

# Brian K. McKnight

PRINCIPAL

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Brian McKnight is a registered patent attorney who leads complex, high-value IP matters with sharp technical insight and practical, business-first judgment. He focuses his practice on patent drafting, patent prosecution, patent due diligence and strategic counseling across a broad spectrum of technologies, including generative AI and machine learning, blockchain and Web3 technologies, software applications, security, SD-WAN and cross-disciplinary innovations at the intersection of biology and engineering. His work also spans freedom-to-operate and non-infringement opinions, invalidity analysis, reexaminations and litigation.

Brian's current signature is generative AI. He works closely with product and engineering teams building real-world GenAI systems and has developed a level of technical depth that goes beyond the baseline across the profession. He helps a major generative AI company with traditional in-house activities as well as patent drafting, counseling and prosecution. His day-to-day work keeps him grounded in how modern AI products are actually built and deployed across model and API capabilities, system architecture tradeoffs and the failure modes that matter in practice.

Clients turn to Brian when timing, quality and strategic clarity are essential. He's frequently tapped by management teams for mission-critical projects and is known for a drafting style that's efficient, thoughtful and respectful of inventors' time — all while meeting specified project parameters on time and on budget.

Brian is adept at navigating 35 U.S.C. 101 subject matter eligibility issues. He has significant, hard-won experience from prosecuting software patent applications, with a strong record of reviving "lost cause" applications in areas like financial services and adtech. Brian has successfully gotten many of his applications facing subject matter eligibility challenges allowed during prosecution and appeal.

Brian is also a co-inventor of Polsinelli's PatentCAD tool, which uses natural language processing to streamline patent application drafting with greater quality and consistency — offering features tailored to the realities of modern patent work.

Outside the office, Brian follows emerging tech, especially across GenAI, AR/VR and crypto. In the physical world, most of Brian's non-work time is spent hiking, biking,

## Capabilities

- Electrical Engineering & Computer Science Patent Prosecution
- FinTech & Blockchain Technology
- Intellectual Property
- Patent Preparation & Prosecution
- Post-Grant Proceedings
- International Intellectual Property
- In-House Automated Patent Drafting Tool
- International Patent Filings & Strategy
- Technology
- Space Technology
- Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning
- Data Center & Infrastructure

running, playing basketball, skiing and camping with his wife and daughters.

## **Education**

- Oxford University, Saïd Business School (M.B.A., 2013)
- University of New Hampshire Franklin Pierce School of Law (J.D., 2006)
- Brown University (B.S., 2001)
  - Biology

## **Bar Admissions**

- California, 2010
- Texas, 2008
- Admitted to practice before the United States Patent and Trademark Office, 2006

## **Court Admissions**

- U.S. Court of Appeals, Federal Circuit

## **Recognition**

- Selected for inclusion in the IAM Patent 1000 list of the World's Leading Patent Practitioners, 2023-2025, DC Metro - Recommended Prosecution