



Robert M. Barrett

Practice Area Leader - Intellectual Property

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OVERVIEW

Robert M. Barrett concentrates his practice in intellectual property law and, more specifically, strategic counseling and portfolio management leveraging his decades of experience handling patent litigation, prosecution, licensing, due diligence, portfolio management, and counseling. Robert's extensive experience includes working with companies in the biotech, chemical, software, e-commerce, health care, manufacturing, medical device, packaging, and food science spaces. He has acted as strategic IP advisor for some of the world's largest and most prominent companies including Nestlé, Baxter International, Wm. Wrigley Jr. Company, Onco Nalco Chemical, Methode Electronics, and Kyocera, as well as for a number of the nation's leading universities. In addition, he has helped a number of organizations monetize their IP rights including representing the seller in the largest royalty monetization.

He is one of the firm's global practice area leaders for the IP group. Previously, Robert was vice chairman of Bell Boyd & Lloyd at the time of its combination with K&L Gates in 2009. A degreed chemist prior to law school, he worked as a chemical engineer for Firestone Tire & Rubber Company.

An adjunct professor of patent law at two separate law schools, Robert has been recognized by industry publications as a leading practitioner in intellectual property law. For example, he served as one of Law360's "Voices of the Bar," a panel of highly accomplished IP professionals, including former judges, policy makers, academics, and inside and outside counsel, discussing timely and important developments in the field of intellectual property law. He also co-founded the Kent Intellectual Property Law Clinic and Chicago Intellectual Property Alliance.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Named an IP Star for 2014-2021 by *Managing Intellectual Property* in the United States and Illinois categories
- Named to *Best Lawyers in America* for patent law (2014-2022)
- Named an Illinois Super Lawyer annually since the honor's inception (2005-2021)
- Listed as a leader in Illinois IP Prosecution, *IAM Patent 1000*, (2020-2021)

PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Chicago Intellectual Property Alliance (Co-Founder; Past President, *President Emeritus*)
- French-American Chamber of Commerce – Chicago (Former Board of Directors)
- Intellectual Property Law Association of Chicago (Past President; Former Member of Board of Managers)
- IPLAC Education Foundation (Founding Member and Past President)
- MIT Enterprise Forum of Chicago (Former Executive Committee)

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Robert is a frequent lecturer with professors from Chicago-Kent College of Law on recent developments in patent law.

EDUCATION

- J.D., University of Oklahoma College of Law, 1981 (*with honors, Order of the Coif*)
- B.S., University of Oklahoma, 1977

ADMISSIONS

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

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP POWERED BY HUB

- 15 July 2016, Patent Office Propounds New Post-Prosecution Pilot Program (*Alerts/Updates*)
- 24 May 2016, Abstract Ideas and the USPTO: Examiner Guidance Post *Enfish* and *TLI* (*Alerts/Updates*)
- 11 May 2016, USPTO Clarifies Subject Matter Eligibility Procedure (*Alerts/Updates*)
- 10 May 2016, U.S. Patent Office Issues New Examples of Patent Eligibility Analysis of Life Sciences Claims (*Alerts/Updates*)
- 29 March 2016, Quality, Quantity and Comments: USPTO's New Patent Quality Metrics (*Alerts/Updates*)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- "How PTAB Applies Mayo To Methods Involving Natural Principles," *Law360*, 6 February 2017
- "A Guide To USPTO Guidance On Patentable Subject Matter," *Law360*, 19 May 2014

NEWS & EVENTS

- 18 October 2021, K&L Gates Continues Growth of Intellectual Property Practice with Addition of Trademarks Partner in Austin (*Press Release, Practice & Regional News*)
- 22 September 2021, K&L Gates Further Strengthens Intellectual Property Practice with Addition of Seasoned Litigation Partner in Chicago (*Press Release, Practice & Regional News*)
- 20 September 2021, K&L Gates Continues Growth of Technology Transactions/Privacy Practice with Additions of Seattle Partner and Associate (*Press Release, Practice & Regional News*)
- 19 August 2021, Nearly 300 K&L Gates Lawyers Named Among 2022 Best Lawyers in America, Ones to Watch (*Rankings & Recognitions*)
- 12 August 2021, K&L Gates Intellectual Property Practice Again Ranked Among Leaders in 2021 IAM Patent 1000 (*Rankings & Recognitions*)
- 6 July 2021, K&L Gates Further Bolsters Global IP Capabilities with Addition of Japanese Intellectual Property Team (*Press Release, Practice & Regional News*)
- 3 June 2021, K&L Gates Lawyers Ranked as 2021 'IP Stars' by Managing IP Magazine (*Rankings & Recognitions*)
- 21 May 2021, Chambers USA 2021 Guide Recognizes K&L Gates Intellectual Property Practice, Lawyers (*Rankings & Recognitions*)
- 10 May 2021, K&L Gates Strengthens Technology Transactions and Privacy Practice Group with Seattle Partner Addition (*Press Release, Practice & Regional News*)
- 26 January 2021, K&L Gates Welcomes Intellectual Property Partner in Portland (*Press Release*)
- 14 September 2020, K&L Gates Further Bolsters Intellectual Property Practice with Addition of Orange County Team (*Press Release, Practice & Regional News*)
- 26 August 2020, K&L Gates Continues Growth of Intellectual Property Practice with Addition of Chicago Team (*Press Release, Practice & Regional News*)
- 5 August 2020, K&L Gates Intellectual Property Practice Ranked Among Leaders in 2020 IAM Patent 1000 (*Rankings & Recognitions*)
- 3 August 2020, K&L Gates Bolsters Intellectual Property Practice with San Francisco Partner Addition (*Press Release, Practice & Regional News*)

- 23 July 2020, K&L Gates Intellectual Property Practice Ranked by The Legal 500 United States 2020 Guide with Six Lawyers Recommended (*Rankings & Recognitions*)
- 29 June 2020, K&L Gates, Lawyers Ranked as Trademark and Patent 'IP Stars' by *Managing IP Magazine* (*Rankings & Recognitions*)
- 25 June 2020, K&L Gates Intellectual Property Partner Elected to Board of Managers of The Chicago Bar Association (*Rankings & Recognitions*)
- 18 February 2020, K&L Gates, Lawyers Named as IP and Trademark Leaders in 2020 *World Trademark Review 1000* Rankings (*Rankings & Recognitions*)
- 9 July 2019, K&L Gates Bolsters IP Practice with Addition of Four-Lawyer Austin Team (*Press Release, Practice & Regional News*)
- 19 March 2018, K&L Gates Welcomes Returning Chicago IP Litigation Partner (*Press Release*)

AREAS OF FOCUS

- IP Procurement and Portfolio Management
- IP Litigation
- Post-Grant Patents
- Technology Transactions and Sourcing

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Coordination of numerous patent litigation matters on behalf of Baxter against, among other parties, Baxalta, Braun, Becton Dickinson, Fresenius
- For over a decade, have functioned as Baxter's primary outside U.S. patent counsel handling inter alia: preparation and prosecution of thousands of patent applications; freedom to operate opinions; IP due diligence; post-grant reviews including reexaminations and inter parte reviews; oppositions of European patents; and portfolio management
- For years, prior to its merger with Mars, outside IP counsel to Wm. Wrigley Jr. Company handling all aspects of intellectual property work including patent and trademark preparation and prosecution, patent litigation, opinion work, and client counseling
- For over a decade, have functioned as Nestle's primary outside U.S. patent counsel handling inter alia: filing and prosecution of thousands of patent applications; freedom to operate opinions; IP due diligence; and portfolio management