrations in North America and Europe, secured domain names, advised client on design patent protection, and policed use of trademarks by others.
- Manage and maintain worldwide intellectual property portfolio for consumer goods manufacturer, including identification and clearance of new brands, maintenance of U.S. and foreign trademark registrations, and review of proposed packaging and advertising.
- Monitor websites and social media for unauthorized use of trademarks and likeness of professional athlete and efficiently resolve infringement disputes without litigation.

Outside the office, Ms. Dobrowitsky was recently appointed by Michigan's governor to the Board of the Early Childhood Investment Corporation, a non-partisan publicly-owned non-profit organization that implements the State's initiative to prepare Michigan's youngest children for school and life-long success. She serves as a Trustee of the Pewabic Society, Inc., the governing body of Pewabic Pottery in Detroit, Michigan. Ms. Dobrowitsky serves as a Business Venture Coach with Blackstone Launch Pad, a collaboration of Walsh College, Wayne State University, and Automation Alley, which supports entrepreneurs and innovation in Metro Detroit. She is also Secretary on the Board of Directors of the Mental Health Association in Michigan, the state's oldest non-profit organization dedicated to public advocacy on behalf of the mentally ill.

Ms. Dobrowitsky received her B.A. from the Residential College of the University of Michigan, where she received the Senior Campus Leadership award, earned Class Honors, and wrote for the Michigan Daily as a classical music critic.

Ms. Dobrowitsky received her J.D. *cum laude* from the University of Michigan Law School, where she served as an associate editor of the Journal of Law Reform, co-President of the Criminal Law Society, and as a student tutor of first-year law students in civil procedure and property law. Following graduation, she served as a law clerk to Hon. John Feikens, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan.

After her federal clerkship, she joined the commercial litigation group of a large Michigan-based international law firm. While with the firm, she was selected to participate in a cooperative program with the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office where she handled all aspects of many felony bench and jury trials, argued evidentiary motions, and conducted preliminary exams. She has spoken as a guest lecturer on intellectual property and brand protection at the School of Business Administration of Wayne State University and at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. Ms. Dobrowitsky launched Rivenoak Law in 2012.