

Christopher B. Kelly

Partner

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Chris Kelly is a patent lawyer based in Alston & Bird's Atlanta office. As a post-grant practitioner, Chris represents petitioners and patent owners in inter partes review (IPR) and covered business method review (CBM) proceedings before the USPTO's Patent Trial and Appeal Board. Chris is experienced with all phases of post-grant trials and appeals, has argued before the Federal Circuit and PTAB, and coordinates post-grant trial strategy for cases involving related ITC or district court litigation. Chris also focuses on strategic patent counseling for high-value products and innovations, including domestic and international patent prosecution, freedom-to-operate and validity investigations, portfolio management, and dispute resolution counseling.

Chris's clients range from Fortune 500 companies to startups and are involved in a wide array of technologies, including mechanical and electromechanical products, medical devices, manufacturing processes, software, and materials science innovations. Chris also serves on the Executive Committee of the Atlanta IP Inn of Court and maintains a pro bono practice representing victims of human trafficking and domestic violence.

Representative Experience

- IPR and strategic patent counsel to an alliance of Chinese rare-earth magnet manufacturers.
- IPR and strategic patent counsel to an international packaging materials and equipment company.
- IPR and CBM counsel to a leading manufacturer of automated banking machines.
- IPR counsel to a medical technology company developing endovascular stent grafts.
- IPR counsel to a large manufacturer of ductile iron products.
- Patent counsel to a leading maker of children's toys and infant products.
- Patent counsel to the world's largest supplier of residential and commercial flooring.
- Patent counsel to the world's largest package delivery and supply chain management company.
- Patent counsel to a large Atlanta-based manufacturer of consumer, commercial, and building products.
- Patent counsel to a manufacturer of electrical distribution wire and high-efficiency solar inverters.
- Patent counsel to a Georgia-based manufacturer of automated item distribution systems.
- Patent counsel to a startup company developing outdoor recreation gear featured on the television show *Shark Tank*.
- Patent counsel to a manufacturer of next-generation carbon-fiber composite materials for aerospace applications.

Publications & Presentations

Publications

- *USPTO Post-Grant Trials Handbook*, 2nd Edition, Wolters Kluwer, 2018.
- *USPTO Post-Grant Trials Handbook*, Wolters Kluwer, 2016.
- “Developing Strategies for International Design Protection,” *Cyberspace Lawyer*, Vol. 20, No. 6, July 2015.
- “Using Live Video Exhibits in Inter Partes Review,” *Corporate Counsel*, November 26, 2013.
- “Inter Partes Reviews: One Year in, It’s Clear IPRs Are Here to Stay,” *Intellectual Property Strategist*, November 2013.
- *2012 Federal Circuit Annual Review*, Wolters Kluwer Law & Business, 2012, and prior editions, 2008–2011.

Professional & Community Engagement

- Atlanta IP American Inn of Court, Executive Committee
- University of Tennessee College of Law Alumni Council
- Technology Association of Georgia (TAG)
- Atlanta Bar Association
- State Bar of Georgia, IP Law Section
- Georgia Asylum and Immigration Network (GAIN), Volunteer Attorney of the Year

Education

- University of Tennessee (J.D., 2008)
- Georgia Institute of Technology (B.S.M.E., 2004)

Admitted to Practice

- Georgia
- U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Related Services

Intellectual Property | Mechanical Patents | Patent Prosecution, Counseling & Review | Post Grant Proceedings | Inter Partes & Covered Business Method Review