



## Lara Chapman Kelley *Counsel*

### Experienced IP counsel - from prosecution to contentious proceedings

Lara Chapman Kelley has nearly 30 years of experience in patent law, including 4 years as a patent examiner at the US Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). Her practice focuses on patent prosecution, client counseling, and inter partes disputes in the biotechnology area. At McNeill Baur, Lara assisted a client in filing petitions for inter partes review (IPR), which resulted in a favorable settlement between the parties.

Lara's patent prosecution experience includes drafting and prosecuting applications in the biotechnology, pharmaceutical, chemical, and medical device fields, and coordinating worldwide prosecution strategies for both small and large companies. At McNeill Baur, she leverages that prosecution experience to assist clients in compact prosecution strategies before the USPTO.

Lara's client counseling experience involves advising clients on a wide range of patent issues, including preparing patentability, freedom - to - operate, invalidity, and infringement opinions, and conducting due diligence investigations. She has particular expertise in inventorship disputes, having spent much of her career representing clients in contentious patent interference proceedings before the USPTO. Lara also has significant experience in patent interference, reissue, and reexamination proceedings at the USPTO, as well as appeals to the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit and federal district courts.

Prior to joining McNeill Baur, Lara spent 14 years at Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner, LLP. Before entering private practice, Lara worked as a patent examiner at the USPTO, where she examined patent applications for pharmaceutical inventions.

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#### **Admissions**

District of Columbia  
US Patent and Trademark Office US  
Court of Appeals for the Federal  
Circuit (CAFC)  
US Supreme Court  
US Court of Appeals, Veterans  
Claims (CAVC)

\*By appointment only, not admitted  
in MA

#### **Education**

Georgetown University Law Center  
JD, cum laude, 1999

Wake Forest University  
BS, Biology, magna cum laude, 1991

Lara C Kelley

## Selected Publications

"Navigating the Limitation on Discovery in AIA Post - Grant Proceedings," Buffalo Intellectual Property Law Journal, December 3, 2015 (coauthor).

"Why Patent Interference Proceedings Are Worth It," The New Jersey Law Journal, July 19, 2004 (coauthor).