



Rebecca M. McNeill

Founding Partner

Expertly advocating for her clients, Rebecca translates innovation into value

With more than 20 years of experience in biotechnology patent prosecution and counseling, Rebecca offers intellectual property strategy, new application preparation, patent prosecution (US and foreign), preparation and negotiation of IP transactions, USPTO contentious practice, and the full scope of counseling services to clients of various sizes. Rebecca has earned a reputation for excellence in her field, having been recognized as an IP Star by Managing Intellectual Property and ranked with an AV Preeminent® Peer Review Rating from Martindale-Hubbell.® Rebecca has been described as protecting inventions in a “commercially viable and strategic way” and having “excellent attention to detail and quality of work.” Rebecca “quickly wins—and maintains—the trust of those she works with.” She has a special interest in counseling clients on patent application filing and developing worldwide prosecution strategies in concert with clients’ business goals. She has worked with biotech start-ups, research foundations, universities, and pharmaceutical companies. She has managed and directed the US and international patent portfolios for US clients and has overseen the US patent portfolio for international clients. Rebecca has also expertly resolved material errors made by others in transactions with the US Patent and Trademark Office, in applications under the PCT, or in foreign patent prosecution, including filing errors and errors in the payment of maintenance or annuity fees. Rebecca also has experience in litigation and USPTO contentious proceedings.



Rebecca Mather McNeill

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Admissions

Massachusetts
District of Columbia
US Patent and Trademark Office
US Court of Appeals, Veterans Claims (CAVC)

Education

Georgetown University Law Center
JD, cum laude, 1997

Duke University
MS, Pharmacology, 1993

Oberlin College
BA, Biology, 1991

Rebecca has substantial experience in many technical areas, but has focused primarily in the life sciences, with specific areas including: antibodies and variants; bacteriotherapy and probiotics; cell signaling; coagulation proteins; diagnostics; electrochemiluminescence assays; fusion proteins; gene mutations; genetic engineering; immunooncology; infectious diseases; microbiology; protein purification; single molecule sequencing; and vaccine technology.

Prior to founding McNeill Baur PLLC, Rebecca practiced law at another small firm. She also served as the Head of Intellectual Property and Legal Affairs at Seres Health, Inc., a microbiome company. Rebecca defined and executed the IP objectives, strategy, and plan for Seres Health, including filing new applications, providing freedom-to-operate assessments, and drafting and negotiating a wide variety of agreements. Rebecca also spent 17 years at Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner, LLP.

Rebecca, leading our Massachusetts office, has made significant corporate sponsorships to the Museum of Science, Boston and the BioBuilder Educational Foundation Apprenticeship Challenge to invest in the next generation of inventors. Rebecca also has a strong dedication to pro bono legal services and sponsors the Massachusetts office commitment to Greater Boston Legal Services at the Leadership League level. Rebecca has also represented individuals needing pro bono legal services, including first-chairing a felony criminal trial and obtaining increased benefits for disabled veterans.

Rebecca has held prominent leadership positions in a variety of organizations, including co-chair of the Boston Patent Law Association Biotechnology Committee (2017-present), co-chair of the Boston Patent Law Association Chemical Patent Practice Committee (2013-2016); and co-chair of the MassBio IP Committee (2011-2012).



Rebecca M. McNeill

Recognition

2016 and 2017 IP Star, Managing Intellectual Property.
AV Preeminent Rating, Martindale Hubble.

Selected Publications

“Factors Favoring Early Settlement of Post-Grant Proceedings,” *Landslide* 8(6), July/August 2016 (coauthor).

“Navigating the Limitations on Discovery in AIA Post-Grant Proceedings,” *Buffalo Intellectual Property Law Journal*, December 3, 2015 (coauthor).

“New changes in US patent term adjustment calculations after *Novartis v. Lee*,” *Pharmaceutical Patent Analyst*, May 2015 (coauthor).

“Patent Prosecutors: Take Caution From Recent Federal Circuit Decisions Impacting Claim Construction,” *BNA’s Patent, Trademark & Copyright Journal*, December 6, 2013.

“Considerations for US Patent Attorneys When Drafting Patent Applications to Maximize Prosecution Opportunities in Europe,” *Bloomberg BNA World Intellectual Property Report*, November 1, 2013 (coauthor).

“How will Patent Reform Affect the Software and Internet Industries,” *Computer & Internet Lawyer*, December 2011 (coauthor).

“Caveat Venditor: Advance Planning for Startup Technology Companies,” *Bloomberg Law Reports*, October 17, 2011 (coauthor).

Speaking Engagements

“Favoring Factors Early Settlement of Post-Grant Proceedings” *landslide* 8(6) July/August 2016 (coauthor)

Fleming, IP Strategy, Patent Portfolio Development, and Innovation, Panelist and Conference Chairperson, April 6, 2016.

Strafford Publications Webinar, Maximizing Patent Prosecution Opportunities in Europe: Tactics For Counsel When Drafting US-Origin Applications, August 6, 2015.

AIPLA Webinar, Patent Drafting and Prosecution Guidance from Recent Claim Construction Decisions at the Federal Circuit, April 16, 2014.

BPLA, Moderator, Hot Topics in European and US Patent Law: Comparing, Contrasting, and Harmonizing Strategies with Focus on Post-Grant Proceedings, Unitary Patent System, Biosimilars, and Patent Misuse, April 1, 2014.

Strafford Publications Webinar, Maximizing Patent Prosecution Opportunities in Europe: Tactics For Counsel When Drafting US-Origin Applications, January 23, 2014.

BPLA Chemical Patent Practice Committee, Moderator, Lifecycle Management: Strategies and Techniques for Maximizing Exclusivity—a View from Both Sides, October 3, 2013.