HUSCH BLACKWELL



John Shaughnessy

ASSOCIATE

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OVERVIEW

John helps clients protect and commercialize their innovations through intellectual property litigation and transactions.

Before law school, John worked for eight years as a mechanical engineer and senior technical project manager for several Fortune 500 companies, leading product development programs from concept through manufacturing and commercialization. He worked closely with a customer base which included several large-scale automotive companies, and cross-functional teams across engineering, purchasing, manufacturing, quality, and executive leadership. This experience provided him with firsthand insight into the technical, commercial, and strategic challenges businesses face when developing and bringing products to market. Drawn to the intellectual challenge of the law and the opportunity to continue learning, John pursued a legal career to apply his technical background in a new way.

During law school, John built research and writing skills that carry directly into his intellectual property work through his service as a staff editor for a law journal and work in the highly-regarded Notre Dame Religious Liberty Clinic. He also spent a summer as a law clerk at a boutique plaintiffs-side litigation firm, where he researched a wide breadth of legal issues and drafted discovery documents and a motion to suppress.

As a summer associate at Husch Blackwell, John worked on several intellectual property matters, an experience he found both challenging and rewarding. That litigation grounding, combined

Service

Intellectual Property Litigation

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with his engineering background, fueled his interest in intellectual property litigation, where technical fluency and courtroom preparation intersect.

Known for his accuracy, timely service, and clear communication style, John focuses on understanding what clients need. His engineering background gives him an intuitive grasp of technical subject matter, and he brings the same collaborative, client-focused approach that served him throughout his engineering career to his work as an attorney.

Education

- J.D., University of Notre Dame Law School
  - *cum laude*
  - *Notre Dame Journal of Law*, Ethics & Public Policy, Staff Editor
  - Captain William O. McLean Law School Community Citizenship Award
  - J.L. Weigand Jr. Notre Dame Legal Education Trust Graduate 2026
- M.S., University of Kansas
  - Masters in Engineering Management
- B.S., Benedictine College
  - General Engineering
- B.S., University of North Dakota
  - *cum laude*
  - Mechanical Engineering

Admissions

- Missouri
- U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

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