Taniel E. Anderson

PARTNER

Tan is a trial attorney focusing on complex, technical litigation.



Industries

Beverage & Food
Life Sciences
Fashion & Retail Law

Practices

Communications & Technology
Complex Litigation
— Appellate
Patent Litigation
Food, Drug, Medical Device & Cosmetic
— Drugs & Biologics
— Medical Devices
Government Enforcement & White Collar
Patent
— Chemical & Life Sciences
— Electrical & Mechanical
— Hatch-Waxman Litigation
— Post-Grant Proceedings
— Section 337 ITC Litigation
Pro Bono
Trade Secrets, Noncompetes & Employee Mobility

International

Latin America

Languages

Portuguese

Education

University of North Carolina School of Law, JD, high honors

Duke University, BA

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Washington, DC

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Tan is a seasoned litigation attorney and Chair of the Brazil Desk, specializing in complex patent litigation and cross-border legal matters involving Brazil and Latin America. With deep expertise in artificial intelligence, emerging technologies, and international intellectual property enforcement, Tan provides strategic counsel to clients navigating the intersection of technology, litigation, and global commerce.

Brazil and International Experience

As Chair of the Brazil Desk, Tan leads the firm's Brazil practice, advising Brazilian clients on litigation, regulatory compliance, and business operations in the United States. His Portuguese fluency enables him to communicate directly with Brazilian clients, witnesses, and personnel, providing seamless representation in cross-border disputes. His Brazil-focused practice encompasses patent litigation, trade disputes, regulatory enforcement, and criminal defense matters involving Brazilian parties and interests.

Litigation Experience

Tan has successfully litigated and tried cases in US District Courts nationwide, the US International Trade Commission, state courts, arbitrations, and administrative tribunals. His patent litigation experience spans all phases, including pre-suit strategy, pleadings, discovery, expert testimony, hearings, trials, and appeals. At trial, Tan has handled matters ranging from pharmaceutical products and bulk welding wire to complex technical systems. He successfully represented a client in a criminal case involving violations of nuclear export-control statutes, demonstrating his capability in high-stakes criminal defense litigation.

Artificial Intelligence & Technology Expertise

Tan advises clients on legal issues arising from artificial intelligence technologies, including AI-generated content, intellectual property protection for AI systems, and regulatory compliance. He has worked with leading AI companies, including ElevenLabs, on matters involving AI voice synthesis technology, patent issues, copyright issues, and commercialization strategies. His AI practice includes patent litigation for AI-powered technologies, trade secret protection, licensing negotiations, and regulatory counseling for companies deploying machine learning and generative AI systems.

Technical Background

With a background as a nuclear engineer and years of hands-on experience, Tan brings technical expertise in electrical, mechanical, nuclear, chemical, and systems engineering to his litigation practice. This technical foundation allows him to quickly master complex technologies and effectively communicate technical concepts to judges, juries, and opposing counsel.

Previous Work

Prior to joining ArentFox Schiff, Tan was an intern for the Honorable Wallace W. Dixon, Middle District of North Carolina (2008 – 2009) and the Honorable J. Douglas McCullough, North Carolina Court of Appeals (2008).

Before law school, Tan served as a nuclear submarine officer aboard the *USS Nevada*, where he completed five strategic-deterrent patrols. During his service, Tan gained experience in the operation, maintenance, and overhaul of complex technical systems, including nuclear power generation, steam power, hydraulics, compressed air, chemistry, radiation, and electrical power generation and distribution.

Professional Activities

Tan is the Chair of the Brazil Desk, DC Vice Chair of the Pro Bono Committee, and the Co-Chair of the AFS Veteran's Group.

Publications, Presentations & Recognitions

- "Patent System in the US and Opportunities for Brazil," (panelist) AmCham Brazil (Mar. 11, 2026)
- "The Regulation of the Profession of the IP Agent," (panelist) ABAPI National Meeting (Mar. 11, 2026)
- "Trade Secret Litigation in the US, Civil and Criminal," Zhong Lun Law Firm (Oct. 18, 2024)
- "Intellectual Property Protection: The Value of Patents, Trademarks & Copyrights to Your Business" *How to Prepare: Veterans Venture Bootcamp;* Washington, DC; October 2013
- *Super Lawyers* "Rising Star" (2014-2018)

Celebrating ArentFox Schiff's Veterans: Tan Anderson on Going From Military Service to Client Service

Tan served in the US Navy for 10 years, ending his career as a Lieutenant Commander with distinction. After completing patrols on a nuclear submarine, Tan moved to reserve duty. He served with the Office of Naval Research and Naval Research Lab as a science & technology liaison officer.

Read more

Bar Admissions

District of Columbia
South Carolina
US Patent and Trademark Office

Court Admissions

US Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Circuit
US Court of Appeals, Federal Circuit
US Court of International Trade
Supreme Court of the United States
US Court of Federal Claims
US District Court, District of Columbia
US District Court, District of South Carolina
US District Court, Northern District of Ohio