



Annual Conference Program



NAPP 26TH ANNUAL MEETING & CONFERENCE

HISTORIC ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA
JULY 19-21, 2023

NAPP wishes to thank our sponsors for the
26th Annual Meeting and Conference!



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Thank You...

for attending the 2023 NAPP Annual Meeting and Conference (AMC)!

We hope that you plan to join us next year!

JULY 24-26, 2024

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A MESSAGE *from the* PRESIDENT



Welcome to the National Association of Patent Practitioners (NAPP) 2023 Annual Meeting and Conference (AMC) held in historic Alexandria, Virginia.

Over the past few years, the pandemic has taken its toll on us, some more than others. Yet, NAPP persevered and continued its work to be the organization of choice for patent professionals. In 2020 and 2021, NAPP pivoted to virtual AMCs and in 2022 the AMC convened its members as “neighbors down the hall” who connect and reconnect around the “water cooler.” The 2023 AMC looks to continue this trend and highlights in-person social and networking events. For example, on Wednesday, July 19, we have the walking tour of Old Town Alexandria followed by the evening welcome reception at the National Inventors Museum. Wednesday, July 20, from 6 to 9:00 pm meet for dinner with your special interest group to talk about, for example, how you came to be a member of NAPP, what you think of the patent profession, experiences you’ve had, issues you’re concerned about, etc. Our goal is to bring NAPP together and we are hoping events like this make our community that much stronger.

In addition to rekindling in-person connections, the AMC planning committee brings together an impressive group of in-person experts to update us on patent practice. Our Keynote Speaker, USPTO Patent Commissioner Vaishali Udupa will take the stage on Thursday, July 20 at 11:15am. We’ll also hear from USPTO Deputy Director of the Office of Petitions Fenn Matthew and PTAB Judge Linda Horner. Speakers will cover issues ranging from process and prosecution, high stakes M&A and litigation, and conduct and diversity, it’s a great line-up you won’t want to miss!

Plan to attend the NAPP Annual Meeting (Thursday, July 20) to learn about this year’s candidates for election, vote, and receive a NAPP annual report. The Annual Meeting is a great time to hear from committee leaders, learn more about volunteer opportunities for upcoming projects, and discover other member benefits and professional development opportunities. The NAPP organization relies on our members to keep us moving forward. The Board welcomes member suggestions, and this is an excellent time to provide feedback.

Your in-person participation in the AMC shows that NAPP is a dynamic, professional association. Thank you for your attendance and continued work within NAPP to make a difference in the patent profession.

Enjoy the AMC!

Christopher M. Turoski, President, NAPP





AMC Planning Committee

Dr. Daniel J. Krueger, Co-Chair 2023

Kirby Drake, Co-Chair 2023

Jennifer Bales

Tom Bassolino

Mike Lembo

Alex Pokot

Christopher Turoski

David Ladner

Highlighted Social Events

Wednesday, July 19, 2023

Optional Walking Tour of Old Town Alexandria from 10:00-11:30am

Welcome Reception: National Inventor's Museum from 5:15-7:30pm

Thursday, July 20, 2023

Lunch and NAPP Annual Meeting (Chris Turoski) from 11:50-1:20pm

Special Interest Group Dinners from 6:00-9:00pm

GENERAL INFORMATION



Conference Wi-Fi

Network ID: Public
Accept the terms and conditions, if asked.
No Password is required.

Covid-19 Safety Information

While participating in the National Association of Patent Practitioners ("NAPP") sponsored events "social distancing" is encouraged and we strongly suggest that unvaccinated attendees wear face coverings to reduce the risks of exposure to COVID-19.

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Meeting & Conference Schedule



WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 2023

Madison Clara Barton Auditorium

10:00-11:30am	<i>Optional Walking Tour of Old Town Alexandria</i>	
11:30-12:30pm	Registration & Lunch	The Lower Atrium
12:30-1:00pm	<i>Expert Insight on PCT / Foreign Filing</i> (David Dickerson)	
1:05-1:35pm	<i>Using Petitions Effectively during Prosecution</i> (Fenn Mathew, Deputy Director of the Office of Petitions)	
1:40-2:10pm	<i>Agile Patent Prosecution and Examiner Motives</i> (Pierce Mooney)	
2:15-2:45pm	<i>CPC Classification System</i> (Nick Palacio)	
2:45-3:00pm	<i>Refreshment Break</i>	
3:00-3:30pm	<i>Ethics: Avoiding Defective Patent Application Filings</i> (Rick Neifeld)	
3:35-4:05pm	<i>Protecting Your Practice from Cyber-Attack</i> (Shawn Tuma)	
4:10-4:40pm	<i>Drafting Considerations for Enforcement in ITC</i> (James Coughlan)	
4:45-5:15pm	<i>Strategies for Responding to Prior Art Rejections</i> (Kirby Drake)	
5:15-7:30pm	<i>Welcome Reception: National Inventor's Museum</i>	



Meeting & Conference Schedule

THURSDAY, JULY 20, 2023

Madison Clara Barton Auditorium

- 7:30-8:30am** Breakfast
- 8:30-9:00am** *Patent Eligibility in 2023: Observations and Recommended Practice*
(Mike Borella)
- 9:05-10:05am** *Strategies for Responding to Restriction Requirements*
(David Boundy)
- 10:05-10:20am** *Refreshment Break*
- 10:20-11:10am** *Recent Trends in Patent Law*
(Dennis Crouch)
- 11:15-11:45am** *Keynote Speaker*
(Vaishali Udupa, Patent Commissioner)
- 11:50-1:20pm** *Lunch and NAPP Annual Meeting*
(Chris Turoski)
- 1:25-1:55pm** *Patent Prosecution for Tech Companies Through IPO*
(Michael Henry)
- 2:00-2:30pm** *Heard on the Forum: Highlights of Selected Discussions*
(Tom Bassolino)
- 2:35-3:05pm** *Ethics: Backup Practitioner Guidelines*
(Richard Baker)
- 3:05-3:20pm** *Refreshment Break*
- 3:20-3:50pm** *Diversity of Thought: Free Your Mind... The Rest Will Follow*
(Carolyn Davis)

Meeting & Conference Schedule



THURSDAY, JULY 20, 2023

Madison Clara Barton Auditorium

- 3:55-4:25pm** *Best Practices for PTAB Appeals*
(PTAB Judge Linda Horner)
- 4:30-5:00pm** *Ethics: Working with Independent Inventors*
(Tom Kading)
- 6:00-9:00pm** *Special Interest Group Dinners*

FRIDAY, JULY 21, 2023

Madison Clara Barton Auditorium

- 7:30-8:30am** Breakfast
- 8:30-9:00am** *Step-by-Step Patent Term Calculation*
(Mike Locklar)
- 9:05-9:35am** *Invention in the Corporate Environment*
(Amy Decoster)
- 9:40-10:10am** *Return to Enforcement Value*
(Kip Werking)
- 10:10-10:25am** *Refreshment Break*
- 10:25-10:55am** *A Means for Making a Mess: The Fed Circuit, Nonce Words,
& Means-Plus-Function Claims*
(Craig Buschman)
- 11:00-11:30am** *Curating the Client Experience*
(Priya Cloutier)
- 11:35am-12:05pm** *Ethics: Do's and Don't's of Marketing Your Practice*
(Rich Baker and Dan Krueger)
- 12:05pm-1:30pm** *Optional Departure Lunch* (Not included in the conference fee)



Keynote
Speaker



Vaishali Udupa
Commissioner for Patents

USPTO Approaches to Fixing 101

Vaishali Udupa is the Commissioner for Patents of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). As

Commissioner for Patents, Ms. Udupa manages and leads the Patents organization as its chief operating officer. She oversees the agency's 10,000 employees, including more than 9,000 patent examiners responsible for fostering the country's innovation system by providing patent protections to inventors as stated in Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

Prior to joining the USPTO, Ms. Udupa was already a nationally recognized leader in intellectual property (IP), with over twenty years of experience in strategic IP advisement and complex litigation. She has a wealth of experience in patent prosecution and litigation, global IP policy, and diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility. In the private sector, Ms. Udupa secured multiple IP trial wins and managed numerous IP cases to favorable resolutions in the United States and abroad. She assisted in the development of patent and trademark portfolios and counseled internal clients regarding licensing deals, asset acquisitions, and agreements involving IP rights. Her technological experience includes, among others, electronic devices, networking and telecommunication systems, computer software, electronic commerce, consumer products, sporting goods, and medical devices.

Throughout her career, Ms. Udupa has achieved a proven track record of addressing diversity issues in the science, technology, and legal professions. She has sought to promote diversity and inclusion through pro-bono work and bar association involvement, including by serving as Honor Roll Committee Co-Chair of ChIPs, a non-profit organization that advances and connects women in technology, law, and policy; volunteering with the Girl Scouts Nation's Capital to provide young girls with their inventor patch; and teaching basic IP topics to Washington, D.C., high schoolers through the Street Law Program. Her efforts have received accolades, including the National Bar Association's 2020 Diversity in Tech and IP Law award. She also maintains a keen interest in increasing entrepreneurship and the number of patents applied for and obtained by all inventors, including women, minorities, veterans, and those from rural and economically disadvantaged areas.

Prior to joining the USPTO, Ms. Udupa was the Vice President, Associate General Counsel for Litigation at Hewlett Packard Enterprise (HPE). Prior to HPE, she was an IP litigation manager at HP and an associate at Jones Day and Pennie & Edmonds. Ms. Udupa earned her Juris Doctor from American University's Washington College of Law and her Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Virginia.

Conference Speakers



UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Fenn Mathew

*Deputy Director
of the Office of Petitions*

Using Petitions Effectively during Prosecution

Fenn Mathew currently serves as Supervisory Patent Examiner in TC 3700. Since 2014, he has

managed 12 examiners in Art Unit 3781, examining applications in the field of receptacles. Mr. Mathew started his career at the USPTO in 2001 as a Patent Examiner and became a Primary Examiner in 2008, examining applications in the field of exercise devices. In 2012, Mr. Mathew joined the Office of Patent Training, serving as a Trainer for newly hired examiners assigned to Mechanical Engineering and Chemical Engineering technologies. Mr. Mathew earned a B.S. in Biomedical Engineering and an M.S. in Biotechnology from the Johns Hopkins University and a J.D. from the George Mason University School of Law.



Pierce Mooney

Patent Practitioner

Agile Patent Prosecution and Examiner Motives

Pierce's journey began at a tech startup developing software, hardware, and other IP for clients and in house. Pierce

then served as a patent examiner at the USPTO in a language processing art unit. After passing the patent bar, Pierce handled patent preparation and prosecution for one of the most profitable patent portfolios before founding Mooney IP.



Nick Palacio

Lead Trainer, Serco

CPC Classification System

Nicholas Palacio is a lead Trainer with Serco's Intellectual Property Program. Serco provides patent classification, patent search, technology

analysis, and training to global patent offices, IP law firms, and inventors around the globe. Nicholas Palacio joined Serco in 2014 as a Patent Classifier with expertise in Surgical, Electrical and Mechanical arts. In 2015, he moved to the role of technical trainer where he teaches new classifiers how to classify patent applications into CPC and USPC classification systems. Nick also serves as search lead and trainer for Serco's patent search business ensuring thorough and high quality search results teaching new and experienced analysts search methodology and practices. Nick is a registered patent agent and holds a bachelor's degree in Biomedical Engineering from the University of Virginia.



Richard (Rick) Neifeld,

Ph.D., Patent Attorney

Ethics: Avoiding Defective Patent Applications Filings

Rick has BS and BA degrees from the University of Rochester, a Ph.D. in Physics from Rutgers University, and a

J.D. from George Washington University. He is the founder of Neifeld IP Law, PLLC, which focuses on PTAB proceedings and patent prosecution. Rick has chaired the AIPLA's (pre-AIA) interference committee and the FCBA's PTAB committee. He has published many articles on U.S. patent law and practice, written the book "Law Regarding Patents," and administers the "PatentLaw" Google group.

In his spare time, he enjoys gardening, hiking, and playing soccer.

Conference Speakers



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Shawn Tuma

Partner, Spencer Fane LLC

Protecting Your Practice from Cyber-Attack

Shawn Tuma is an attorney internationally recognized in cybersecurity, incident response, cyber risk management, and

data privacy law, areas in which he has practiced for over two decades. Shawn helps businesses protect their information and protect themselves from their information.

He is a Partner and Co-Chair of the Data Privacy & Cybersecurity Practice Group at Spencer Fane LLP where he regularly serves as cybersecurity and privacy counsel advising a wide variety of businesses ranging from small and mid-sized companies to Fortune 100 enterprises, across the United States and globally. Shawn counsels his clients with cybersecurity, data privacy, data breach and incident response, cyber risk management, regulatory compliance, and computer fraud related legal issues, and cyber-related litigation. He is frequently sought out and hired by other lawyers and law firms to advise them when these issues arise in cases for their own clients.

While this area of the law has evolved greatly in the 20+ years while Shawn has been practicing, he continues to evolve with it as a practitioner representing his clients, academically as an author and instructor, and as an analyst for the national media.

In 2016, Shawn was selected by the National Law Journal as a Cybersecurity Law Trailblazer and Texas SuperLawyers for the Top 100 Lawyers in DFW. He is regularly selected for D Magazine's Best Lawyers in Dallas and Texas SuperLawyers.

Holland & Knight



James (Jim) Coughlin

Drafting Considerations for Enforcement in ITC

Jim has 25 years of patent litigation experience before the U.S.I.T.C. both as a partner in private practice and in his former position as a lead

staff attorney at the ITC's Office of Unfair Import Investigations. He has served as lead ITC counsel in over 90 ITC investigations and has also represented clients on appeal at the CAFC and before the U.S. Depart. of Customs and Border Protection and the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative in connection with the enforcement of ITC remedial orders. Jim has a BS degree in mechanical engineering, a JD, an L.L.M. in intellectual property law, and served as office legal counsel to U.S. Senator Carl Levin, and judicial law clerk to the Hon. Marion T. Bennett, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.



and the public about patents and other important IP issues and identifying opportunities to advocate on the importance of IP.



Kirby Drake
Kirby Drake Law

Strategies for Responding to Prior Art Rejections

Since 2002, Kirby has focused her efforts on helping clients successfully navigate their intellectual property (IP)

challenges. She thrives on troubleshooting IP issues. She also enjoys being an advisor to clients when they need assistance in identifying, protecting, and leveraging their IP. Kirby has a special focus on the patent process, as she is a registered patent attorney. The patent system can be complicated, and Kirby helps clients be more comfortable and understand what inventions they can protect and how best to protect them. These inventions can be wide-reaching, and Kirby endeavors to make the patent process accessible to all, whether a start-up or a Fortune 500 company. Kirby utilizes checklists and forms and manages deadlines, sweating even the small stuff when it comes to IP for her clients so they can focus on growing and managing their businesses. Not only does Kirby work with clients to tackle their IP issues as part of my her practice, but she is also committed to IP education and advocacy through her work with the State Bar of Texas and the American Chemical Society. As part of the State Bar of Texas, Kirby served as Chair of the IP Section for the 2018-2019 bar year, where the Section offered IP pro bono workshops for Texas entrepreneurs and also held its first Trademark Boot Camp, educating attorneys, paralegals and law students on the nuts and bolts of trademark law. Kirby also served as Chair of the American Chemical Society (ACS) Committee on Patents and Related Matters for 2018-2020, where she focused on educating members



Michel Borella,
Partner, MBHB

Strategies for Responding to 35 USC 101 Rejections

Michael Borella is Chair of MBHB's Software and Business Methods Practice Group, and co-Chair of the firm's Diversity and Inclusion Committee.

Dr. Borella leverages his knowledge of complex software to help his clients – from individual inventors and global technology companies – solve intellectual property challenges and build and manage patent portfolios. Dr. Borella is a named inventor on more than 70 U.S. patent applications and has drafted or been involved in the prosecution of hundreds of patents in the U.S. and around the world. Clients also seek Dr. Borella's counsel on patent eligibility, validity, infringement, patentability analyses and litigation matters.

With a doctorate in computer science, he has expertise in a wide variety of technologies, including networking, cloud computing, enterprise software, machine learning and robotics.

Prior to joining MBHB, Dr. Borella spent more than a decade in the software industry, where he worked on wireless data gateways, voice-over-IP technologies, and mobile application development.

Conference Speakers



He has authored dozens of academic and technical papers related to networking, telecommunications and computer science. His research on the self-similar (fractal) nature of network latency and what it means to users has been particularly well-cited over the last two decades.



Dr. Borella writes frequently about intellectual property matters and is a regular contributor to Patent Docs, a website featuring news and commentary on patent law. He is a sought-after speaker, particularly in the area of patent eligibility.



David Boundy
*Private Practice Attorney,
Potomac Law Group PLLC*

Strategies for Responding to Restriction Requirements

David Boundy of Potomac Law Group PLLC, in Boston,

Massachusetts, practices at the intersection of patent and administrative law, and consults with other firms on matters before and appeals from the Patent Trial and Appeal Board. David is recognized as one of the nation's experts in administrative law: in March 2018, the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit invited David to lead a panel that included the President's chief regulatory oversight officer, in a program at the court's Judicial Conference to assist the court and bar in understanding administrative law issues. In 2007-09, David led teams that successfully urged the Office of Management and Budget to quash the Patent Office's continuations, 5/25 claims, IDS, and appeal regulations. In addition, he prosecutes patent applications and advises on intellectual property strategy. He may be reached at DBoundy@PotomacLaw.com.



Christopher M. Turoski
*President, National Association
of Patent Practitioners
Director, Assistant Professor,
Patent Law Programs
University of Minnesota Law
School*

NAPP Annual Meeting

Christopher M. Turoski currently serves as President of the National Association of Patent Practitioners. He is founder of Exclusive IP, LLC, and publishes under Twitter as @Turoski. Turoski also currently serves as Assistant Professor and Director of Patent Law Programs at the University of Minnesota Law School.

Turoski is the author of the treatises "Patent Claims," "Assets & Finance: Intellectual Property in Mergers and Acquisitions," and "The America Invents Act: A Guide to Patent Litigation and Patent Procedure," each published by Thomson Reuters. Turoski's writings are cited in briefs to the U.S. Supreme Court and public comments to the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office.

Previously, Turoski held a series of executive-level positions at Cargill Inc., the largest privately held corporation in the United States. As a vice president at CAN Technologies (a Cargill subsidiary), he led all intellectual property aspects of the company's mergers, acquisitions, divestitures, and joint ventures, including a multi-billion dollar purchase of the subsidiary's primary competitor. As secretary and counsel at Format Solutions (another Cargill subsidiary), he managed a worldwide multi-million dollar intellectual property and software licensing

program. Turoski also served as managing senior counsel at Cargill, where he led intellectual property matters for the worldwide legal acquisitions team while leading a global team of lawyers.

Turoski previously served as secretary and general counsel for the Epilepsy Foundation of Minnesota and as a Board Director for the Minnesota Distance Running Association and its Foundation. He began his legal career at Foley & Lardner, an international law firm. Turoski graduated from the University of Minnesota Law School magna cum laude, serving on the law review.



Dan Krueger
Ramey LLP

Do's and Don'ts of Marketing Your Practice

With his doctoral degree in Electrical Engineering, Dan is able to perform in even the most complex areas of technology. He

has earned the respect and loyalty of clients in many fields including computer architecture, software engineering, digital communications, coding, seismic data processing, oil field drilling technology and well logging. Dan is highly skilled in patent prosecution, opinion work, litigation support and "design-around" assistance. Dan also performs due-diligence and freedom-to-operate searches and assists his clients in developing strategic patent portfolios.

Dan earned his BSEE from The University of Tulsa with a focus on computer science ("because it's cool"). A significant portion of his coursework concentrated on advanced physics ("because physicists are fun to hang out with"). Dan gained familiarity with the oil field industry while studying at TU by working for the Artificial Lift Research Project at TU's North Campus Facility ("because I needed the money").

After earning his bachelor's degree, Dan pursued graduate work at The University Of Oklahoma, focusing on solid-state electronics for his master's degree and digital communications for his doctoral degree. His master's degree research focused on the development of hybrid superconductor-semiconductor transistors, and his doctoral research focused on equalization and coding techniques for magnetic recording. During this time, Dan consulted for Custom Machines and Controls in Dallas, Texas,



Michael Henry,
Founding Member, Henry Patent Law Firm PLLC

Patent Portfolio Through IPO

Michael Henry is the founding member of Henry Patent Law Firm PLLC in Dallas, Texas.

Michael's law practice focuses on patent drafting and portfolio management for tech companies. After completing his PhD at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Michael began his legal career as a patent agent and then as an associate at Fish & Richardson in Dallas. He started his firm in 2015. Michael specializes in complex and emerging technologies, and has worked with a number of companies through successful exits and acquisitions, including a recent IPO of a quantum computing company.

Conference Speakers



providing digital circuit design and programming services.

After a short post-doc residency, Dan took a job with Texas Instruments Telecommunications System Division (TSD) in Austin, Texas, as a UNIX and DSP chip programmer. When the TSD closed in 1996, Dan began working with Conley Rose, an intellectual property law firm with offices in Austin, Houston and Dallas. Dan was with Conley Rose until 2007, even working full time as he attended night school at The University of Houston Law Center. He founded Krueger Iselin LLP with Dr. Louis Iselin, a friend from his days at The University of Tulsa. Because running a small firm is way too much work, Dan has been with Ramey LLP since 2017.



Tom Bassolino
*Patent Attorney & Founder,
Bass Patent Law, LLC*

Heard on the Forum: Highlights of Selected Discussions

Tom Bassolino is a U.S. patent attorney with a strong focus on patent preparation, prosecution, and related services. Tom founded his own firm—Bass Patent Law, LLC—in Frederick, Maryland in 2018, where he works with individual inventors and Fortune 500 companies alike, mostly in the mechanical and electrical arts. Before founding Bass Patent Law, Tom worked in the New York City office of a large general practice firm (aka “biglaw”) and a boutique patent prosecution firm thereafter. Prior to practicing patent law, Tom was a mechanical engineer in New York City where he designed advanced plumbing and fire protection systems for high-rise buildings. Tom has been a member of NAPP for 10 years, previously serving on the Board of Directors (2019–2022) and Conference Planning Committee (2018–2022). Tom is a proud father of two young children, and a devoted husband to an amazing middle school math teacher. For more information on Tom, his firm, and his practice, please visit www.basspatent.com.
Committee.



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New England Intellectual Property



Rich Baker
*Director of Intellectual Property
 for Bottomline Technologies*

**Ethics: Do's and Don't's of
 Marketing Your Practice**

Rich Baker works full-time
 as the Director of Intellectual
 Property for Bottomline

Technologies, a Portsmouth NH fintech company. He also is the sole proprietor of New England Intellectual Property, where he helps inventors protect and monetize their inventions. In his spare time, Rich harvests maple syrup on his family's Archelaus Hill Maple Farm. Rich Baker serves on the NAPP Board of Directors and several political Boards.



**Carolyn Davis,
 ED.D., GCDF, CA, CCSP,**
*Director of the Center for
 Careers and Professional
 Development, Prairie View
 A&M University*

Cultivating Diversity

Dr. Carolyn Davis, a native of Prichard-Mobile, Alabama, has delivered career services in higher education for over 16 years. She is a published author who believes college and career readiness requires an individual focus and global mindset. As such, she has developed several career and employment initiatives including Career Advising training for Academic Advising, organizing a Career Ambassador Network, and implementing the College, Career, Empowerment Summit for high school juniors and seniors, designing a College-to-Careers Curriculum (Purpose First) for both community college and 4-year university settings.

Currently, Dr. Davis serves as the Director of the Center for Careers and Professional Development at Prairie View A&M University in Prairie View, Texas. Carolyn's career path includes tenure as a Director of Career Services and Pre-Professional Programs at Alcorn State University; Manager, Center for College-to-Careers—Houston Community College; Compensation Analyst—City Government; College Coordinator/Recruiter—Bechtel Engineering; Social Worker/Disaster Relief Supervisor—State of Texas Government; and Program Director of several non-profit organizations. She has served as a contributing member of several major college-wide initiatives such as: the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) Accreditation Team, Quality

Conference Speakers



Enhancement Planning Committee, and Ultimate 30 Transformation Focus Group.

Carolyn received her Doctorate in Education, Education Leadership from Sam Houston State University; Master of Public Administration from the University of South Alabama; and Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from Wiley College. Carolyn was awarded a full Graduate Assistantship from Kent State University and the University of South Alabama, and a partial one from Pepperdine University.

She is a Certified Global Career Development Facilitator (Center for Credentialing & Counseling, Inc.); a Certified Career Development Instructor and Certified Career Services Provider (National Career Development Association Credentialing Council); Certified Global Career Development Facilitator (American Counseling and Credentialing Association); and Certified Career Advisor (International Association of Career Advisors, LTD). She is an active member of National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) and National Career Development Association (NCDA).

Created by her love for career development, Carolyn's beliefs and actions are guided by her motto: "Until we understand the difference between the roles we fill, who we are, and how we fit into the global puzzle, we continue to allow the world to define us by their roles and their standards..." Dr. Carolyn Davis

Carolyn enjoys training, decorating, sewing, crafting, and developing programs. She considers her greatest achievement is a lasting marriage to Nolan Davis and raising three successful children (Ashley Tamar, Nolan J., and Sean T.). As evident in her children, she believes that career development is the pathway to sustainability and advancing our human capital and eco-system.

UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Linda Horner

Acting Vice Chief Administrative Patent Judge, Patent Trial and Appeal Board, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Best Practices for PTAB Appeals

Administrative Patent Judge

Linda Horner currently serves as the Acting Vice Chief Judge of the Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB) at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). She also is leading a team at the USPTO to advance President Biden's Executive Order on "Promoting Competition in American Economy." In this role, she oversees collaboration initiatives between the USPTO and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Judge Horner recently completed an assignment as a Senior Legal Advisor to the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the USPTO. As Senior Legal Advisor, she counseled the USPTO Director on a wide-range of patent-related legal and policy issues.

Judge Horner joined the USPTO as an Administrative Patent Judge in 2006. She has previously served as Acting Vice Chief Administrative Patent Judge of the PTAB from 2013-2014, Chair of the Published Cases Committee from 2011-2015, and Lead Administrative Patent Judge from 2007-2012. While at the USPTO, Judge Horner has helped shape agency policy at the intersection of AIA trials and district court proceedings, including authoring precedential and informative PTAB decisions and rule-makings. She also has worked extensively on ex parte appeals and authored rule-making on ex parte appeal procedures.

She speaks regularly on PTAB practice.

Prior to joining the USPTO, Judge Horner was a partner at Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox P.L.L.C. in Washington D.C., where she prosecuted patent applications, represented clients in interference proceedings before the USPTO, litigated patent cases in district courts and on appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, and represented clients in arbitration proceedings before the International Chamber of Commerce.

Judge Horner is a graduate of Boston University School of Law and Cornell University.



Tom Kading
Founder, Fargo Patent & Business Law

Ethics: Working with Independent Inventors

Tom Kading is the founder of Fargo Patent & Business Law, a law firm that specializes in legal solutions for inventors, investors, and entrepreneurs. He has extensive experience in business law, intellectual property law, construction law, real estate law, client fund oversight, technology applications, and dispute resolution. Kading holds a Juris Doctor and a Master's in Business Administration from the University of North Dakota, and he is admitted to the North Dakota State Bar, the United States Patent and Trademark Office, the United States District Court of North Dakota, and the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. He is also an active member of his community, serving in various advisory and leadership roles.



Michael Locklar
Managing Principle, Ewing & Jones, PLLC

Nonce Words and Means Plus Function

Michael G. "Mike" Locklar represents clients in a variety of fields, including chemicals, oil & gas, software, computers and computer hardware, electronics, consumer products, and medical devices. In his 23 years of IP practice, Mike's practice has included litigation, prosecution, and transactional work.

Mike has co-authored briefings to the Federal Circuit and the United States Supreme Court. He has also written and prosecuted patent applications in a variety of technical areas, including chemicals, oil field exploration and production tools and equipment, data communications, power generation systems, heat transfer equipment, fuel cells, post-tension concrete, and seismic equipment.

Mike is the Immediate Past Chair of the IP Section of the State Bar of Texas, and a past President of the Houston Intellectual Property Law Association. He is a frequent speaker and author on a variety of intellectual property topics including patent subject matter eligibility, patent prosecution, patent litigation, and specific patent and trademark subject topics.

Mike was a production engineer in chemical manufacturing for approximately 10 years before receiving his law degree.

Conference Speakers



Amy DeCoster,
Intellectual Property Liaison

Invention in the Corporate Environment

Amy DeCoster is an in-house patent agent in the Office of Intellectual Property Counsel at Amcor. Amcor is a global

packaging company with approximately \$15 billion in revenue and 40,000 employees. Amy sits in Amcor's Innovation Center in Neenah, Wisconsin where she liaises with Amcor's global Research and Development community to drive development and capture of intellectual property. Amy handles the full range of IP services to the business, including preparing and prosecuting applications, opposition, product clearance, and due diligence. She also works closely with the business to align IP strategy with overall company goals. Prior to joining Amcor, Amy was the process owner of the patent searching function within the Legal department at Kimberly-Clark and managed the workflow and resources for search requests from all global locations. Her background includes a variety of research and engineering roles and patent prosecution during her tenure with Kimberly-Clark. She is named on several issued patents. Amy holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from the University Wisconsin.



Kip Werking
Counsel, VLP Law Group LLP

Return to Enforcement Value

Kip has been practicing intellectual property law for over 15 years and is registered before the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Kip previously worked with multiple patent law boutiques where he assisted dozens of technology companies in preparing and prosecuting patent applications. He has extensive experience working with the following technology areas: displays, projectors, xerography, electric vehicles and batteries, digital cameras and optics, games and artificial intelligence, cellular networks, cybersecurity, virtual/augmented reality, and semiconductors.

In his practice, Kip has conducted hundreds of personal interviews with examiners on location at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, as well as obtained hundreds of issued patents for clients. Additionally, Kip has extensive experience with appeals from patent examination rejections before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board. Kip has also managed and trained new attorneys and patent agents in the patent prosecution process. During law school, Kip had a summer internship with the Office of Unfair Import Investigations helping the federal government in patent litigation before the International Trade Commission.



Craig Buschman,
Patent Law Works

Step-by-Step Patent Term Adjustment Calculation

Craig has represented and advised clients, from small startups to global Fortune 500 companies, on how to

best protect and exploit their valuable intellectual property, whether through patent, trademark, or copyright. He tailors his advice with the foresight he gained from litigating patent and trademark rights in federal court to meet each client's objectives. In addition, he advises clients on international portfolio management and strategy, patent and trademark preparation and prosecution in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office as well as international patent and trademark offices, due diligence, and general patent counseling.

His experience includes mechanical and electromechanical technologies in the fields of oil, gas, and mining exploration and processing, hydraulic systems, construction equipment, medical devices (including laparoscopic and endoscopic tools; orthopedic implants; pumps, and infusion devices), aerospace, automotive, sporting goods, semiconductors and semiconductor packaging.

Prior to becoming an attorney, Craig spent several years working for Schlumberger Oilfield Services as a field engineer. He also has practical engineering experience earned with GE Medical Systems and Johnson Controls' Automotive Systems Group. He also was a Michigan-licensed emergency medical technician.



Priya Cloutier
Attorney

Senior counsel with extensive experience and knowledge in intellectual property law and strategy, including patents, trademarks, copyrights, and trade secrets. Experienced in handling various IP matters, such as patentability, prosecution, transactions, standards, infringement, licensing, and design around. Experienced in drafting and negotiating complex commercial agreements with solid IP, export control, compliance, and other issues, involving domestic and international partners, suppliers, customers, and collaborators. Experienced in managing government contracts (grants and CRADAs) and compliance programs (ITAR/EAR). Experienced in M&A transactions, including deal terms and due diligence.

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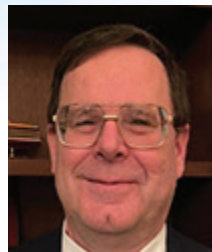
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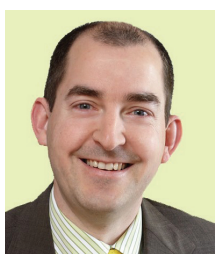
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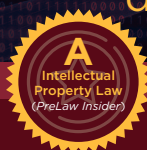


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2023 Candidates for Director



David Brennan
Holland & Hart LLP
Patent Agent
Total Years in Practice: 11

Experienced Patent Agent with a demonstrated history of working in the law practice industry. Skilled in Electrical Engineering, Wireless Communications, Medical Devices,

Oil & Gas, and Offshore Drilling. Strong mentoring and operations skills as chair of Professional Development with an educational background of Applied Physics and Mathematics.

Describe your previous involvement with NAPP (examples: Committee work, volunteer work, involvement with NAPP programs/activities):

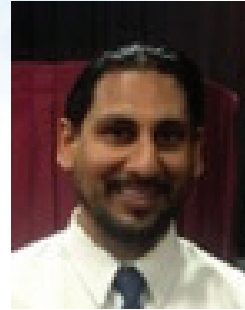
NAPP Advocacy Committee member as of September 2022

Describe your impressions of NAPP:

Although I'm fairly new to NAPP, my impressions are very much positive. Working with the advocacy committee was a key driver in me joining NAPP and the monthly meetings have been so engaging. The people I've interacted with on the forums are and on the committee are bright and helpful. I get the feeling that although we may have differing experiences and opinions on topics, everyone portrays a "we're all in this together" mindset and that it's "NAPP against the problem/topic" - it's so powerful to feel (and have most people behave) like you're on the same team and part of something bigger. I'm truly impressed with the organization and its leadership. Well done.

Why you would like to serve as a NAPP Director (what are your personal objectives?):

For most of my professional career, I've tried to develop skills and make decisions that would help clients and make things better for myself or my team. While that's been a great ride, it's been narrowly focused on my practice and my team, and I'd like to branch out. While it's important to be best that you can be in your own practice, I'd like to gain exposure to other perspectives in the industry and get more involved with the community of practitioners beyond Holland & Hart. My unique role as Principal (equivalent to income/non-equity partner) also comes with a unique perspective of the industry, particularly for non-attorney practitioners, which make up a fairly large portion of NAPP. I'd very much enjoy advocating for them and learning from other professionals and leaders in the industry to help grow NAPP and advocate for the organization as a whole.



Khavin Sinha
Sinha Law
Attorney
Total Years in Practice: 7

Khavin Sinha is a California and DC licensed attorney, happy to assist NAPP in whatever capacity NAPP needs. Khavin completed his Juris Doctor from Santa Clara University

in 2014 and has 20 years of engineering experience. He is passionate about the intersection of technology and law.

An inventor in his own right, Khavin has worked in the engineering field over the last twenty years. This experience has included high-tech, pharmaceutical, biotechnology, environmental and consumer protection work. Khavin received his undergraduate degree in Chemical Engineering at the University of British Columbia. Afterwards, he moved to the United States and completed a master's degree in Chemical Engineering at San Jose State University with a thesis focused on the electrochemical reduction of contaminants in wastewaters. Khavin has also completed a master's degree in Electrical Engineering from Johns Hopkins with a focus in optics.

In 2015 Khavin graduated with the law degree from Santa Clara University, completing the degree part-time while still working a full-time consulting engineering job. He opened his own firm, where he practices patent prosecution, business law, and environmental litigation work. In his spare time Khavin teaches as an adjunct professor at San Jose State University, and has previously volunteered to teach incarcerated students math and English.

Describe your previous involvement with NAPP (examples: Committee work, volunteer work, involvement with NAPP programs/activities):

Government Affairs Committee Chair, NAPP Board of Directors

Describe your impressions of NAPP:

NAPP is a fantastic organization of practitioners who are dedicated and passionate about profession and making a positive impact within the community.

Why you would like to serve as a NAPP Director (what are your personal objectives?):

I would like to help continue to lead NAPP as we enter the AI age and to help NAPP continue to be a sustainable, diverse and inclusive organization.

2023 Candidates for Director



Anne Fahrni

Nova IP Solutions LLC
Patent Prosecution
Total Years in Practice: 19

I obtained my Ph.D. in organic chemistry from Northwestern University and worked in R&D for leading start-up companies Tularik, Inc, and Geron Corp. in the San

Francisco Bay area. Looking back, I am still in awe of the caliber of the folks I hung out with at these two companies.

Nova IP Solutions was founded to continue the deeply gratifying experience of being at the cutting edge of innovation and hangout with the smartest and coolest people on the planet.

Describe your previous involvement with NAPP (examples: Committee work, volunteer work, involvement with NAPP programs/activities):

I was on the NAPP Publicity Committee from October 2017 through July 2022. I coordinated efforts between NAPP and local organization Georgia IP Alliance organizing two events to highlight patent agent privileges; outreach efforts to new local members in Georgia

For the past year I have been serving as the NAPP Professional Development Committee (PDC) Chair. I administer monthly committee meetings and submit reports to board; Administer educational webinars, featuring committee member Michael Maicher as one of the speakers; Oversee creation of Professional Development Committee section in NAPP forum and work with PDC committee member Guy Letourneau to announce educational contents; Working on IP landscaping project with IP thought leaders to create NAPP unique content.

Describe your impressions of NAPP:

NAPP is a place where I feel a strong sense of belonging. My interaction with members including the leadership (board and committee chairs) have been very pleasant and enriching. Although we have the term national in the name, NAPP is a global organization that includes members from foreign firms. NAPP is a place where global perspectives in IP and technology converge. I see great potential in NAPP and think NAPP represents the future of how patent prosecution should be conducted to benefit the innovation community.

Why you would like to serve as a NAPP Director (what are your personal objectives?):

Although the caliber of existing NAPP directors is hard to reach, I do have the strength of being able to look at patent practitioner relevant issues from different perspectives and provide innovative programming and input.

If elected, here are some of the areas I thought I could make a contribution:

1. Hot technology topics and IP Landscaping

I believe the unique strength for those of us who have had research and development experience is our technology expertise and know-how as well as our understanding of the industry from an "insider" perspective, prior to our IP related experience and expertise development. The field of IP is filled with IP law and business related educational content and very thin on content that tilts towards technology, while technology content provided by technology associations are too specialized and tedious for IP practitioners to digest. The paradox is that many of us who entered the IP field were primarily because of our love of technology. USPTO also has intended to create programs to educate examiners on the latest development in technology. So there is clearly an unmet need in our industry. And NAPP is uniquely positioned to meet this need. I therefore had been working with industry thought leaders on creating programming to deliver content in hot technology topics and IP landscaping. A higher profile with NAPP such as being a NAPP director will make my outreach effort on this project easier and more effective.

2. The dichotomy of patent law being administered at federal level and bar admission at state level

California and New York are the two states that allow experience based law practice being used for local bar admissions. Incidentally, these two states are also economically most active. Factor in the current development of virtual learning, NAPP has the potential to help other states in the nation to create opportunities that are similar to CA and NY. Again, a higher profile with NAPP such as being a NAPP director will make effort on this initiative more effective.

3. Coordination with my other roles

I serve as an executive member of a local organization called Georgia IP Alliance. I also interface with leadership at US IP Alliance and Global IP Alliance. Having a higher profile with NAPP such as being a NAPP director will help synergistic communication and collaboration efforts of NAPP with these organizations.

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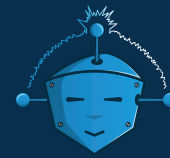
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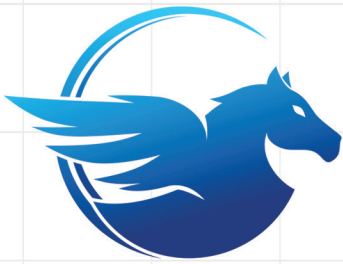
Ramey LLP is a full-service intellectual property law firm working with an international client base from our Houston, Texas, office. We are dedicated to enhancing client results through efficient practice management, innovative technologies and the use of skilled professionals.

We provide aggressive legal representation for our clients. William Ramey III, Jeff Kubiak, Dan Krueger, and the other skilled professionals at our firm are experienced patent prosecutors and litigators with extensive technical expertise in a broad range of subjects. Our sophisticated technical backgrounds allow us to speak the language of engineers, doctors, professors, scientists and inventors. Our personal, knowledgeable approach puts your experts at ease and prevents key information from being lost in translation.

From the whole Ramey team:

Congratulations to NAPP on 26 successful years!

Ramey LLP is a proud NAPP sponsor, both of the AMC and of NAPP's continuing mission to help patent practitioners flourish and achieve the highest levels of competence in their practice.



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