

Press Coverage | April 23, 2026

# Patent Cases Clog Texas Federal Court as Certainty Search Shifts

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Charles Baker, a partner with Troutman Pepper Locke, was quoted in the April 23, 2026 *Bloomberg Law* article, [“Patent Cases Clog Texas Federal Court as Certainty Search Shifts.”](#)

- “That’s not how the docket has operated in the past. If you have a trial date, you knew you were going to trial on that day,” said Charles Baker of Troutman Pepper Locke in Houston. “There’s a lot of uncertainty now in the Eastern District and getting trials set.”
- Last year, plaintiffs filed more than 1,200 patent-related suits in the Eastern District and over 500 in the Western District, according to a Bloomberg Law analysis. Many in the Eastern District come from NPEs, some of which file at a high volume seeking low settlement amounts, while others are well-funded with good patents, Baker said.
- The Eastern District is known for multi-million-dollar verdicts in 2025, but at the risk of a higher defendant success rate, he said.
- “You’re seeing a lot of defendants winning these cases in the Eastern District,” Baker said. “There’s still a slight advantage, but it’s not like how people think of it at the end of the day.”

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