



Manley L. Cummins, IV

Counsel

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OVERVIEW

Manley Cummins is admitted to practice in Alabama and by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. He is practicing in Tennessee subject to Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 7, Article X, Section 10.07 pending admission to practice in Tennessee.

Manley Cummins is counsel in the firm's Intellectual Property Procurement and Portfolio Management practice group.

Manley brings deep insight from his time at the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), where he served as a primary examiner in multiple art units. In that role, he examined hundreds of patent applications and served as a resource within his art units for subject matter eligibility issues under 35 U.S.C. § 101. His examination experience spans a broad range of technologies, including plastics molding, additive manufacturing (e.g., fused filament fabrication, fused deposition modeling, selective laser sintering and melting, electron beam melting, stereolithography, and nanoimprint lithography), composite fabrication, medical devices, tobacco compositions, and electronic cigarettes.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Manley also served as a patent attorney detailee with the USPTO's Office of Policy and International Affairs, where he contributed to international intellectual property policy initiatives and research on emerging issues.

Prior to joining the firm, Manley served as a patent consultant, where he developed prosecution strategies for additive manufacturing technologies and worked closely with inventors and executive leadership to refine claim scope and navigate complex patentability issues.

Manley leverages his experience as a former USPTO primary examiner to anticipate examiner concerns and align prosecution strategies with clients' business objectives. His chemical engineering degree facilitates his prosecuting patents covering a wide variety of technologies. He serves as an effective bridge between inventors, applicants, and examiners, facilitating efficient, compact prosecution through targeted amendments and constructive dialogue.

EDUCATION

- J.D., University of Alabama School of Law, 2016
- B.S., University of Alabama, 2011

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of Alabama
- Not Admitted in Tennessee
- United States Patent and Trademark Office

AREAS OF FOCUS

- IP Procurement and Portfolio Management