



Jeffrey S. Sharp

Managing Partner

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Jeffrey S. Sharp is the Managing Partner of the Firm. He is a registered patent attorney with more than 30 years of experience in patent prosecution, litigation and transactional work who focuses his practice in the areas of biotechnology, chemistry, and chemical engineering.

Mr. Sharp has handled matters in a wide variety of biotechnology disciplines, such as pharmaceuticals, nutraceuticals, and gene therapy; recombinant nucleic acid technologies, including plant biotechnology; and in-vivo and in-vitro diagnostic and gene-sequencing methods. He has also gained successful outcomes in diverse chemical and chemical engineering technologies, including organic, inorganic, and metallurgical chemistry; chemical and metallurgical processing; and food and beverage chemistry.

Mr. Sharp is recognized as a committed advocate on behalf of the Firm's clients, qualities recognized by his Martindale-Hubbell® AV Peer Review Rating™ and other recognitions. He was selected by the *Chicago Law Bulletin* as a "Leading Lawyer" and in recognition of his outstanding patent work in life sciences, has been featured as a "Life Sciences Star" in *LMG Life Sciences*, 2012–2017. Mr. Sharp was selected for inclusion in the 2013–2018 *Super Lawyers*® lists. Only five percent of the lawyers in the state were selected for this honor. He was also selected by his peers for inclusion in the 2016–2019 editions of *The Best Lawyers in America*® in the practice area of Patent Law. Since 2013, Mr. Sharp has been recognized as an "IP Star" in *Managing IP's IP Stars Survey* (fka the *World IP Handbook and Survey*), and has also been selected as one of the "World's Leading Patent Practitioners" from 2013–2018 by *Intellectual Asset Management (IAM)* magazine.



Practices

- Patent Prosecution

Industries

- Biotechnology & Life Sciences
- Chemical Sciences
- Materials Science
- Pharmaceutical

Representative Experience

- Provide counsel to create an important patent portfolio for a company with innovative chemical technologies useful for industrial and food uses.
- Successfully prosecuted patents for improved drug discovery technologies as well as for important tissue transplantation screening technologies.

Mr. Sharp has handled matters in a wide variety of biotechnology disciplines, such as:

- Pharmaceuticals, nutraceuticals and gene therapy.
- Recombinant nucleic acid technologies, including plant biotechnology.
- In-vivo and in-vitro diagnostic and gene-sequencing methods.

He has also gained successful outcomes in diverse chemical and chemical engineering technologies, including:

- Organic, inorganic and metallurgical chemistry.
- Chemical and metallurgical processing.
- Food and beverage chemistry.

Background and Credentials

Beyond his extensive prosecution, counseling and opinion experience in these technologies, Mr. Sharp has participated in numerous inter partes patent matters including patent infringement litigation before U.S. District Courts, patent interference proceedings before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and patent opposition work before foreign patent offices.

Mr. Sharp received his J.D. from the University of Georgia School of Law in 1984. He received his B.S.E. in chemical engineering from Princeton University in 1980.

Education

- University of Georgia School of Law (J.D.)
- Princeton University (B.S.E.)
 - Chemical Engineering

Bar Admissions

- Illinois
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois
- U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Publications and Presentations

- “Sharp Wants a Paperless Office,” *Chicago Daily Law Bulletin, Law Firm Leaders*, April 17, 2012 (interview).
- “Patent Law Sizzles Amid IP Boom,” *Crain’s Chicago Business*, October 3, 2011 (featured quotes).
- “Challenges of Intellectual Property and Branding on Regulatory Approvals,” Co-author, chapter for *Nutraceutical and Functional Food Regulations in the United States and Around the World* (Academic Press, July 2008).

Community and Professional Involvement

- Member and former Chairman, Board of Directors of PilotLegis RPG
- Senior Trustee and former Chairman, Board of Trustees of The Latin School of Chicago
- Mentor at the mentorship academy of the Chicago Committee on Minorities in Large Law Firms
- Executive Leadership Team for the Heart Innovation Forum
- Executives’ Club of Chicago
- The Economic Club of Chicago
- Co-Class Agent for his Princeton class
- Previously: Chairman of the Committee to Nominate Alumni Trustees for Princeton University and President of The Princeton Club of Chicago

Representative Matters

Clients have benefited from Mr. Sharp's representation in the following cases:

Accu-cut Diamond Tool Company, Inc. v. Sunnen Products Company*

U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Case Type(s): Patent Infringement

Area(s) of practice: Mechanical Arts

Eicholz (Amersham) v. Tyagi*

U.S. Patent Office Board of Appeals and Interferences

Case Type(s): Patent Interference

Area(s) of practice: Biotechnology

Elsbach (Monsanto) v. Scott*

U.S. Patent Office Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences

Case Type(s): Patent Interference, Appeal

Area(s) of practice: Pharmaceuticals, Biotechnology

Fraleigh (Monsanto) v. Zambryski v. Anderson*

U.S. Patent Office Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences

Case Type(s): Patent Interference

Area(s) of practice: Biotechnology

*Hooykaas v. Shewmaker (Monsanto)**

U.S. Patent Office Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences

Case Type(s): Patent Interference

Area(s) of practice: Biotechnology

*Hybritech v. Abbott Laboratories**

U.S. Court of Appeals, Federal Circuit

Case Type(s): Patent Infringement, Appeal

Area(s) of practice: Biotechnology

Kishore (Monsanto) v. Burrell*

U.S. Patent Office Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences

Case Type(s): Patent Interference

Area(s) of practice: Biotechnology

*McNeil-PPC, Inc. v. The Procter & Gamble Company**

U.S. Court of Appeals, Federal Circuit

Case Type(s): Patent Infringement

Area(s) of practice: Chemistry/Chemical Engineering

Schilperoort v. Rogers (Monsanto) v. Barton v. Zambryski*

U.S. Patent Office Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences

Case Type(s): Patent Interference

Area(s) of practice: Biotechnology

*Shell Oil Company v. Union Carbide Company**

U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana

Case Type(s): Patent Interference, Patent Infringement

Area(s) of practice: Chemistry/Chemical Engineering

*Stalker v. Kishore (Monsanto)**

U.S. Patent Office Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences

Case Type(s): Patent Interference

Area(s) of practice: Biotechnology

*Party Represented