

Jeffrey R. Mulder

Associate

Bassford Remele

Diverse. That's probably the best way to describe Jeff Mulder's practice.

Mulder is a litigator concentrating in unfair competition in intellectual property, insurance coverage disputes and legal malpractice defense, with a smattering of constitutional law, for Bassford Remele in Minneapolis.

In 2009, he was the lone associate tapped to participate on the team representing Seagate in its lawsuit against a former employee who misappropriated trade secrets for a subsequent employer, Western Digital. Last year, after a seven-week arbitration trial, Seagate was awarded \$525 million plus interest to bring the total to roughly \$630 million. The award is pending confirmation by the court.

"The case was big in every sense of the word. Both parties produced over a million documents. There were dozens of depositions, and hundreds upon hundreds of written discovery requests of all types. There were dozens of non-dispositive motions, and multiple dispositive motions," Mulder recalled.

He recently obtained a summary judgment in a two-year legal-malpractice case that started in state court but was later removed to federal court. The dispute centered on his client's alleged mishandling of a patent matter, which resonated with Mulder. Prevailing saved the client's career and stymied a multi-million-dollar verdict.



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As for his other principal area of concentration, Mulder serves on the team representing multiple insurers against 3M in a lawsuit pending in Ramsey County. Among the complex issues is whether insurance will cover claims related to injuries resulting from exposure to hazardous chemicals, including asbestos, which protective masks manufactured by 3M failed to prevent.

Rounding out his practice is Mulder's

pro bono post-conviction representation of prisoners raising thorny constitutional claims. For example, he's representing a former death-row inmate in Alabama whose sentence was recently commuted to life imprisonment because he'd been convicted and sentenced while still a juvenile.

Mulder is married to Tiffanea Mulder, legal counsel at Medtronic. They met on the first day of law school orientation.

— Jane Pribeke