

Thomas Dover

Partner | Los Angeles

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Thomas Dover provides cutting-edge legal strategies focused in all areas of intellectual property, corporate transactions and advertising. His broad, international experience ranges from complex software transactions, to consumer products, to large portfolio management, to entertainment and media interests. He is the Chair of Nossaman's Intellectual Property Group and co-leads the firm's Privacy/Data Security Team.

Thomas works with transportation entities and agencies throughout California and many other states for infrastructure development, software and technology licensing, and trademark and branding issues. He also has significant experience with new technologies and was among the first attorneys pioneering the direct licensing and distribution of music and entertainment content via the internet and mobile platforms. He represents government and public agencies, internet/digital platform distributors, and content developers for transactional and litigation matters.

Thomas lectures widely on industry topics and serves as Adjunct Professor of Law at a Southern California law school.

EXPERIENCE

SOFTWARE, INTERNET/MEDIA & PRIVACY/DATA SECURITY

- Represents a wide variety of government agencies, public concerns and public-private partnerships (P3) for transactional, licensing and IP prosecution concerns regarding software, hardware and firmware issues generated by toll roads, automated toll collection, security systems and related data collection/security. Representative experience includes:
 - California High-Speed Rail Authority
 - Transportation Corridor Agencies (TCA, tollroads.com)\
 - Indiana Consolidated Justice Facility (P3 agreement)
 - Los Angeles World Airports, Automated People Mover
 - Maryland Transit Administration Purple Line project (P3 agreement)
 - Nevada Department of Transportation Project Neon (design-build contract)
 - Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (all-digital automated parking structures)
- Represents a 2nd-screen streaming content provider including ad-revenue issues, vendor and 3rd party data collection under new CA Online Privacy Protection Act Do Not Track and CA Song-Beverly Credit Card Act

regulations. Successfully addressed a MA State inquiry regarding so-called cloud storage of content and security of user personal identifying information (PII) as well as adoption of a Privacy by Design policy.

- Represented a significant German video game developer in the termination (and later litigation) of a publishing agreement and the successful negotiation of an international publishing and marketing agreement for video game exploitation; online and platform distribution. Provided critical services regarding key software licensing and the collection of user data and compliance with U.S., CA-specific and EU then-current Directive 94/46/EC and proposed General Data Protection Regulation.
- Represents several private and public entities and associations in complex software and platform licensing. These engagements often involve complex healthcare, public retirement association or public finance transactions and related issues.
- Represents significant multi-media content producers with focused distribution for internet, digital, mobile, and so-called outdoor display-specific mediums including all variety of software and website development and licensing agreements, consumer data collection, cookies and anonymized geographical trackers.
- Served as General Counsel for an internet media/marketing company during the pre-Anti-SPAM and privacy regulation era. Successfully directed the legal and business efforts to adapt to industry changes while enhancing technology and consumer offerings.
- Served as General Counsel and COO for a start-up online video gaming operation with a proprietary game controller product offering. Negotiated hundreds of international software and video game licenses during the pre-launch phase. Orchestrated the launch of the online operation and product offerings in China.

TRADEMARK & BRANDING

- Represents the trademark portfolios of a variety of public agency or government entities including the TCAs and the San Francisco Bay Ferry (WETA) for all purposes including prosecution, licensing and opposition/cancellation or related litigation.
- Represents significant fashion apparel and accessory brands in IP protection, finance, structure, manufacture, and distribution. Responsible for many celebrity or supermodel brands distributed through mass market and/or electronic retailers.
- Served as General Counsel for a multi-national consumer product/toy manufacturer managing significant litigation along with a portfolio of hundreds of patents. Prosecuted, maintained, and protected several branded product lines. Negotiated and maintained prominent and substantial entertainment/character brand licenses for manufacture. Special awareness of China-based finance and manufacture issues, import/export, and counterfeiting issues.

ENTERTAINMENT REPRESENTATION

- Represents a long list of talent including actors, musicians, authors, athletes, supermodels, designers, and personalities. Thomas is a specialist in endorsement, advertising, and licensing agreements.
- Represents significant producers with projects ranging from traditional film and television, to multi-media (internet, digital, mobile, etc.), to new technologies (3D, motion capture, AI, etc.).
- Represents significant celebrity brand consumer product companies for intellectual property production, finance, structure, manufacture, and distribution.

INSIGHTS

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Speaker, "Current Legal Issues in PAS System Administration and Privacy," Nossaman's 2019 Public Pensions & Investments Fiduciaries' Forum, Berkeley, CA, 09.05.2019

Speaker, "2019 Public Pensions & Investments Fiduciaries' Forum: Evolving Demands on Public Plan Fiduciaries," Nossaman's 2019 Public Pensions & Investments Fiduciaries' Forum, Berkeley, CA, 09.04.2019

Panelist, "A Connected World Has Risks: Systems, Data, and Privacy," Association of California Water Agencies' 2019 Spring Conference and Exhibition, Monterey, CA, 05.07.2019

Speaker, "Law & Technology for the Legal Professional – Not If, But When. Responding to a Data Breach," CLA Legal Technology Conference, Irvine, CA, 05.04.2019

Speaker, "Key Intellectual Property Issues for Public Agencies," Nossaman's 2018 Public Pensions and Investments Fiduciaries' Forum, San Francisco, CA, 10.19.2018

Speaker, "Devices, Data, and Privacy: Legal Concerns, Risks, and Best Practices," 2018 California Special Districts Association Annual Conference & Exhibitor Showcase, Indian Wells, CA, 09.25.2018

Speaker, "Intellectual Property/Data Breach/Cybersecurity," 4th Annual West Coast Ambulatory Surgery Center Seminar, Los Angeles, CA, 03.07.2018

Speaker, "Cybersecurity and Data Breaches," Nossaman's Annual Employment Law Seminar, Orange County, CA, 02.09.2018

Speaker, "Cybersecurity and Privacy: How Protected Is Your Data?," Nossaman's 2017 Public Pensions & Investments Fiduciaries' Forum, San Francisco, CA, 11.30.2017

Panelist, "There's Been a Breach - Now What?," Nossaman & University of California, Irvine's 2017 Cybersecurity Symposium, Los Angeles, CA, 10.23.2017

Panelist, "Intellectual Property Considerations in Public Contracts," Transportation Research Board's 56th Annual Workshop on Transportation Law, Salt Lake City, UT, 08.01.2017

Panelist, "From the Inside: Privacy/Data Security Hot Topics," Nossaman & University of California, Irvine's 2015 Cybersecurity Symposium, Los Angeles, CA, 12.01.2016

Moderator, "Intellectual Property & Privacy Highlights," 3rd Annual West Coast Ambulatory Surgery Center Seminar, Los Angeles, CA, 09.27.2016

Speaker, "Privacy for the Medical Practice in the Digital Age," California Ambulatory Surgery Association, Irvine & Pleasanton, CA, 03.01.2016

Speaker, "Intellectual Property Issues and Legal Guidance for Social Media," Public Affairs Council, Washington, DC, 02.25.2016

Speaker, "Stay Ahead: 2016 Emerging Employment Issues," Nossaman Employment Seminar, 02.2016

Speaker, "Front Line Privacy: The General Counsel's Perspective on Private Sector Cybersecurity," Nossaman & University of California, Irvine's 2015 Cybersecurity Symposium, Los Angeles, CA, 10.12.2015

COMMUNITY & PROFESSIONAL

Los Angeles County Bar Association

International Trademark Association, Famous and Well-Known Marks Subcommittee, US (2014-2016, 2016-2018 Terms)

Intellectual Property Owners Association, US Trademark Committee (2014-2015 Term)

International Association of Privacy Professionals

American Intellectual Property Law Association

PRACTICES

Intellectual Property

Privacy, Cybersecurity & Data Protection

Copyright

Trademark

Patent

INDUSTRIES

Government & Public Sector

EDUCATION

Southwestern University School of Law, LL.M., 2006

Southwestern University School of Law, J.D., 1993

University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, B.A., 1989

ADMISSIONS

California

U.S. District Court, Central District of California

U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California

U.S. District Court, Southern District of California