



Carol E. Thorstad-Forsyth

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Based in our West Palm Beach office, Carol is a patent attorney with an electrical engineering degree. She provides guidance on the protection of intellectual property to clients throughout Florida and beyond, including major defense contractors and market leaders in global communications, consumer goods and network/software solutions. She assists clients with invention brainstorming, IP portfolio strategy development, global IP portfolio management, competitive landscape analysis, and patent prosecution, among other things.

As an attorney and an electrical engineer with actual field experience, she is adept at handling all stages of patent prosecution, patent search studies, infringement studies, patentability studies, (in)validity studies, freedom-to-operate studies, IP due diligence and patent re-examinations related to software, electronic and mechanical inventions. She also serves on inter partes review and litigation teams.

Her areas of patent experience include, but are not limited to:

- Artificial intelligence
- Unmanned vehicles
- Children's toys
- Animal care products
- Biometric systems
- Black boxes
- Business and Internet methods
- Computer software and hardware
- Consumer electronics
- Cryptography
- Data security software
- Digital and analog electronic circuits
- Document handling systems
- Electronic article surveillance (EAS) systems
- Home automation systems
- Integrated circuits
- Mechanical devices (e.g., deployable antennas, robotic systems)
- Medical devices
- Micro-electromechanical systems
- Radio frequency devices

- Robotic control systems
- Satellite imagery
- Terrestrial-based and space-based communications systems
- Wireless telecommunications

Carol also advises clients with regard to trademark and copyright registrations and agreements.

Services

- Intellectual Property
- Artificial Intelligence
- Emerging Companies & Venture Capital
- Gaming
- International
- Life Sciences
- Medical Technology
- Patents
- Retail Industry
- Technology

Beyond Fox Rothschild

Carol has accepted an invitation to serve as a Master of the Bench for The Florida Intellectual Property American Inn of Court which will launch in September 2026.

Carol currently serves as Chair of the American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA) Membership Committee, a board-appointed position.

She previously served as Chair of AIPLA's Women in IP Committee (WiIPC), and before that was Vice Chair. The WiIPC strives to be a leader in the awareness and understanding of women's issues in IP and concentrates its activities in four focus areas: retention and advancement; outreach; personal and professional development; and presence and branding.

Carol previously served as Chair of the WiIPC's Outreach Subcommittee from fall 2015 to summer 2019, as well as founded and served as Co-Chair of AIPLA Women in IP National Community Service Event. The Outreach Subcommittee is responsible for planning many events, including the Delegation Events, the Global Networking Event, the National Community Service Event, and the three yearly Breakfast Programs. The Delegation Events provide AIPLA members with unique opportunities during AIPLA's IP Practice Committees' yearly international trips to meet and network with women practicing IP abroad. The Delegation Events have included: a Women IP Practitioner Networking Breakfast in Israel; Diversity Breakfasts in London, United Kingdom; Cocktail Receptions in Paris, France; Networking Events in Munich, Germany; Women's Breakfasts in Milan, Italy; and a Networking Event in Japan.

Additionally, Carol was a co-chair of the 2014 and 2015 AIPLA Women in Intellectual Property Global networking events. As a co-chair, Carol acquired hosts for U.S. and non-U.S. cities in which the events were to be held, as well as organized the entire events. The 2014 and 2015 events marked historic expansions for AIPLA and were resounding successes. In the 2014, the event was held across more than 50 sites throughout the world including in Asia, New Zealand, Australia and Europe. In 2015, the event was held at 64 locations in 19 countries including Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Denmark, Malaysia, Mexico, Poland, Scotland and Sweden. The events offered hundreds of women in IP the opportunity to establish and strengthen relationships among businesswomen in their respective geographic regions. The 2014 and 2015 events featured a significant increase from past years in the total number of locations at which the event was held.

Carol also personally hosted and organized the 2013 and 2014 AIPLA Women in IP networking events in the firm's West Palm Beach office.

Notably, Carol is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) – Palm Beach Chapter and served on the DAR Scholarship Committee. The DAR, founded in 1890, is a nonprofit, nonpolitical volunteer women's service organization that consists of nearly 177,000 members in 3,000 chapters across the world. These members come from a variety of

backgrounds and interests, but share a common bond of having an ancestor who helped contribute to securing the independence of the United States of America. Members honor their heritage as well as make a difference in their communities across the country and the world. In this regard, the DAR promotes historic preservation, education and patriotism, as well as honoring and supporting those who serve our nation.

A dedicated supporter of entrepreneurs, Carol was a Florida Atlantic University (FAU) Entrepreneur Attorney in Residence Mentor for a number of years, volunteering to provide one-on-one mentoring to FAU students, faculty, alumni and FAU Business Plan competitors on intellectual property and engineering design matters. Carol was also a sponsor of the 2013 Business Plan Competition for FAU.

Before Fox Rothschild

Prior to joining Fox, Carol was an associate with Darby & Darby where she handled patent and trademark prosecution matters, as well as patent search and freedom-to-operate studies.

Before law school, Carol worked as an associate test engineer at Vicor Corporation in Andover, MA, designing and maintaining test equipment for module power supplies.

Bar Admissions

- U.S. Patent & Trademark Office
- Florida
- Massachusetts

Court Admissions

- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida

Education

- New England School of Law (J.D., 2004)
- Boston University (B.S.E.E., 2000)
 - Electrical Engineering

Professional Organizations

- American Intellectual Property Law Association: Membership Committee, Vice Chair (2023); Women in IP Committee, Chair (2021-2023) and Vice Chair (2019-2021), Women in IP Outreach Subcommittee, Chair (2015-2019); AIPLA Cares Women in IP National Community Service Event, Co-Chair (2016-2019)
- ChIPs Florida Chapter (Chiefs in Intellectual Property) Co-Chair (2023, 2024)
- Daughters of the American Revolution, Palm Beach Chapter (Current Member) and former DAR Scholarship Committee Member
- Florida Association of Women Lawyers, Co-Chair of the Community Service Committee (2017, 2018)
- Crossroads Program at Palm Beach State College, Advisory Board Member (2012)
- Florida Atlantic University Business Plan Competition Sponsor 2012, and Entrepreneur Attorney In Residence Mentor (2012-2016)
- Palm Beach County Bar Association, Intellectual Property CLE Committee (2011)

Honors & Awards

- Named a Prestigious Women honoree by *South Florida Business & Wealth* magazine (2024)
- Featured by the American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA) on International Women's Day 2024
- Named a Top Lawyer in Intellectual Property by *South Florida Legal Guide* (2020)
- Named a Top Lawyer in Intellectual Property by *Palm Beach Illustrated* (2018, 2022)
- Named among Florida's Legal Elite in Intellectual Property by *Florida Trend* (2017, 2018)
- Recognized as a Young Lawyer On The Rise by *Daily Business Review* (2017)

- Recipient of the 2015 Project Award for outstanding and devoted service to the American Intellectual Property Law Association.
- Recipient of the CALI Excellence for the Future Award in The Law & Ethics of Lawyering
- Recipient of the CALI Excellence for the Future Award in UCC Negotiable Instruments
- Golden Key National Honor Society