

Intellectual Property Partner Mike Molano Joins Sheppard Mullin Silicon Valley

Patent Litigation Expert Further Expands Firm's High-Tech Capabilities

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Michael A. Molano has joined the Silicon Valley office of Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP as a partner in the firm's Intellectual Property practice group. Molano was most recently a partner in the Palo Alto office of Mayer Brown LLP.

Molano is a registered patent attorney and electrical engineer whose practice focuses on intellectual property litigation in federal courts and before the ITC. For more than 15 years, he has represented clients engaged in IP litigation and patent matters across a broad spectrum of electrical and electro-mechanical fields, with substantial experience in the semiconductor industry.

"Mike adds significantly to our formidable patent litigation expertise and his semiconductor focus is complementary to our existing strength in the tech sector, both in Silicon Valley and throughout the firm. We continue to grow practices like IP and technology, and Mike's industry knowledge and experience is of great value to clients," said Guy Halgren, chairman of the firm.

Commented Molano, "It wasn't Sheppard Mullin's preeminent reputation in the California legal market that drew me here. Nor was it their thriving IP practice of over 70 lawyers. Instead, it was the quality of their people that convinced me that the firm, and its growing Silicon Valley office, was the perfect home for me and my practice."

"Mike's reputation in Silicon Valley and the IP community is outstanding. I am honored to work with him," said Marc Sockol, managing partner of the Silicon Valley office.

Molano received a J.D. from St. Louis University School of Law in 1993 and a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Northwestern University in 1990.

In November, Sheppard Mullin added two IP partners specializing in patent litigation: Tony Chen joined the firm's Los Angeles office from Bingham McCutchen and Joy Arnold joined the firm's New York office from Heller Ehrman. The firm's Intellectual Property practice group includes more than 70 attorneys firmwide.

About Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP

Sheppard Mullin is a full service AmLaw 100 firm with more than 560 attorneys in 11 offices located throughout California and in New York, Washington, D.C. and Shanghai. The firm's California offices are located in Los Angeles, Century City, San Francisco, Silicon Valley, Orange County, Santa Barbara, San Diego/Downtown and San Diego/Del Mar. Founded in 1927 on the principle that the firm would succeed only if its attorneys delivered prompt, high quality and cost-effective legal services, Sheppard Mullin provides legal counsel to U.S. and international clients. Companies turn to Sheppard Mullin to handle a full range of corporate and technology matters, high stakes litigation and complex real estate, land use and finance transactions. In the U.S., the firm's clients include more than half of the Fortune 100 companies.