

Michael B. Harlin

Partner | Intellectual Property

OVERVIEW

Mike is a patent attorney who helps clients protect their complex technologies and innovations through representation on all aspects of patent law, including patent counseling, advice and prosecution, transactions, contested proceedings, and opinion preparation. He manages nationwide patent prosecution efforts for assorted technologies, overseeing similar efforts internationally, and counseling clients on the development and implementation of long-term patent portfolio strategies. He is registered to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and has prepared numerous patent applications, responses and appeals.

He also represents clients in numerous vital matters that profoundly affect their portfolios and operations, including assessing competitor technologies, negotiating and preparing licenses and transfers, assisting with corporate transactions involving patent issues, conducting due diligence to support patent licenses, preparing patent opinions, and representing clients in adversarial proceedings before administrative agencies and courts throughout the country.

Mike has a sophisticated background in chemistry that enables him to develop patent portfolios covering a variety of products in the life sciences industry, including pharmaceuticals, biologics, diagnostics, genetics, and laboratory instruments and reagents. He brings unique insights and experiences to other chemical industries and products, such as coatings and composites, skin care, renewable fuels, and health foods. He has developed a well-earned reputation for providing helpful and practical advice on multimillion-dollar acquisitions and collaborations,



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EDUCATION

Chicago-Kent College of Law (J.D., 1996), with high honor

Yale University (B.S., Chemistry, 1990)

ADMISSIONS

Illinois

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

including conducting risk assessments and preparing agreements that include intellectual property, corporate, antitrust and regulatory components.

Clients often have intellectual property situations that require creative solutions to ensure their portfolios are comprehensive and achieve their maximum potential. Mike is a problem solver who excels at satisfying these needs, including identifying inspired ways to differentiate similar products to avoid infringement, and guiding researchers in the design of new products that are currently unavailable in the marketplace.

EXPERIENCE

- Providing patent analysis and prosecution on revolutionary technologies such as CRISPR/Cas genome editing and DNA sequencing.
- Advising clients on patent issues for licensing collaborations and acquisitions on therapeutic antibodies for treating autoimmune diseases and cancer.
- Conducting due diligence on patent issues for an acquisition of a company developing therapeutic antibodies for indications in immunology and oncology.
- Providing strategic analysis of IP landscapes and specific patents for various disease states, including cancer, inflammatory disorders, neurodegenerative disorders, cardiovascular disorders, neuropathic and visceral pain, viral infection and metabolic diseases.
- Prosecuting patent applications covering skin disinfecting foams widely found in hospitals, office and public areas.

Representative Life Science Patents & Applications

- U.S. Patent No. 12,037,640 – “Sequencing An Insert And An Identifier Without Denaturation”
- U.S. Patent No. 11,773,380 – “Polymerase Mutants And Use With 3’-Oh Unblocked Reversible Terminators”
- U.S. Patent No. 11,646,185 – “System And Method Of Data-Dependent Acquisition By Mass Spectrometry”
- U.S. Patent No. 11,549,106 – “Molecular Fabrication”
- U.S. Patent No. 11,548,876 – “Orthoester Compositions For Affinity Purification Of Oligonucleotides”
- U.S. Patent No. 10,718,773 – “Immunohistochemistry scoring methods and compositions”
- U.S. Patent No. 10,633,651 – “Assay methods and compositions for detecting contamination of nucleic acid identifiers”
- U.S. Patent No. 10,538,750 – “Methods and compositions for blocking off-target nucleic acids from cleavage by CRISPR proteins”



- U.S. Patent No. 11,466,314 – “Chromogenic peroxidase substrates”
- U.S. Patent No. 10,337,001 – “Guide RNA with chemical modifications”

RECOGNITIONS

- Patent Pro Bono Achievement Certificates, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), 2017, 2019, and 2022
- *The Best Lawyers in America*, recommended in “Intellectual Property” and “Patent Law” since 2025

NEWS & INSIGHTS

February 17, 2025 Event

NGE Attends the American Conference Institute’s 2nd Annual Life Sciences AI Summit

August 15, 2024 Firm News

60 Neal Gerber Eisenberg Attorneys Included in 2025 *Best Lawyers In America*

June 20, 2024 In The Media

Patents in China: Developments in 2024 and What’s to Come

May 21, 2024 Event

NGE Attends the ACI Advanced Summit on Life Sciences Patents Conference

September 21, 2023 Publication

Michael Harlin Quoted in *World IP Review* Article “US Patent Bills: Will They Live Up to Their Promises?”

April 27, 2023 Firm News

Michael Harlin Receives USPTO Patent Pro Bono Achievement Certificate

03.22.23 Firm News

Kevin O’Connor and Mike Harlin Speak at the ACI Novel Therapeutic Modalities and Gene Therapies Conference

November 16, 2022 Publication

Kevin O’Connor and Mike Harlin Author Article on Patents and RNA-Based Therapeutics Published on *BioProcess Online*

August 5, 2022 Publication

Client Alert: Proposed Bill Clarifies What Can Be Patented

July 28, 2022 In The Media

Mike Harlin Article on Pharmaceuticals and Artificial Intelligence Published on PharmExec.com

December 27, 2021 Publication

Method-of-Treatment Patents: Increasing Value & Risk



August 10, 2021 Publication

3 Successful Strategies for Patenting Diagnostic Technologies

January 4, 2021 In The Media

Michael Harlin Quoted in Law360 on Patent Policy to Watch in 2021

October 14, 2020 In The Media

Michael Harlin Quoted in IAM on Federal Circuit's Generic Drug Ruling

September 1, 2020 Publication

ANDA Litigation: Strategies and Tactics for Pharmaceutical Patent Litigators

April 20, 2020 Firm News

Holby Abern and Michael Harlin Receive USPTO Patent Pro Bono Achievement Certificates

April 3, 2020 Publication

COVID-19 Shows Need for Stronger Diagnostic IP Protection

March 23, 2020 Publication

Patents and COVID-19 Testing

July 31, 2018 Publication

Pre-ANDA Litigation: Strategies and Tactics for Developing a Drug Product and Patent Portfolio