



ERIC POLAND

SENIOR ASSOCIATE

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Eric Poland is a registered patent attorney working in the firm's Intellectual Property practice group. Prior engineering experience gives him added perspective in providing practical solutions when working with entrepreneurs, inventors and design engineers.

The majority of Eric's time is focused on the preparation and prosecution of U.S. and foreign patent applications, ensuring that they are not vulnerable to competitors' challenges. He concentrates on matters in the mechanical arts but has experience with patents across various fields including mechanical arts, computer science and electrical disciplines. Eric has experience in a broad range of technologies including construction methods and products, consumer products, semiconductor and solar manufacturing and systems, industrial power generation systems, motors, precision agricultural equipment, computer security systems, HVAC systems, additive manufacturing systems and robotics.

Eric guides clients through initial patent infringement analyses and invalidity opinions, providing tailored enforcement procedures. In litigious situations, he prepares cease and desist letters and negotiates settlement agreements.

EDUCATION

- Florida State University College of Law (J.D., *magna cum laude*, 2013)
 - Certificate in Environmental & Land Use Law
- Iowa State University (B.S., *cum laude*, 2007)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- USPTO Patent Pro Bono Program

ACCOLADES

- *The Best Lawyers in America*® Ones to Watch, Intellectual Property Law (2022-present), Patent Law (2023-present)
- *Missouri/Kansas Super Lawyers*®, Rising Star (2022)

CERTIFICATIONS

- Engineer Intern (EIT) (Passed fundamental of Engineering Exam, 2007)
- Energy Efficiency Advisor (May 2010)

SERVICES AND INDUSTRIES

Intellectual Property
Patent

ADMISSIONS

Colorado
Missouri
U.S. Patent and Trademark
Office
U.S. District Court, Western
District of Missouri

BACKGROUND

In his previous career as a project engineer, Eric managed complex construction projects, mainly in the health care industry. Prior to joining the firm, he was a law clerk at a Tallahassee area firm.

EXPERIENCE

Established Patent Pro Bono Team to Support Nonprofit, Independent Inventors

Established the patent pro bono team within the firm's Intellectual Property practice group to help independent inventors with a demonstrated financial need and who would likely be unable to obtain protection or commercialize their inventions. The team has filed and gotten protection for a number of inventions, many of which are for products that provide a social good, such as COVID-19 protection systems, education systems, and insurance and health care programs. These have included:

- Working with the family of a deceased repeat inventor to continue her patent work pro bono to provide a legacy and help her family following her loss.
- Patent applications for a nonprofit organization that help supplies water in countries and rural areas where children would not otherwise have access to clean water.
- IP licensing and contract work for a nonprofits such as a software company providing remote education solutions for developing countries.

Patent Portfolio Development for Fortune 100 Company

Assisted in developing patent portfolio of Fortune 100 company by drafting and successfully prosecuting patents on technologies including robotics, additive manufacturing, generators, and inspection systems. Interacted directly with inventors to ensure that all important aspects of inventions were covered and that the portfolio was consistent. Personally prepared over 100 patent applications for the client.

IP Portfolio Development for Cybersecurity Startup

Developed and grew intellectual property portfolio for startup company in the cybersecurity space. Identified key values for the company and prepared and prosecuted patents protecting and building on the value for the client. Obtained the first patent for the company within one year of receiving disclosure to help startup quickly obtain funding and continue strategic growth.

Patent Portfolio for Construction Products Client

Developed patent portfolio for construction products client that was in business for decades but did not have any prior patents. Guided the client through protection of emerging technologies for their space and built a portfolio around key products release.

Prior Art Analysis, Product Development Counsel for International Client

Advised large international company on prior art analyses and product developments for launches in very crowded technology fields. Directly interacted with engineers to ensure that the products were protected and the client's risk was understood and minimized.

