

# LEANNE M. RAKERS

PRINCIPAL / ST. LOUIS METRO OFFICE

Clients around the world appreciate Leanne's uniquely creative skills in identifying patentable technologies and drafting "*outside the box*" patent applications, particularly at a time when courts are limiting patent eligibility. Her practice also includes IP portfolio strategy and management, client counseling, freedom-to-practice opinions and due-diligence assessments. Leanne also provides FDA regulatory counsel including patent-drug FDA advice, Patent Term Extension applications and Orange Book assessments.

Leanne's technical prowess is a rare blend that ranges from chemistry to biotechnology. As a leader in the firm's Chemical and BioPharma practice groups, her client portfolio includes large and small pharmaceutical, cosmetic, life science, chemical and biotechnology companies. More specifically, clients come to Leanne to protect a wide-range of innovations, including small molecule chemistry, biologics, anti-aging technology and formulations, therapeutic methods and formulations, organometallic chemistry and recombinant DNA technologies.

## PRACTICE AREAS

Patents

## INDUSTRIES

Biologics & Biosimilars; Chemistry & Materials Science; Pharmaceutical & Biotechnology

## NEWS/EVENTS

## PRESENTATIONS

- Conducted a variety of lectures on patent prosecution sponsored by the Swedish Patent Office in Stockholm, Sweden, on topics including the legislatively-enacted AIA and judicially imposed Supreme Court mandates
- Conducted a variety of seminars in Osaka, Japan in 2013 and 2014 on post-grant AIA strategies and chemical/biotech patent prosecution strategies
- Speaker at the 2014 Corporate Patent Seminar in Chicago, IL on recent USPTO patent office tools



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## IN THE NEWS

- “Is it in the public’s interest to have two similar cholesterol drugs on the market?” *STAT*, January 6, 2017
- “Changing the Profession, One Lawyer at a Time,” *Law Practice Today*, March 14, 2016
- “Announcing: The Business Journal’s 40 Under 40 class of 2016,” *St. Louis Business Journal*, December 16, 2015
- “Attorneys Note Legal Issues for 3D Printing of Drugs,” *Bloomberg BNA*, November 12, 2015
- “New patent guidelines should be welcomed by pharma, life-science sector,” *Inside Counsel*, December 18, 2014
- “Guideline Change,” *genomeweb*, December 17, 2014

## PUBLICATIONS

### ARTICLES

- Leanne Rakers Pens Article on Protecting IP for Cosmetics Start-ups
- Leanne Rakers Shares Four IP Strategies for Cosmetics Innovators
- BioPharma Patents Quick Tips & News - March 2016
- BioPharma Patents Quick Tips & News - Sept 2015
- BioPharma Patents Quick Tips & News - July 2015
- BioPharma Patents Quick Tips & News - May 2015

### BLOGS

- BioPharma Patents Quick Tips & News - July 2015 - Throwback Edition
- FDA Implements Biosimilar Action Plan to Boost Biosimilar Competition
- BioPharma Patents Quick Tips & News - May 2015 - Throwback Edition
- BioPharma Patents Quick Tips & News - March 2015 - Throwback Edition
- BioPharma Patents Quick Tips & News - January 2015 - Throwback Edition
- Updated Examination Procedure For 101 Rejections Announced in USPTO Berkheimer Memo

## BACKGROUND

Prior to practicing law, Leanne studied cell cycle inhibitors and suppressors of cytokine signaling at Pennsylvania State University and GlaxoSmithKline Pharmaceuticals. She subsequently focused on recombinant protein expression at Sigma-Aldrich Corporation, and is a co-inventor of U.S. Patent No. 6,902,914 (Recombinant DNA Processes Using A dNTP Mixture Containing Modified Nucleotides).

An invited speaker in the U.S. and abroad, Leanne educates both clients and colleagues on the nuances of patent prosecution and enforcement strategies. Her passion for the America Invents Act (AIA) has spawned many presentations across the U.S., Europe and Japan.

Overall, her clients profess that Leanne consistently delivers *poignant legal counsel, workable solutions and excellent work product delivered in a timely manner.*

## AWARDS & DISTINCTIONS

- *St. Louis Business Journal* 40 Under 40 Class of 2016
- *Missouri Lawyers Weekly* "Up and Coming Lawyer," 2013

## MEMBERSHIPS

- Intellectual Property Owners Association, Pharmaceutical & Biotechnology Issues Committee, Women in IP Committee
- American Intellectual Property Law Association

## EDUCATION

J.D., Washington University in St. Louis, 2005

B.S., Microbiology, *cum laude*, Pennsylvania State University, 2000

## BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

Missouri

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

U.S. Supreme Court

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office