

DEVAN SHAO

Partner

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PRACTICE AREAS

MR. SHAO SPECIALIZES IN ENTERTAINMENT LAW AND IP ENFORCEMENT. HIS MAIN PRACTICE AREAS ALSO INCLUDE GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION (LITIGATION AND ARBITRATION).

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS AND CASES

Film, television, livestream and music

- Represented a world-renowned entertainment giant in its IP lawsuit in China against the producer and the publisher of a Chinese copycat movie
- Represented Tsuburaya Production in its series of copyright infringement and anti-unfair competition lawsuits against UMC and Bluearc concerning Ultraman images
- Represented NYSE-listed Huya Live in its defamation lawsuit against its direct competitor in China and successfully obtained a preliminary injunction to stop the competitor from filing a complaint with an application distribution platform, which is the first and only preliminary injunction of its kind issued in China
- Represented zhibo.tv in its new type of anti-unfair competition litigation against CNTV concerning internet broadcast of international sporting events
- Represented a media corporation in its lawsuit against a film group over the operation of a famous movie channel in Guangdong Province
- Advised IMAX and other entertainment and film groups on importing and distributing foreign films in China and on other related compliance matters
- Advised the Motion Picture Association of America on anti-piracy and IP enforcement for films and other audiovisual works

- Advised numerous entertainment and film companies on general IP issues and on transactions concerning the importation of IP and the license, production and distribution of animation, television and motion pictures
- Advised corporations and music producers on production, distribution, and dissemination of music works
- Advised a music and media group on a transaction concerning the license and transfer of nearly 10,000 songs and on ownership due diligence for related IP

Video games

- Represented a world-leading US-based interactive entertainment and video game company in its IP lawsuit in China filed against the publisher of an infringing movie (selected by the Supreme Court as one of the 50 Representative IP Protection Cases of China)
- Represented a globally renowned developer and publisher of entertainment video games in its IP lawsuit in China over merchandise infringement
- Advised Ubisoft on the importation, publication, operation and protection of video games in China
- Represented WeMade in the recognition and enforcement of arbitral awards rendered by foreign arbitration institutions and in disputes against game publishers
- Advised WeMade on actions against pirated video games and infringing video games in China and on other legal matters
- Represented the publishers of popular mobile games “The Warship Girls” and “The Girl’s Frontline” in highly media-covered lawsuits against game producers
- Represented Yoozoo in its civil litigation and administrative complaints against another famous Chinese video game company concerning video game copyright infringement
- Represented and defended Moonton as its lead counsel in its copyright infringement and anti-unfair competition lawsuits against Tencent and Riot Games in multiple jurisdictions including China, US, Japan, Korea, Thailand and Indonesia
- Defended Jump, Jiaoyimao.com, bilibili and other interactive and entertainment companies in IP lawsuits filed by Tencent concerning video games it produced or published
- Provided comprehensive legal services to mainstream gaming companies on video game development, publication, operation and protection and on IP

actions against unauthorized plug-ins and private servers

- Advised The Void on the importation, introduction and operation in China of its new interactive entertainment system

Sports

- Represented the world-renowned sports agency SECA in its lawsuit against a world champion athlete in a dispute arising out of an agency contract
- Provided comprehensive legal services to China Golf Dragons on its exclusive operation of the China Tour regular season
- Represented a famous sports and culture company in its lawsuit against a video sharing website concerning internet broadcasting of international sporting events
- Provided comprehensive legal services to the league organizer on its establishment, launch, operation, IP protection and license-granting of the e-sports professional league Mobile Legends Bang Bang
- Advised clubs and teams in various e-sports professional leagues on staff and player management, profit allocation, club operation, branding and protection, and other legal issues
- Advised a primary sponsor on competition changes and benefits and interests of sponsorship of FIFA Club World Cup and other legal issues

Other IP cases

- Represented foreign IP holders in various IP legal actions in China, including trademark enforcement, anti-counterfeiting, anti-piracy, anti-unfair competition, patent enforcement, patent invalidation, trade secret protection and defamation
- Defended foreign companies and foreign invested companies in bad faith trademark infringement lawsuits filed by trademark squatters in China
- Advised and represented enterprises in trade secret enforcement
- Defended companies in various industries in copyright infringement actions launched by photo gallery companies, application software developers and font software developers

OTHER INFORMATION

Education

- Fudan University School of Law, LL.B., 1991

Professional Qualification

- Admitted to practice in the PRC

Work Language

- English
- Chinese
- Shanghainese

Honors and Awards

- “Top 10 Law Talents of China - 2017”, CLECSS
- “Top 10 E-sports Lawyers of China - 2019”, Legalband
- “Firm of Media, Entertainment & Sport - 2019”, China Business Law Journal
- “Media Law: Tier 1 - 2020”, Media Law International

Professional Background

Mr. Shao joined Fangda in 2005.