

Wedlake Bell

Job Title: Contentious IP Solicitor – NQ to 4 yrs PQE

Status: Full time, permanent

Introduction

Wedlake Bell is looking to recruit an additional solicitor to join our busy Business Group.

Wedlake Bell's Business Group has lawyers who cover all aspects of mainly soft IP including trademarks, designs, copyright, database right, confidential information and data privacy.

On the non – contentious side, team members draft all kinds of commercial agreements including agency, franchise, IP licensing and distribution contracts. The team also advises on the IP aspects of branding and marketing law.

The Disputes team has a strength in contentious IP matters and it is in relation to this side of the practice that we are primarily looking to strengthen further with a new recruit.

We wish to recruit someone with a genuine interest in IP and whose primary focus is in relation to contentious work – not contract drafting.

There are opportunities for ambitious candidates to have considerable client contact and responsibility for matters at an early stage and to gain experience through undertaking a considerable variety of work.

The team is hard working and focussed, but operates in a fun, friendly and informal atmosphere.

Wedlake Bell's contentious IP work is led by Partner Michael Gardner.

Duties

- Advising on potential disputes and evidence gathering;
- Drafting and sending cease and desist letters to infringers
- Defending clients who are themselves on the receiving end of threats of infringement proceedings
- Preparing and issuing Court proceedings in the Intellectual Property Enterprise Court and the High Court, including where necessary seeking urgent interim relief
- Assisting clients with domain name disputes and filing administrative proceedings with Nominet, WIPO and other domain name dispute providers
- Advising on trade mark prosecution matters and conducting (and defending) opposition and cancellation proceedings at the UK Intellectual Property Office and the European Intellectual Property Office
- Advising clients on dispute avoidance in the field of IP
- Acting in other commercial disputes cases involving, in particular, contractual claims, breaches of confidence and judicial review.

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Clients

The team has a fantastic client base, these include;

- A multi- billion pound UK supermarket retailer
- International clothing brands
- Large US tech businesses
- An international hotel group
- The UK's largest consumer organisation
- One of the world's largest online gaming company
- Large well known charities
- Major international advertising agency group
- Some of the UK's largest wholesalers of grocery & household goods.

Essential Skills and Knowledge

- Strong academics
- Post – qualification exposure to IP litigation would be an advantage, but is not essential; albeit anyone who has not yet qualified will need to have at least one seat in an IP department and preferably experience in contentious work too
- We are considering candidates from newly qualified level up to around 4 years PQE
- We are looking for someone who is independently motivated, a self-starter but who enjoys working in a small team of like-minded individuals.