

Thomas C. Basso

Partner

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OVERVIEW

Thomas C. Basso concentrates his practice in patent law. Thomas serves as a strategic advisor of patent related services for a global client base including technology and manufacturing companies based in Japan. He has comprehensive patent portfolio management and patent office practice experience from early-developmental invention stage of patents to application preparation and examination and to patent grant and post patent grant including having handled successful reissue, reexamination and patent appeals. Thomas has substantial patent counseling experience relating to chemical and material-based technologies including battery, display, fuel cell, imaging, sensor, semiconductor, pharmaceutical, healthcare, food and nutrition, energy, and environmental related technologies.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Thomas' undergraduate studies included a chemistry-and engineering-based curriculum, such as advanced level classes in organic, inorganic and physical chemistry, mathematics and physics. His graduate studies in chemical engineering included course work and published research in catalysis with the director of the Center for Catalysis and Surface Science. He also gained technical experience working as a chemist intern at Kellogg Company during his undergraduate summers.

Before law school, Thomas worked as a Federal On-Scene Coordinator for the US Environmental Protection Agency in Region V, acting as the lead federal responder in Superfund and OPA emergency response projects.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Patent Law in Chicago, 2024-2025
- Listed as a leader in Illinois IP Litigation and Prosecution in *IAM Patent 1000*, 2021-present

PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Japan American Society of Chicago

- Japanese Chamber of Commerce Chicago

EDUCATION

- J.D., Chicago-Kent College of Law, Illinois Institute of Technology, 1999
- M.S., Northwestern University, 1991 *(Walter P. Murphy Fellowship in Chemical Engineering)*
- B.A., Albion College, 1989

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of Illinois
- United States Patent and Trademark Office
- United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit
- United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

NEWS & EVENTS

- 2 June 2026, K&L Gates IP Practice and Lawyers Recognized in 2026 Edition of IAM Patent 1000
- 6 June 2025, K&L Gates' IP Practice, Lawyers Recognized Among Leaders in 2025 Edition of IAM Patent 1000
- 10 June 2024, K&L Gates' IP Practice, Lawyers Recognized Among Leaders in 2024 Edition of IAM Patent 1000
- 1 August 2023, K&L Gates Intellectual Property Practice Listed Among Leaders in 2023 IAM Patent 1000 Rankings
- 18 August 2022, More Than 350 K&L Gates Lawyers Named Among 2023 Best Lawyers in America, Ones to Watch
- 11 July 2022, K&L Gates Intellectual Property Practice Recognized Among Leaders in 2022 IAM Patent 1000 Rankings
- 12 August 2021, K&L Gates Intellectual Property Practice Again Ranked Among Leaders in 2021 IAM Patent 1000

AREAS OF FOCUS

- IP Procurement and Portfolio Management
- IP Litigation

- Post-Grant Patents

INDUSTRIES

- Consumer Electronics
- Consumer Goods and Services