



Nicole Sigurdson Nan

Partner
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Nicole focuses her practice on drafting and negotiating agreements governing the creation and licensing of intellectual property and litigation relating to patent infringement.

As part of her licensing practice, she drafts and negotiates agreements relating to the transfer of intellectual property, with a focus on supporting clients' research and development efforts with universities and other companies. She is a certified licensing professional and has negotiated hundreds of technology agreements, including sponsored research agreements with universities and joint development agreements with companies where intellectual property concerns play a key role in the transaction. Nicole also has experience drafting and negotiating agreements for the licensing of various types of intellectual property, including patents, technology, and software.

As part of her litigation practice, Nicole understands that patent infringement matters are often complex and time-intensive. She utilizes a thorough approach, performing methodical research and learning her client's objectives and tolerances to help tailor a strategy for an efficient and practical resolution. She is adept at working with technologies in a variety of industries, from automotive to chemical technologies, as she draws on her experience working for two biotechnology start-up companies and two large research university technology commercialization offices.

Services

- Intellectual Property
- Patent Procurement & Management
- Intellectual Property Acquisitions
- Intellectual Property Litigation
- Litigation
- Life Sciences Industry
- Life Sciences Intellectual Property

Education

- Michigan State University College of Law (J.D., *summa cum laude*, 2012)
 - Michigan State Law Review, senior notes editor
- Purdue University (B.S., 2009)
 - Biochemistry

Bar Admissions

- U.S. Patent & Trademark Office
- Ohio

Affiliations/Memberships

- Certified Licensing Professional
- Licensing Executives Society
- Intellectual Property Owners Association
- United Way Emerging Leader and WINGs
- Michigan State University Intellectual Property Law Advisory Board
- Cincinnati Bar Association

Experience

Counseled Leading ULT Freezer Company through Merger

We counseled our client, Stirling Ultracold, an innovative developer and manufacturer of ultra-low temperature (ULT) freezers for life science and biopharma research, through its merger with BioLife Solutions, Inc., a developer focused on bioproduction devices used in cell and gene therapies. The all-stock mergers was in excess of \$230 million.

Stirling's CEO saw the potential for increased demand for the company's freezers during the COVID-19 pandemic as the freezers were a direct competitor to dry ice used in storing the COVID-19 vaccine. Merging with BioLife enabled Stirling to execute an aggressive strategic plan marketing and selling its freezers. Dinsmore served as the company's general counsel since 2019, and our team of attorneys brought experience in mergers and acquisitions, labor, insurance, and life sciences, all of which was necessary to fully understand and address the company's specialized needs. We counseled our client through the merger while simultaneously defusing challenges. Our team's collective experience enabled Stirling's executives to address the company's short-term needs while also achieving its long-term goal.

"The entire team at Dinsmore was, by far, the best engagement I have had in the 15-plus strategic transactions I have done throughout my career," said previous Stirling Ultracold CEO Dusty Tenney, now COO and president at BioLife. "Their responsiveness, engagement, availability and deal leadership were extraordinary from LOI to closing."

NPE Experience

We have defended clients in challenges to their patents from a wide variety of NPEs. Several representative examples of patents we have defended are below:

- **Cascades Publishing Innovation, LLC:** U.S. Patent 8386484
- **Data Speed Technology LLC:** US Patent 5,867,686 – High speed real-time information storage system
- **eTagz:** US Patent 7,503,502 – Computer readable hang tag and product
- **eTagz:** US Patent 7,703,686 – Consumer computer-readable product label apparatus and method
- **eTagz:** US Patent 6,298,332 – CD-Rom product label apparatus and method
- **eWatch:** US Patent 6,970,183 – Multimedia surveillance and monitoring system including network configuration
- **Helfrich Patent Licensing:** Various US Patents related to mobile device technology
- **Honeywell International, Inc.:** Various US Patents related to bar code and QR code technology
- **Infinite Data, LLC:** US Patent 5,790,530 – Message passing multiprocessor system)
- **Innovatio IP Ventures:** Various US Patents related to local area network radio frequencies and multiple channel wireless access
- **Lemolson Foundation:** Various US Patents relating to bar code technologies
- **Lodsys:** US Patent 7,222,078 – Interactive applications (smartphone apps)
- **Mobile Logistics:** Various US Patents related to transportation yard management systems
- **MPHJ (formerly Project Paperless):** Various US Patents related to computer architecture and document management
- **Pragmatum Telecom, LLC:** US Patent 6,322,231 – Method and system for coordinating data and voice communications via customer contract channel changing system using voiceover IP)
- **Round Rock:** Various US Patents related to radio frequency identification
- **TPQ Development LLC:** US Patent 5,412,730 – Encrypted data transmission system employing means for randomly altering the encryption keys)
- **US Ethernet Innovations:** Various US Patents related to Ethernet connections and point of sale
- **Wireless Media:** Various US Patents related to transportation yard management systems
- **You Technology, Inc.:** Various US Patents related to biometric technology

Publications

March 30, 2020

When COVID-19 Impacts Research Projects: How to Prepare and Adapt