Holland & Hart



PRACTICES

Intellectual Property
Patent Preparation, Prosecution, and Counseling
Global Trademark Brand Management

EDUCATION

University of Denver Sturm College of Law, J.D., 2005

Johns Hopkins University, M.S., Biotechnology, 2000

University of Maryland, B.S., Biological Sciences, 1996

BAR ADMISSIONS

District of Columbia
Colorado
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Rachel Carnaggio

Partner

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Rachel brings unique value to her clients across various industries, including biotechnology, pharmaceutical, medical device, digital health, natural resources, environmental, ag bio, industrial, and energy technologies.

She delivers sophisticated counsel to clients, helping them develop protective strategies, including creating, prosecuting, managing, and enforcing industrial designs and utility patents. Drawing on her extensive technical experience as a molecular and cellular biologist, Rachel analyzes existing patents and provides sound advice to clients considering options to pursue or defend patent infringement litigation. Rachel also advises clients on how to obtain and enforce U.S. and foreign trademarks and manage trademark portfolios.

Rachel supports companies with sophisticated technologies, including therapeutics, diagnostics, oral saline laxatives, nasal sprays, pesticides, food compositions including pea protein, rice protein, and enrobed foods, dairy teat disinfectants, grout sealers, cosmetics, pain pumps, digital health wearables, continuous passive motion devices, prosthetic devices, lumbar spine devices, drug delivery devices, implantable devices, sleep apnea mouth devices, navigation systems, paper and plastic packaging containers, dispensing caps, storage devices and related software applications, cushioning systems, apparel, footwear, artificial nail compositions, hydroponic planter systems, low flush toilet systems, kitchenware, textiles, tools, water filtration systems, gaming controllers, emergency litter assemblies, door locking devices, helmet accessories, novelty items, gunfire detection systems, outdoor recreation apparatus and tools, software applications, water bottles, food products, breath alcohol testing devices, cannabis compositions, automated weighing, sorting and packaging machines, smoking articles, and COVID test strips.

EXPERIENCE

Patent Prosecution and Portfolio Management

- Strategic patent portfolio development and management
- Domestic and international patent preparation and prosecution

Patent Opinions and Counseling

- Preparing and managing U.S. and international patent portfolios in a variety of technical areas

- Patentability, freedom to operate, and non-infringement opinions
- Product design counseling

Patent Licensing and Due Diligence

- Licensing negotiations and strategies
- Strategic patent acquisitions
- Product clearances
- IP due diligence

Trademark Prosecution and Portfolio Management

- Strategic trademark portfolio management
- Trademark enforcement strategies
- Due diligence counseling
- Trademark licensing and transactions

With ten years of experience working in molecular and cellular biology as well as genomic experiments at leading research institutions, Rachel effortlessly and efficiently communicates with inventors to help convert their inventions into patentable products.

She has litigated in state and federal courts and mediated cases involving products liability, biotechnology, medical devices, pharmaceuticals, and life sciences. She also served as local counsel for high profile national products liability cases in multi-district litigation.

Before joining Holland & Hart, Rachel practiced at intellectual property boutique and litigation firms.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

"The End of an Era: What Does the Trump Administration Mean for the PTAB," *The Colorado IP American Inn of Court*, January 2026

"AIPLA Women in IP Law Global Networking Event," Organizer and Speaker, *American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA)*, April 3, 2025

"AIPLA Women in IP Law Global Networking Event," Organizer and Speaker, *American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA)*, Spring 2024

"IP in Cannabis Law," Guest Lecturer, *University of Colorado Boulder, Cannabis Law Course*, Boulder, CO, February 27, 2024

"Navigate IP to Maximize Business Innovation and Economic Growth," Panelist, *NREL's Camp Cleantech*, August 13, 2023

"AIPLA Women in IP Law Global Networking Event," *American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA)*, Spring 2023

"USPTO Roundtable," *Colorado BioScience Association*, February 16,

2023

"IP in Cannabis Law," *University of Colorado Boulder, Cannabis Law Course, Guest Lecturer*, 2023

"13th Annual Ethics in the Practice of IP Law Virtual Seminar: Mental Health & Wellness," *Center for Intellectual Property, Information & Privacy Law at the University of Illinois Chicago, Panelist*, June 10, 2022

"Could Your IP Go Up in Smoke?," *Cannabis Higher Learning: Your Legal Roadmap*, April 19, 2022

"AIPLA Women in IP Law Virtual Global Networking Event," *American Intellectual Property Law Association, Organizer and Speaker*, April 7, 2022

"IP in Cannabis Law," *University of Colorado Boulder, Cannabis Law Course, Guest Lecturer*, February 16, 2022

"Patent Law Presentation," *STEMblazers, Guest Lecturer*, SkyView Academy, Highlands Ranch, Colorado, February 7, 2022

"USPTO Roundtable," *Colorado BioScience Association*, December 9, 2021

RECOGNITION

- Martindale-Hubbell®, AV Preeminent™ Peer Review Rated
- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Patent Law, 2027
- *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America*, Intellectual Property Law, 2022-2026
- Colorado Super Lawyers®, Intellectual Property, 2016, 2018-2023, 2026
- United States Patent and Trademark Office, ProBoPat Certificate of Recognition, 2018-2020
- American Intellectual Property Law Association, ‘Woman to Watch’ award, 2018
- Colorado Super Lawyers® Rising Star, Intellectual Property, 2012-2015

PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC AFFILIATIONS

- American Intellectual Property Law Association, U.S. Bar - EPO Liaison Council, 2023 - present, Co-Chair of the International Policy and Practice Subcommittee of the Design Rights Committee, 2025 - present, Chair of Special Committee on Pro Bono, 2020-2023; Co-Chair of Special Committee on Pro Bono, 2019-2020
- Colorado BioScience Association, Membership Committee and Member
- USPTO Patent Pro Bono Patent Initiative, 2012-present

- Second Wind Fund, Board of Directors, 2017-2020; Board of Directors Recruitment Committee, 2020-2025
- STEMblazers, Girls in STEM - Denver, Board of Directors, Advisory Board, Podcaster, and Guest Lecturer on Patent Law, 2018-present