



2018 Speaker Biographies

PATRICIA ADES is Senior IP Counsel at J.M. Huber Corporation, where she handles all aspects of the company's intellectual property matters. Patty formerly practiced law at the firms Gardner, Groff, Santos & Greenwald, P.C. and Needle & Rosenberg, P.C. after starting her career in Iowa law firms. Before law school, she also worked as a Project Engineer at Microbial Environmental Services. She earned her J.D. from the University of Iowa and a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Iowa State University.

STEPHANIE ALLEN has protected intellectual property rights of Fortune 100 companies through prosecution, litigation, counseling, and strategic portfolio management for over 11 years. As Senior IP Counsel for Cox Communications, her experience includes designing and implementing company-wide patent programs, leading litigation teams, working with product development clients to launch new services and brands, conducting IP due diligence for corporate acquisitions, managing ISP compliance pursuant to the DMCA, and counseling clients on a range of IP issues. She leverages her education in electrical engineering and computer science to advise clients in protecting and licensing patents in the fields of video transmission hardware and software, network design and topology, advanced electronics, electronic program guides, smart-home technology and wired & wireless telecommunications. As a litigator, she has managed patent matters ranging from small NPE litigation to large competitor cases. Her leadership has led to numerous victories, and her strategies for managing litigation have resulted in millions of dollars of cost savings for Cox. Stephanie is a frequent speaker on the topics of managing patent litigation, patent portfolio development, electronic discovery, inter partes review, and battling NPEs.

CAROL ANSLEY is Senior Counsel on the Litigation Legal team at ARRIS International plc. Carol holds BEE (1989) and MEE (1995) degrees in electrical engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology as well as a J.D. from Georgia State University (2014). She was one of the original ARRIS employees when Arris Interactive was formed in 1995, and has served in a variety of technical leadership positions, including Principal Engineer, Hardware Development Senior Manager and Platform Quality Control Manager. Her current role combines supporting the patent process within ARRIS working with engineering teams and the legal team as well as being part of the patent litigation defense team. She also supports wireless standards activities. She also has received 25 US patents in various areas of communications and CATV-related technology. She regularly contributes telecommunication industry technical papers on a variety of topics related to wireless home networking. She is a Board member of the MoCA Alliance and a voting member of IEEE SA 802.11.

JOE BENZ, President and COO at Ford Global Technologies, is responsible for advancing the culture of innovation across the entire Ford enterprise, including the encouragement of responsible risk taking. He assists in the management of intellectual property at Ford on a global level. He also leads teams of research, technology commercialization, financial, data analytics, and other personnel who develop creative

solutions that improve people's lives and make the world a better place. Prior to joining Ford, Joe was a patent and IP litigation attorney at Paul Hastings and other private firms. Joe is also in the Army Reserve where he holds the rank of Colonel. Joe earned a degree in engineering from the U.S. Military Academy at Westpoint, a masters in strategic studies from the U.S. Army War College, and his J.D./MBA from Emory.

MURRELL BLACKBURN serves as chief intellectual property counsel for Southwire Company. His 14 year practice has included the preparation and prosecution of US and international patent, trademark, and copyright applications, trade secret protection, strategic portfolio management, analysis of prior art and competitive positions, preparation of patentability, validity, and clearance opinions, negotiation of IP related agreements including licensing, secrecy, and joint development, managing IP litigation matters, and interface with business and R&D functions to ensure IP strategy correlates with business objectives. Mr. Blackburn is an Electrical Engineering graduate from the Missouri University of Science & Technology and received his Juris Doctorate from the University of Arkansas-Little Rock. Before practicing law, he worked with McDonnell Douglas' Artificial Intelligence/Expert Systems division and as a Project Engineer & Manager with PepsiCo. He also worked at Kimberly-Clark Corporation in the areas of reliability, engineering, and operations before practicing law at Merchant & Gould law firm.

JEFF BLAKE is a partner at Merchant & Gould P.C. Jeff's practice involves all aspects of intellectual property litigation and due diligence. His experience includes representation of clients in the electrical, pharmaceutical and mechanical arts at trial and on appeal before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. In addition, Jeff appears frequently before the U.S. Patent Trial and Appeal Board in inter partes review patent proceedings. Jeff also advises clients on due diligence matters relating to launching new products, monitoring competitor products, and licensing patent portfolios. Jeff received his B.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Alabama and his J.D. from the University of Virginia.

KERRI BRAUN is Group Intellectual Property Counsel with Andritz (USA) Inc., where she has been an in-house IP attorney for the last 6 years. She is the global head of the intellectual property practice, specializing in litigation, licensing, trade secret protection, training, and management and prosecution of registered IP rights. Prior to going in-house, she was an attorney in private practice where she litigated, licensed, and prosecuted IP rights. She is a member of the parent bar, and a 2018 recipient of a First Chair award for excellence as in-house IP Counsel.

CHRISTOPHER J. CHAN advises in-house counsel at a Fortune 100 corporation, counsels principals at a technology start-up, and helps clients identify key intellectual property and implement state of the art legal strategies to protect it. His practice encompasses all facets of patent law including international and domestic portfolio management and strategy, patent procurement, opinions and clearance studies, due diligence, licensing and related litigation. Chris offers clients a unique combination of intellectual property legal knowledge, advanced technical training and an intimate understanding of the international marketplace. He obtains and enforces key patent, trademark, copyright and trade secret rights for a variety of technologies, from computers, software, and financial transaction systems, to power generation equipment and controls, electro-mechanical devices and medical devices. Prior to entering the legal profession, Chris worked as a power industry engineer analyzing and resolving mechanical issues relating to power plant equipment and systems. He is skilled in identifying weaknesses in third-party patents and prepares non-infringement and invalidity opinions. He counsels clients on alternative options, including reexamination, design-around, and pre-litigation activities. Chris focuses on one of the fastest growing global IP issues: protecting and leveraging trademarks and IP on the Internet, including in social media, keywords and sponsored links and domain names. Chris also devises and implements proactive strategies to defend against aggressive patent holding companies.

DR. REAGAN CHARNEY is Patent Counsel for Newell Brands with responsibility for the Writing Segment (e.g. Sharpie, Elmer's, PaperMate, Expo, DYMO, Prismacolor, Parker, Mr. Sketch, X-Acto, Berol, Uniball, Krazy Glue, ROtring, and Waterman), along with the Process Solutions Segment (e.g. Jarden Plastics, Jarden Life Sciences, Jarden Zinc, and Shakespeare Applied Materials), and was previously responsible for the Commercial Products Segment (e.g. Brute, Slim Jim) and Consumer Products Segment (e.g. Fast Track). As part of this role, she oversees protecting these businesses through design and utility patents, in addition to trade secret protection, counseling, clearance, contracts, and litigation. Dr. Reagan Charney earned a J.D., cum laude, from Georgia State, a Ph.D. from Georgia Tech in organic chemistry, and a B.S., magna cum laude, with honors from Texas A&M University. Dr. Reagan Charney is also a Registered Patent Attorney with the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office and an adjunct professor at Georgia State, co-teaching Patent Law.

KEVIN CRANMAN is Associate General Counsel for Noble Systems Corporation, handling software, cloud, and services technology transactions for communications technologies. He previously served as Senior Group Legal Counsel for Ericsson Inc. and was General Counsel for Ericsson Television Inc. (Americas Region), where he handled commercial transactions for software and SaaS solutions for video, media, and telecommunications technologies; IP development and protection; R&D, vendor and supply chain matters; M&A and corporate matters; HR and employment issues; litigation and dispute management; and whatever else darkened the door step. Before that, he was as in-house counsel at Panasonic Mobile Communications, the Georgia Institute of Technology, and other technology ventures (including the obligatory dotcom), Lead Counsel and Board Secretary for Glenayre Technologies, and at BellSouth Intellectual Property. He serves on the Executive Committee of the Atlanta IP Inn of Court and has been named twice to IAM's Strategy 300, IAM's list of the World's 300 Leading IP Strategists. He received his BA and JD from the University of Georgia.

SCOTT CULPEPPER is General Counsel for MailChimp. As General Counsel, Scott advises MailChimp's executive team on various legal, compliance, and privacy issues. Before joining MailChimp, Scott was a partner at the law firm of Robins Kaplan, and before that, a partner at the law firm of Thomas, Kayden, Horstemeyer & Risley. While in private practice, Scott focused on IP litigation in Federal Courts and at the International Trade Commission. Scott has a law degree from Vanderbilt University and a degree in aerospace engineering from Georgia Tech.

JOSHUA D. CURRY, Partner, Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard Smith LLP – Josh, a Partner in the Intellectual Property Group at Lewis Brisbois, has served as lead counsel in patent, intellectual property, and technology cases and is a registered patent attorney. An experienced litigator with a science degree and considerable technical expertise, Josh helps clients effectively achieve their business goals when enforcing and defending their IP rights. He has represented both large and small clients from a variety of industries in cases and matters across a wide range of technologies in courts and proceedings throughout the United States, at the Patent Office, and in the International Trade Commission. Josh earned a degree in physics cum laude from Florida State University and his J.D. cum laude from the University of Florida.

JOHN DIRICO is Intellectual Property Counsel at VMware, primarily serving the Enterprise Mobility Management, Server Virtualization and Data Center Management business units. In this role, John manages the invention disclosure and patent harvesting processes, oversees the preparation and prosecution of U.S. and international patent applications, interfaces with business and R&D functions to provide IP and strategic counseling, and provides technical support for litigation and IPR proceedings. John joined AirWatch in 2011 – starting their Patent Program from scratch at that time. AirWatch was later acquired by VMware in 2014. John received his J.D. from the University of Florida College of Law in 2011 and his B.S. in Industrial and Systems Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology in 2008.

LAURA FAHEY FRITTS serves as Director, Patent & License Strategy and Chief Intellectual Property Officer in Emory University's Office of Technology Transfer. Laura manages Emory's in-house patent prosecution group, supports the licensing team's efforts to license the school's biotech research to industry, and serves as the primary contact between Emory and its licensees post-license. Before joining Emory, Laura spent twelve years representing branded and generic pharmaceutical companies in patent litigation. She has been recognized by Chambers USA, by Managing IP in the "Top 250 Women in IP," "IP Star," and "Corporate IP Star," and by LMG Life Sciences as a "Life Sciences Star."

SUSANNE HOLLINGER, Head of Patents, The Coca-Cola Company – Susanne, Head of Patents at Coke, is responsible for implementing the Company's global patent strategy from developing effective plans for protection of its newly developed assets through ensuring adequate risk management procedures during product launch. Her team manages a global portfolio of over 3,000 active patents and patent applications in all areas of technology. Prior to joining the Coca-Cola Company, Susanne was Director of Licensing and Chief Intellectual Property Officer at Emory University and before that she was an attorney at King & Spalding focusing on patent prosecution and intellectual property counseling. Susanne earned her J.D. magna cum laude from Georgia State as well as a doctorate in neuroscience from Emory.

PROFESSOR DAVID HRICIK graduated magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Arizona, and received his law degree with honors from Northwestern University School of Law. He was Baker Botts and other Texas firms from 1988 to 2002, doing patent litigation, legal malpractice defense, and general complex commercial litigation. In 2002, he joined Mercer University School of Law, and teaches ethics, patent law, federal civil procedure, and other courses. In 2012-13, he served as law clerk to Chief Judge Rader at the Federal Circuit, and in 2016 he was elected to the American Law Institute. He authored the only treatise on ethics in patent litigation, and co-authored the only one on ethics in patent prosecution. He has also led ethics committees with the AIPLA and ABA, served as an expert witness, and written dozens of articles and given hundreds of presentations ethics.

PRATIK JHANB is IP Counsel at Aristocrat Technologies Inc, a leading Australian gaming company. Pratik manages the US patent portfolio for Aristocrat, supporting various business groups across the country. Prior to joining Aristocrat, Pratik was an associate at Thomas | Horstemeyer and in-house IP counsel at International Game Technology (IGT), where he was responsible for patent prosecution of IGT's worldwide patent portfolio. Pratik is experienced in end-to-end patent lifecycle management, from working with inventors, to obtaining patent rights, to enforcing patent rights. Pratik has extensive experience in patent prosecution, drafting and negotiating complex patent licensing deals, IP due diligence for acquisitions, open-source issues, and third-party development agreements.

NEIL KARDOS has over a decade of patent prosecution experience, both in private practice and as a Patent Examiner. Neil currently works as a patent attorney at Harrity & Harrity, LLP, where he specializes in preparing and prosecuting high quality patent applications in electrical, computer, and mechanical technologies. Neil has developed an extensive training program to teach new patent attorneys how to write high quality patent applications. Prior to joining Harrity, Neil worked as a Primary Patent Examiner at the USPTO, where he examined business method patent applications for five years. While working at the USPTO, Neil obtained his law degree from The George Washington University, where he was a member of The George Washington Law Review. Neil holds a bachelor's degree in engineering from the University of Florida.

JENNIFER MILLER is Chief Intellectual Property Counsel for Change Healthcare. In this role, Jennifer provides a full range of general intellectual property and strategic counseling to the business, as well as oversees management of the company's patent, copyright and trademark portfolios. Before joining Change

Healthcare, Jennifer was Senior IP Counsel for McKesson Corporation, serving as patent counsel for multiple McKesson business units. Prior to that, she was an associate in the IP practices of Alston & Bird LLP and Ballard Spahr LLP in Atlanta, with a focus on electrical and software technologies. Jennifer received her J.D. from Duke University School of Law and her B.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Florida.

MATT NESBITT is senior corporate counsel at The Home Depot where he counsels clients on numerous issues related to all aspects of intellectual property law. Matt spends the majority of his time on trademark and patent clearance projects and managing the enforcement of trademark rights. Prior to joining The Home Depot, Matt worked for several years as an associate at Finnegan where he litigated patents in courts throughout the country and drafted numerous freedom to operate and clearance opinions. Matt also served as a law clerk at the Northern District of Georgia. Matt earned his law degree from Emory University and has a bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Cincinnati.

COBY NIXON is a partner with Taylor English Duma LLP. His practice includes all areas of intellectual property litigation and counseling with particular emphasis on patent infringement litigation. Coby's litigation experience includes cases in federal district courts throughout the country, appeals to the Patent Trial and Appeal Board and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, and trials before the International Trade Commission. Based in Atlanta, Coby has extensive experience before the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia, where he has been selected to be lead or local counsel in over ten percent of all patent cases filed since January 2016. Coby has a B.S.E. in biomedical engineering from Mercer University and a J.D. from the University of Georgia School of Law, and is a registered patent attorney.

SANDRA NOWAK is Assistant Chief Intellectual Property Counsel for 3M Company, counseling 3M's Consumer Business Group which makes and sells iconic consumer products sold under some of the world's best-known brands, including Post-it®, Scotch®, and Command™. Since joining 3M in 2005, Ms. Nowak held positions of increasing responsibility within the 3M Legal Affairs Department. In her various roles, Ms. Nowak has worked on various high stakes patent, trademark, domain name, and trade secret litigation matters; negotiated numerous global IP agreements; and has filed and/or prosecuted over a hundred patent applications. Ms. Nowak began her legal career as an IP attorney with Stoel Rives LLP in Portland, Oregon. Prior to law school, Ms. Nowak performed chemical research for the United States Department of Agriculture. Ms. Nowak has a JD from the University of Oregon law school and a BA from Franklin and Marshall College.

JASON PERILLA is an intellectual property attorney at Thomas | Horstemeyer, LLP. Jason focuses on all aspects of patent law, including patent application preparation and prosecution, patent litigation, post-grant review, and opinions. Jason earned his law degree from Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law and has a bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from Rochester Institute of Technology. Jason served as a primary patent examiner at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, focusing on U.S. Class 375, digital communications. At the USPTO, Jason became familiar with industry-leading digital data modulation, demodulation, coding, decoding, and spread spectrum techniques. Jason has worked on hundreds of U.S. and foreign patents in the fields of communications, software, control systems, and mechanical devices and systems, among others.

BENJAMIN R. SCHLESINGER is an attorney in the Atlanta office of Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner, LLP. Ben focuses on intellectual property litigation and appeals before U.S. federal and state courts. He also advises clients on licensing matters. Ben served as a law clerk to the Honorable Kimberly A. Moore, Circuit Judge, at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. Ben earned his law

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AUDREY SHERMAN has 30+ years of working experience at 3M Co. She has been working with all aspects of R&D Laboratory Operations, Organic synthesis, and addition/condensation polymerizations. Audrey has her Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry with a Minor in Art, 1997 Augsburg College, Minneapolis, MN.

SUZANNE SHOPE is a Patent Attorney at Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health (formerly Merial, Ltd.) in the Global IP Group, working in the areas of patent prosecution, litigation and licensing. Previously, she was in the Technology Transfer Office at the CDC where she planned patent strategy, negotiated license agreements, and drafted Research Collaboration Agreements for CDC's technology. She was the senior IP advisor for patent, trademark and policy matters and sat on several inter-(federal) agency committees for these areas. Prior to that, Suzanne practiced patent law for approximately 10 years in the Silicon Valley and Jones & Askew/Kilpatrick Townsend in Atlanta. Suzanne has an MBA from Emory University's Goizueta Business School, is a graduate of Hastings College of the Law in San Francisco, and has undergraduate degrees in Animal Physiology and Psychology from UC San Diego. At UC San Diego she studied the visual system in *Drosophila*, transcription factor for the insulin gene in diabetic patients at UC San Francisco, and heart blood-flow patterns for a joint research project between the Palo Alto VA Hospital and Stanford University. Suzanne became a member of the State Bar of CA in 1993, a registered patent attorney in 1993, and a member of the GA State Bar in 1998.

ANDREW STRICKLAND is a Partner & Patent Attorney at Lee & Hayes, PC where he has a mixed practice spending half of his time litigation patent disputes and the other half advising clients concerning the development of their patent portfolios. Andrew has litigated patent disputes in United States District Court, before the PTAB, and before the ITC. His clients have included those in the musical instrument, construction, gaming, financial services, electronic commerce, transportation, textile, and telecommunication industries. Before attending Emory University School of Law, he worked as a software engineer developing hardware configuration and control software, with an emphasis in military training and video systems. He also owned and operated recording studio and worked as a record producer.

ANDY THOMSON is Assistant General Counsel at Kimberly-Clark. Andy is experienced in patent litigation, patent prosecution and licensing as well as other areas including general corporate practice. At Kimberly-Clark, Andy manages a global patent portfolio, has first line responsibility for technology agreements, and handles all aspects of developing and implementing IP strategies for multiple K-C businesses. Prior to working at Kimberly-Clark, Andy was in-house counsel at NCR Corporation and Sensus USA, Inc. Andy also has firm experience in patent litigation and prosecution at Fish & Richardson. Prior to his law career Andy was an Electrical Engineer at Harris Corporation.

RYAN WALSH is an experienced trial lawyer whose practice focuses on patents and related complex technology litigation, including cases involving trade secrets, copyrights, trademarks, and false advertising. He serves as coordinator of the Intellectual Property Practice in Jones Day's Atlanta Office. Ryan has extensive experience working with clients to enforce patent and other intellectual property rights, in addition to defending companies accused of infringement by competitors and non-practicing entities. He has represented companies in high-stakes patent cases, from the earliest preliminary investigations, through discovery and claim construction, and ultimately through trial and appeal. He has first chair experience in some of the most active patent venues in the U.S. His work has involved a wide range of disciplines, including wireless communications, Internet of Things, medical devices, smart grid, cable television technology, interactive Internet web pages, home/building automation, wireless sensor networks, glucose

monitoring, wireless mesh technology, and portable oxygen concentrators. Ryan's practice in the copyright area has involved a variety of works, including software, musical compositions, literary works, carpet design, and other original works. His work in the trademark and unfair competition context has involved offensive and defensive TRO/preliminary injunction proceedings. Ryan has taken active leadership roles in the Atlanta legal community, serving on the board and the Executive Committee for the Atlanta Bar Association (currently board secretary) and the Atlanta Legal Aid Society (past board president).

NAKUL WARRIOR is Assistant General Counsel at Ricoh USA, Inc. (based in Malvern, PA), where he serves as chief legal counsel to Ricoh's Dealer Channel and also manages a portfolio of commercial, antitrust, and patent litigation matters. Prior to joining Ricoh, Nakul was at Blank Rome in Philadelphia, PA for six years, where he focused on IP, antitrust and securities litigation. Nakul attended Villanova University School of law did his undergraduate work at Penn State University. Prior to law school, Nakul was a senior consultant at Andersen Consulting (now Accenture) for four years. Nakul is a member of the Atlanta IP Inn of Court and also serves on the advisory board for the Atlanta Legal Aid Society.

JEFF WATSON is Patent Counsel for Husqvarna Group, where he advises Product Management & Development teams in the US and Europe on a wide variety of IP issues. At Husqvarna, Jeff manages the global patent portfolio for the Wheeled product category, conducts clearance and landscaping investigations for new projects, collaborates with the business and legal department to enforce IP rights, and provides counseling on other IP/legal issues. Before joining Husqvarna, Jeff practiced for eight years as a patent attorney at Finnegan, where his practice included patent litigation before the US district courts and US International Trade Commission, patent drafting and prosecution, and client counseling. Jeff holds a BS in Computer Science from the Georgia Institute of Technology and a JD from the University of Georgia.

TIFFANY WILLIAMS is a Partner in the Atlanta office of Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP. She focuses her practice on counseling public and private companies in areas of domestic and foreign patent portfolio management, intellectual property evaluation and licensing, and patent litigation. Prior to practicing law, Ms. Williams worked as an engineer and certified Six Sigma Black Belt for eight years in the coated paper, plastics, and ceiling tile industries. Ms. Williams holds a J.D. from Mercer University, and a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Georgia Tech. She is admitted to the bar in Georgia and is a registered patent attorney.

TODD WILLIAMS is Senior Counsel at Turner, which owns and operates more than 100 news and entertainment networks and businesses around the world, including CNN, TNT, TBS, TCM, truTV, Cartoon Network, adult swim, and Bleacher Report. As part of his role, Todd leads Turner's digital-enforcement and domain-name efforts, including all of Turner's domain-name advocacy at ICANN. Todd is the Co-Vice-chair of the INTA Internet Committee, and formerly served on the ICANN Working Group responsible for developing accreditation standards for WHOIS privacy and proxy service providers. He is a graduate of the University of Florida and Harvard Law School.

COLIN S. WRIGHT is Senior Counsel for IT & Information Security at Change Healthcare. He is responsible for IT agreements and Cybersecurity contracts & compliance at one of the world's largest Healthcare IT companies. Before the merger that formed Change Healthcare, Colin served as Chief Compliance Officer for McKesson's Technology Division, managing a team of 12 privacy & compliance professionals. At McKesson, he also served as Senior Director of Standards & Certifications and as Senior IP Counsel. Colin previously was IP Counsel at Citrix Systems, and worked as a patent prosecutor for an Atlanta IP boutique. Prior to law school, he worked for 7 years as a software engineer. Colin is admitted to the Georgia and D.C. bars, and is a registered Patent Attorney. He holds a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Georgia Tech, and a J.D. from the University of Georgia.

BERNIE ZIDAR is Assistant General Counsel and Chief IP Counsel for McKesson Corporation, a global distributor of pharmaceuticals and provider of health information technology, medical supplies, and care management tools. Bernie joined McKesson in February 2007, and has overall responsibility for intellectual property at McKesson, including patent, trademark, copyright and confidentiality issues. He also leads legal support for McKesson's information technology organization and its procurement organization. Previously, Bernie was a partner with the IP boutique Needle & Rosenberg, PC (now the IP practice of Ballard Spahr, LLP) and a mechanical engineer with Westinghouse Electric Company. Bernie holds a JD from Emory University and an MS in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Notre Dame.