

PARTNER

Richard E. Fichter

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Mr. Fichter is extensively involved in all phases of patent prosecution with particular emphasis on chemistry, semiconductor and pharmaceutical prosecution.

During his tenure in the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Mr. Fichter received training and experience in patent prosecution as an assistant examiner, with partial signatory authority. Mr. Fichter has extensive experience and insight into patent office rules and procedures, examiner interviews, evidence evaluation and preparation, appeals and interferences before the Board of Appeals and Patent Interferences.

He has litigation experience on commercially significant patents and extensive experience in working with international clients including both corporations and law firms to develop an integrated, efficient, and practical approach to patent prosecution.

Mr. Fichter's legal opinions on both validity and infringement issues on patents, which were subsequently adjudicated, have been consistent and predictive of the court's decision on these patents. This is similarly true with respect to his interference experience where he has represented, as lead attorney in interferences, Glaxo (now GlaxoSmithKline [GSK]), Dupont, General Mills, and Sanofi (now Sanofi/Aventis), among others.

PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Fichter was an Invited guest speaker for the USPTO Examiner Corps lecture series, and speaker at a USPTO Group Directors Meeting. His subject for both was "Patent Prosecution, an Attorney's Perspective." Mr. Fichter's Peer review rating is AV, which is Preeminent Highest Possible Rating in Both Legal Ability & Ethical Standards.

PRACTICE AREAS

- Patent Counseling, Preparation, and Prosecution
- Patent Infringement and Invalidity Opinions
- Right-to-Practice Opinions
- Patent Interferences
- Reexamination and Reissue of Patents
- Trademarks

TECHNICAL AREAS OF EMPHASIS

- Biotechnology
- Chemistry
- Pharmaceuticals
- Semiconductors

EDUCATION

American University (J.D.)
C.W. Post College (B.S. Chemistry)
Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn
(Teaching Fellow)

ADMISSIONS

Virginia
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office