



Giordana Mahn

Associate

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Giordana secures valuable patent rights for a variety of clients in the mechanical, biomechanical, electromechanical, consumer products, and medical device fields. With significant experience in foreign and domestic patent prosecution, as well as post-grant proceedings, Giordana likes to say she “can prosecute anything with moving parts.” She also helps clients manage their global IP portfolios and provides day-to-day counseling on invalidity, non-infringement, freedom-to-practice and other business-critical IP matters.

While earning her undergraduate degree in mechanical engineering, Giordana secured a legal internship where she worked on obtaining patent protection for a cervical cell collector designed for women who are uncomfortable with invasive procedures or who lack access to medical care. The experience not only exposed her to IP law but also revealed how her engineering background could be applied to the development of innovative medical devices for people in need. Today, Giordana is a working mother who is inspired by women-owned businesses, especially those with a focus on women’s health in the emerging femtech sector.

Drawing significantly on her technical training and work experience in mechanical engineering, Giordana collaborates closely with clients to gain a deep understanding of their business objectives so that she can deliver sophisticated patent strategies with an eye toward the future. When presented with an invention that is very narrowly defined, Giordana takes a creative approach to expand beyond the client’s original scope, increase protection of the idea, and pave the way for broader marketability. She also prides herself on being accessible by approaching complex issues in a manner that is easy for her clients to understand.

Outside of work, Giordana is a certified mediator and pursues her longtime passion for public service by volunteering for the Center for Conflict Resolution, Cabrini Green Legal Aid, and the Mass Defense Program of the National Lawyers Guild.

Practices

- Design Patents
- Patent Prosecution
- Post-Grant Patent Proceedings

Industries

- Automotive & Transportation
- Consumer Products
- Industrial & Mechanical Technologies
- Medical Devices

Representative Experience

Giordana has prosecuted patents and provided strategic IP counsel in a variety of technologies:

- Medical devices, including intravenous drug delivery systems
- Terminal sterilization processes
- Personal care and other consumer products
- Process control systems and other manufacturing equipment technology
- Bottling systems
- Injection molding machines and processes
- Refrigeration and freezer systems
- Hardware
- Automotive components

Background and Credentials

While in law school, Giordana was on the Dean's List and received CALI awards for the highest grade in Legal Writing, Advocacy, and Mediation Certification & Courthouse Practicum. In her role as the Executive Editor of the *Loyola University Chicago Law Journal*, she edited scholarly articles and hosted a symposium focused on a variety of current patent issues.

Education

- Loyola University Chicago School of Law (J.D., *cum laude*)
- University of Michigan (B.S.)
 - Mechanical Engineering (with a concentration in energy)

Bar Admissions

- U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
- Illinois

Publications and Presentations

- “11th Annual Advocacy Challenge: Patent Exhaustion & Appellate Review of PTAB Institution Decisions,” Presented at The Richard Linn American Inn of Court, April 13, 2017.
- “Industrial (Design) Revolution: From Spoons to Smartphones,” Presented at The Richard Linn American Inn of Court, November 12, 2015.
- “Sweeping changes: The US Innovation Act of 2015 proposes several dramatic revisions to patent law,” Co-Author, *Intellectual Property Magazine*, April 2015.
- “*Keeping Trolls Out of Courts and Out of Pocket: Expanding the Inequitable Conduct Doctrine*,” 45 LOY. U. CHI. L. J. 1245 (2014).

Community and Professional Involvement

Giordana is a member of The Richard Linn American Inn of Court and is one of Women of Wearables’ (WoW) Experts in Residence for women and their allies in wearable tech, healthtech, and femtech. She is active in community outreach and has donated her time to the following programs:

- National Lawyers Guild: Mass Defense Program in Chicago, IL – currently provides pro bono legal representation for protesters and activists charged with misdemeanors and ordinance violations
- Center of Conflict Resolution (CCR) in Chicago, IL – currently provides pro bono mediation services as a certified mediator
- Cabrini Green Legal Aid (CGLA) in Chicago, IL – currently provides pro bono assistance in the areas of executive clemency and expungement petitions
- Wills for Heroes Foundation – in partnership with the Chicago Bar Association’s Young Lawyers Section, assisted veterans and first responders with essential estate planning documents
- Health Justice Project of Loyola University Chicago School of Law, an interdisciplinary medical-legal partnership focused on protecting the health and housing rights of people in poverty in the Chicago region – served as a client advocate and student attorney (2011–2014)
- Pantanal Center for Education and Research – volunteered as a student engineer to help bring solar energy and water filtration systems to a rural community in the Pantanal region of Brazil (2009)