

Fisher Broyles

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Practice Areas: Commercial Transactions; Financial Services & Lending; FinTech and Blockchain; General Corporate; Intellectual Property; Internet E-Commerce; Litigation - Intellectual Property; Outsourcing Privacy & Data Security; Technology

Bar Admissions: Illinois

Education: Harvard Law School, J.D. Cum Laude, 1980; University of Pennsylvania, Wharton School, B.S. Econ. Summa Cum Laude, 1977

Experience: Meridian Leasing Corp., Senior Vice President and General Counsel; IDC Services Inc., Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary; Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal; Gottlieb & Schwartz

Mr. Robins practices extensively in the general corporate and corporate governance, M&A, finance, intellectual property (including licensing, compliance and DMCA) and information technology/data security areas. As a result of his 36 years of experience in business practice, in both law firm and in-house environments, he appreciates the multifaceted nature of so many legal matters and is able to bring to bear, expertise in all pertinent areas and recognize the need for complementary expertise.

Mr. Robins has represented public and private clients of all sizes and in all industries ranging from Fortune 50 multinational firms to substantial private companies to start-ups to individual executives. His work has encompassed transactions of all sizes.

Representative transactions include business acquisitions, shareholder buy/sell agreements bank and similar financing, software licenses and computer/telecom hardware procurements, joint ventures, equipment and real estate leases, patent licenses, outsourcing and managed service contracts including data security/privacy matters and policies, executive employment, separation, non-disclosure and non-compete agreements, general trade secret practice and software-as-a-service and cloud transactions. Apart from specific transactions, Mr. Robins also engages in a good deal of compliance-related work,

involving contractual, privacy and intellectual property-related obligations and development of related policies.

Mr. Robins' experience in practice has been augmented by teaching as an adjunct law professor at Northwestern University School of Law and DePaul University College of Law, where he has taught Intellectual Property for Corporate Transactional Lawyers since 2005. He has also published extensively in a number of legal journals on topics ranging from corporate governance to technology procurement to equipment leasing to intellectual property and information technology due diligence in M&A transactions. His most recent article appears in as lead article in the Tulane Journal of Technology and Intellectual Property discussing recent litigation under the Digital Millennium Copyright Act, and its day-to-day implications for firms operating websites and owning copyrighted content. His previous article appeared in the University of California – Davis Business Law Journal and discussed the Dodd-Frank corporate governance provisions and their shortcomings. Additionally, he has presented at a number of legal conferences, and webinars, most recently for Strafford Publication on M&A covenants and closing conditions and The Knowledge Group, Inc. on privacy and information security due diligence in M&A transactions. He is AV-rated in the Martindale-Hubbell Legal Directory.

Selected Presentations and Publications

- Co-author, forthcoming (expected 4Q '20) article in Marquette University Intellectual Property Law Review, AMERICAN PRIVACY LAW AT THE DAWN OF A NEW DECADE (AND THE CCPA): OVERVIEW AND PRACTITIONER CRITIQUE
- Panelist Strafford Publications webinar on Buy-Sell Agreements, July, 2017
- Presentation on Overlooked Issues in Equity Buyout Agreements, Chicago Bar Association, Business Laws Committee, June 14, 2017
- Panelist Strafford Publications webinar on “Best Efforts and Commercially Reasonable Efforts in M&A Agreements,” October 2016”
- Panelist Strafford Publications webinar on Covenants and Conditions in M&A Deals, September 9, 2015
- Panelist Knowledge Group Inc. webinar on Information Security and Privacy in M&A Transactions, May 29, 2015
- Patent, Trade Secret or Both: A General Practitioner’s Guide”, Illinois Bar Journal, also included in Westlaw Journals and Law Reviews database, February 2015

- Interviewed on various intellectual property topics on Got Invention radio, February 2014
- Presentation on intellectual property pointers for corporate practitioners, Chicago Bar Association, Corporate Practice Committee, May 2013
- Presentation on intellectual property fundamentals for growing businesses, MIT Enterprise Forum of Chicago, September 2013
- Tips from Lawyers for Building Entrepreneurs (with Jann Johnson), Chicago Daily Law Bulletin, October 30, 2013
- “A Good Idea At the Time: Recent Digital Millennium Copyright Act Section 512(c) Safe Harbor Jurisprudence; Analysis and Critique of Current Applications and Implications”, Vol. 15 Tulane Journal of Technology and Intellectual Property (Winter 2013)
- Pay + Board Composition + Personal Behavior ≠ Corporate Governance: In Search Of Conceptual Change; UC Davis Business Law Journal June 2011
- Panelist, Arthur J. Gallagher program addressed to the fundamentals of information security and privacy for attorneys, June 2011
- Dawn Following Darkness: An Outcome-Oriented Model for Corporate Governance, 48 Duquesne Law Review 33 (Winter 2010)
- Expect Proxy Access to Survive Legal Challenges, The Conference Board, <http://tcbblogs.org/governance/2010/10/06/guest-contributor-expect-proxy-access-to-survive-legal-challenges/> October 6, 2010
- Intellectual Property and Information Technology Due Diligence In Merger and Acquisition Transaction”, University of Illinois Journal of Law, Technology and Policy, Winter 2008-09, reprinted in West Publishing 2009 compendium of top intellectual property articles
- Equipment Leasing (Matthew Bender Monograph released March 2000 and updated (w/co-author) September 2005)
- Computing the Contract: Getting that Tech Stuff in Writing (13 Business Law Today May/June 2004)
- Recipe for an Overdue Change: Why Corporate Lawyers Sometimes Need to Give Business Advice (12 Business Law Today July/August 2003)
- Cyberfinance: Raising Capital for the E-business (CCH Incorporated released June 2001)
- Making Nice: Help Your Client Nurture Good Relationships in Contract Negotiations (7 Business Law Today, May/June 1998)
- The Lawyer’s Guide to Acquiring a Medium-Sized Business (85 Illinois Bar Journal, September 1997)