

## MATERIALS SCIENCES, CHEMICAL AND ENGINEERING TEAM

Vorys materials science IP patent team has scientific and legal backgrounds to support our clients' materials science, chemical, and engineering needs and maximize the commercial value of their inventions. We work with our clients to develop unique ways to characterize and describe their innovations and develop patent portfolios that provide full protection to such innovations. Whether the technology involves polymers, sealants, ceramics, composites, adhesives, or any other material usages, we bring the right interdisciplinary strengths to the project. In particular, our team has strong nanotechnology experience. For example, our team has worked with graphene, quantum dots, carbon nanotubes, "buckyballs," and ultra-nanocrystalline diamond films.

In short, our team has the industry knowledge, legal skills, and technical insight to provide significant value to clients whose mission involves developing advanced materials, novel chemistries, and engineering innovations that enable product improvements and create entire new product categories.

A brief listing of our experience includes:

## **Materials Science Experience**

- Polymers and polymer composites
- Metallurgy
- Biomaterials
- Semiconductors
- Integrated circuits
- Optics
- Ceramics
- Nanotechnology and photonics
- Fibers and textiles
- Surfaces and interfaces
- Coatings and paints
- Films and packaging
- Personal care products and cosmetics

## **Chemicals Experience**

- Biochemistry
- · Chemical engineering
- Food and beverage chemistry
- Organic chemistry
- Inorganic chemistry
- Nanoparticle synthesis and functionalization
- Corrosion chemistry
- Electrochemistry
- Recycling, purification, and refining
- Pharmaceutical chemistry
- Physical chemistry
- Polymer chemistry
- Catalysis

## **Mechanical Experience**

- Automotive
- Aviation
- Commercial building structures
- Residential building structures
- Compressors
- Pumps
- Engines
- Oil and gas tools and equipment
- Heating and cooling systems
- Medical devices
- Immunodiagnostic devices
- Renewable energy tools and equipment
- Robotics





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**Carey Jordan**: Carey is a partner and patent veteran with nearly two decades of experience handling patent prosecution matters, patent challenges, litigation, and intellectual property counseling related to chemical arts. From refining to specialty chemicals to polymers and plastics, Carey has dealt with the gamut of intellectual property issues facing large companies. Her forte is managing global patent portfolios efficiently and cost-effectively in alignment with her clients' business goals. She is considered by clients to be responsive, talented, and a creative, out-of-the-box thinker in addressing the clients' needs. Carey received her J.D. from the University of Houston Law Center, and her M.S. and B.S. in Chemistry from Clemson University.



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**D. Jeremy Harrison**: Jeremy is a partner in the Houston office and advises clients on intellectual property matters, including patent and trademark law. Jeremy has experience preparing and prosecuting foreign and domestic patent applications in the mechanical, electrical, computer, and chemical fields. Jeremy received his J.D. *cum laude* from Franklin Pierce Law Center and his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Brigham Young University.



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**Iona Kaiser:** Iona is a partner and has over 20 years of experience first as a chemical engineer and then a patent attorney. Iona has years of experience managing global patent portfolios to promote consistency of world-wide prosecution while harnessing efficiencies across the scope of the portfolio. She received her B.S. in Chemical Engineering from the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and worked for five years as a process control engineer at a chemical processing facility focused on acetyls and ethylene oxides and their derivatives before attending law school. She received her J.D. *magna cum laude* from the University of Houston Law Center.



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**Mihsun Koh:** Mihsun is a partner in the Vorys Washington, D.C. office and has extensive experience in drafting and prosecuting U.S. and foreign patents in the fields of biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, pharmacognosy, chemistry, chemical materials, nanotechnology, polymers and green technology. Mihsun received an LL.M. from the Georgetown University Law Center. She also received an LL.M. in IP Law from the Yonsei University Graduate School of Law and a B.S. in Pharmacy from the Seoul National University in Seoul Korea.





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**Michael Messinger**: Mike is a partner in the Vorys Washington, D.C. office. He helps clients harvest innovation, protect products and services, and monetize or defend patent portfolios. Throughout his career, Mike has helped clients create IP strategies for protection and to enhance their freedom-to-operate in computer, electronics, and sustainable technologies. He routinely works with company officers and engineers to identify patentable inventions and build strategic patent portfolios. Mike has deep experience prosecuting U.S. and international patent applications. Mike received his J.D. from the Georgetown University Law Center and his B.S., magna cum laude, in Physics from Duke University.



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**Khaled Shami**: Khaled is a partner in the Vorys Washington, D.C. office. He has a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering and has worked as a patent examiner in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. He also spent more than 20 years in Silicon Valley counseling tech companies of all sizes and nationalities in building and monetizing their U.S. and international IP portfolios. He received his B.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Maryland and J.D. from Southwestern University School of Law.



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Anthony Venturino: Anthony is a partner in the Vorys Washington, D.C. office. He has prepared numerous U.S. and PCT patent applications, trademark applications and opinions. He has also participated in major intellectual property litigation, post grant proceedings at the US Patent Office, as well as oppositions and cancellations at the US Trademark Office. He is responsible for complex activities including negotiating and drafting agreements, conducting due diligence for multi-million dollar technology acquisitions and counseling senior management on intellectual property issues. Prior to joining Vorys, Anthony served as patent counsel for the U.S. Surgical Corporation and was a chemical engineer with Exxon. Anthony's fields of technical experience includes chemistry, catalysts, oil, gas and coal processing, metallurgy, surfactants, polymers, pharmaceuticals, compositions, biotechnology, industrial machinery and medical devices. Anthony received his J.D. cum laude from The George Washington University Law School and his M.Ch.E. in Chemical Engineering and his B.Ch.E. magna cum laude from Manhattan College.





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Mark A. Watkins: Mark is a partner who focuses his practice on all facets of intellectual property protection, including patent, trademark, copyright, trade secrets, and intellectual property litigation. Mark provides IP counsel to many Fortune 1000 companies across the U.S. and around the world, helping companies create IP strategies for the procurement and protection of their IP rights. He has also participated in the enforcement and defense of a wide range intellectual property matters, including patent, trademark and copyright infringements, and misappropriation of trade secrets. His notable experience in this area includes serving as the primary attorney responsible for the management of international trademark procurement and enforcement efforts. This role included the coordination of a worldwide litigation docket; participation in proceedings before the U.S. Customs Service for protection of trademarks and copyrights; and expert witness testimony on patent procurement and litigation issues. Mark received his J.D. from the University of Akron School of Law and his B.S. in Pharmacy from Ohio Northern University.

Hal Borland: Hal is of counsel in the Vorys Houston office. He has over 15 years of legal experience counseling clients in matters related to U.S. and international patent applications and enforcement with an emphasis in the area of mechanical devices. He has deep experience in patentability investigations, freedom to operate studies, due diligence projects, and invalidity and non-infringement opinions. Hal was a mechanical engineer prior to starting his law career, giving him extensive knowledge of the oil field, aerospace and medical device industries as well as, experience with technologies like down-hole motors, software related to telemetry systems and seismic exploration devices, robotics, fluid systems, surgical, and sport and recreational equipment. He designed and certified flight hardware for the International Space Station and provided mission support for Space Shuttle and Space Station missions. Hal received his J.D. from the University of Houston Law Center and his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Rice University.

**Scott Guttman**: Scott is of counsel at Vorys who focuses on all facets of intellectual property protection, including patent, trademark, copyright, trade secrets and intellectual property litigation. Scott has experience preparing and prosecuting U.S. and foreign patent and trademark applications. His experience also includes freedom to operate analysis, patent post grant practice, counseling/portfolio management and contract negotiation. He has experience in numerous industries, including mechanical and electrical arts, medical devices, automotive, aerospace, LED lighting, glass manufacturing and software. Scott received his J.D. *cum laude* from the University of Cincinnati College of Law, his B.S.M.E. from Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) in Mechanical Engineering and his B.A. from Butler University in Mathematics. Prior to law school, Scott worked as an engineer for a large industrial manufacturer.





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**Maryellen Feehery Hank:** Maryellen is of counsel and has been a patent attorney for over 20 years. Her IP counseling couples her analytical skills with a keen strategic viewpoint. Her practice includes patent portfolio acquisition, management and prosecution in the fields of pharmaceuticals, specialty chemicals, recycling, industrial chemicals, catalysts, and animal repellents, among others. She received her B.S.E. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Pennsylvania and her J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania Law School.



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**Jennifer Lunn**: Jennifer is a senior attorney in the Vorys Cincinnati office and has experience drafting applications for chemical, mechanical and bio medical patent applications. She also has extensive experience in various technical areas including polymer compositions, polymer processes, catalysts for olefin polymerization processes, films, organic light emitting diodes, organic glass material, magnetic nanoparticles, batteries directed towards anodes and cathodes, heterogeneous catalysts and mechanical tools such as those for electrical lineman. Jennifer received her J.D. from the Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law, her Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of Cincinnati and her B.S. in chemistry from Centre College.



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**Bradley Hough**: Brad is an associate in the Vorys Akron office. He focuses his practice on intellectual property, helping clients with patents, trademarks, copyrights, trade secrets and internet law issues. He previously worked as a patent agent before becoming an attorney. Brad has experience with polymers, composite materials, manufacturing methods, electronics, consumer products and mechanical technologies. Brad's practice includes drafting and prosecuting patent applications, drafting patentability, freedom to operate, and infringement opinions, and drafting IP-related contracts. Brad received his J.D. *magna cum laude* from the University of Akron School of Law and his B.S. from the University of Akron with a Chemistry-Polymer focus.





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**Kimberlee Raley:** Kimberlee is an associate in the Vorys Houston office and has significant experience in the biological and chemical fields including, diagnostics, single-cell sequencing, microfluidics, gene modification, immunology, small molecule synthesis, formulation, polymers, ceramics, nanoparticles and coatings. She is also experienced in preparing and prosecuting domestic and foreign patent applications, preparing patentability and invalidity opinions. Kimberlee received her J.D. with honors from Emory University School of Law, her Ph.D. in polymers and a minor in organic chemistry / materials and surface science from the Georgia Institute of Technology, her M.S. in textile chemistry and her B.S. in chemistry from the Georgia Institute of Technology.



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**Michael Danis:** Mike is an associate in the Vorys Washington, D.C. office and a member of the intellectual property (IP) group. He focuses his practice on patent prosecution and litigation. He also assists on trademark and copyright portfolios. Mike received his J.D. from the University of New Hampshire Franklin Pierce School of Law where he was awarded the CALI Excellence for the Future Award in Legal Writing I and II. He received his B.S. in physics and a minor in astronomy from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



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**Dr. Tim Petrosius**: Tim is a patent agent in the Vorys Houston office. With past experience as well as research focused on the development of novel 3-D computational fluid dynamics software, he works with a variety of novel technologies spanning the fields of mechanical engineering, chemical engineering, software development, and applied mathematics. Tim earned his Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from Rice University, with a focus on 3-dimensional software for modeling fluid flow for oil and gas, airflow dynamics, microfluidics, and biomedical applications, and his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Louisville..



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**Dr. Thomas Thrash:** Tom is a patent agent at Vorys and has more than 10 years of experience preparing and prosecuting applications in various chemical, biomedical, and energy technologies. He has handled matters relating to batteries, solar cells, alternative energy production, polymer synthesis, catalysis, refining, biofuel production, pipeline technologies, industrial chemical production, nanotechnology, molecular electronics, pharmaceuticals, and wearable medical devices. Tom received his B.S. in Chemistry from Henderson State University, and his Ph.D. in Chemistry from Rice University.





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**Meron Ghidey**: Meron is a scientific advisor in the Vorys Cincinnati office. He was an intern in the 2023 Vorys Scientific Advisor Patent Agent Internship Program. Meron received his Ph.D. in Biomedical Studies from Baylor University addressing antibiotic resistant infections by engineering custom-targeted nanoparticles. He also received his B.S. in biology from the University of Missouri and graduated from the honors College as a McNair Scholar. Meron completed his postdoctoral research training from Baylor College of Medicine in breast cancer metabolomics, where he earned a National Cancer Institute award granting full funding.



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**Dr. Victoria Hlavinka:** Victoria is a scientific advisor in the Vorys in the Houston office. Victoria received her Ph.D. in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering from the University of Houston with research in the area of immunodiagnostic devices and assays. She received her B.S. in Chemical Engineering, with a minor in Chemistry, from Texas A&M University. Her undergraduate research at Texas A&M involved polymer rheology. She also had an undergraduate internship at a simulation software company for the oil and gas industry.