

Chad Thorson

Charlotte Office Managing Partner

Charlotte, NC
(704) 347-6477
cthorsen@burr.com



Chad is a Partner in the Firm's Charlotte office where he works with clients to secure and exploit their intellectual property assets, whether that concerns securing patents, or speaking the technical language of clients in diverse industries to plan and execute the building of global patent portfolios. In addition to growing patent portfolios, Chad has led patent litigation teams, including in inter partes review proceedings before the Patent Trial and Appeals Board.

A former officer in the U.S. Navy's Nuclear Submarine program and instructor at the Navy's Nuclear Submarine School, Chad has practical and theoretical technical training in mechanical, electrical, and nuclear engineering technologies with particularly deep experience in electric vehicles, battery technology, aviation industry, fintech, wireless communications, software, tools, and outdoor power equipment.

Chad received his Juris Doctorate degree from the University of Connecticut School of Law and his Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering *with distinction* from the United States Naval Academy.

Experience

- Preparing and prosecuting patent applications, both in the U.S. and internationally, directed to telecommunication software applications, audio processing, speech conversion, user interfaces, wireless communication standards, virtual machines, data compression, machine controllers, gateway devices, routers, medical imaging devices, supply chain management software, electronic semiconductor devices, liquid crystal display devices, power generation and distribution equipment, gas/steam turbine technologies, video and image processing techniques, antennas, and blockchain technology.

PARALEGAL/ASSISTANT

Legal Practice Assistant

Heather Pressley
(704) 347-6422
hpressley@burr.com

CAPABILITIES

Intellectual Property

EDUCATION

Juris Doctor, University of Connecticut School of Law (2005)

B.S.E.E., *with distinction*, United States Naval Academy (1996)

LICENSED IN

North Carolina

ADMITTED IN

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Chad Thorson

- Preparing and prosecuting patent applications, both in the U.S. and internationally, directed to devices and technologies in the optical, mechanical and electro-mechanical fields including lasers, cutting devices, lumber handling devices, automated truss assembly devices, food preparation devices, aircraft design, power generation equipment, hand held tools, battery powered equipment and lawn care equipment, propulsion systems and automotive components.
- Conducting freedom to practice studies and preparing opinions related to validity and infringement issues.
- Advising and mentoring start-up companies on intellectual property related issues in telecom and fintech industries.
- Technical experience in an industrial setting relating to hydraulic, refrigeration and atmosphere control systems as well as reactor protection circuitry, nuclear instrumentation, power generation equipment and power distribution systems.

Honors & Recognition

- *The Best Lawyers in America*®: Patent Law since 2021
- *North Carolina Super Lawyers*, Intellectual Property (2023)

News

- Burr & Forman Partners Selected to 2023 North Carolina Super Lawyers List
01.18.2023

Speaking Engagements

- Association of Corporate Counsel South Carolina CLE
Speaking Engagement, Burr Forman & McNair; Columbia, SC, 01.23.2019

Professional Activities

- Naval Officer, Submarine Service (1996-2004)
- Navy Electronics Technician (1991-1992)