



Jeffrey S. Sharp

Managing Partner

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Jeffrey Sharp is the Managing Partner of Marshall Gerstein. 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.

Jeff 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.

Jeff 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 since 2012 as a "Life Sciences Star" in *LMG Life Sciences*. He was selected for inclusion in the 2013–2021 *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 *The Best Lawyers in America*® since 2016 in the practice area of Patent Law. Since 2013, Jeff has been recognized as an "IP Star" in the *Managing Intellectual Property* IP Stars Survey, and selected as one of the "World's Leading Patent Practitioners" 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.

Jeff 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, Jeff 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.

Jeff 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

April 16, 2021

"The Value of Intellectual Property to Investors"

Keiretsu Forum Midwest Thought Leadership Series

April 8, 2021

"Marshall Gerstein Got Creative to Stay Connected, Managing Partner Says" (featured quotes)

The Mid-Market Report

January 27, 2021

"Managing Expectations: Associate-to-Partner Pipeline (Bridge to Partnership)"

Law Firm Compensation Strategy: A Virtual Think-Tank Conference

2019

"Mid-sized law firms – competitive and innovation strategies"

Contributor to Chapter 6 of Competitive Strategies for Mid-Sized Law Firms

June 2019

"Challenges of Intellectual Property and Branding on Regulatory Approvals"

Chapter for Nutraceutical and Functional Food Regulations in the United States and around the World, Third Edition

May 28, 2019

"What J.D. Hopefuls Should Know About Areas of Law" (featured quotes)

U.S. News & World Report

April 17, 2012

"Sharp Wants a Paperless Office"

Interview by Chicago Daily Law Bulletin, Law Firm Leaders

November 3, 2011

"Patent Law Sizzles Amid IP Boom" (featured quotes)

Crain's Chicago Business

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
- Keiretsu Forum, Chicago/Midwest Chapter – IP Due Diligence

Representative Matters

Clients have benefited from Jeff'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

Fralely (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