



Peter F. Corless

Partner

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Pete serves as a strategic adviser to businesses, academic institutions and investors in North America, Europe and Asia, providing forward-looking counsel on patent and trademark portfolio management and intellectual property due diligence on a full range of mergers, acquisitions and other corporate transactions.

Pete's clients include preeminent academic and medical research institutions; private and public biotech, small molecule pharmaceutical and manufacturing companies; venture capital firms, underwriters and other investor groups; and medical technology companies.

The publication IAM Patent 1000 recently described Pete as:

A staunch global patent and brand protector for his corporate and university clients, including many prestigious names...Peter is a dazzling chemist who is passionate about the science.

Pete has obtained patents that have yielded hundreds of millions of dollars in royalties. These patents have provided the basis for acquisitions and private and public financings of companies located throughout the United States, Asia and Europe.

Patent applications drafted and prosecuted by Pete cover pharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical device products currently in Phase II and III trials, as well as approved clinical use in the United States and abroad. Several patent portfolios prosecuted by Pete were fully maintained following ANDA-filer challenges in Hatch-Waxman litigations.

Investment bankers, underwriters, and public and private companies rely on Pete for due diligence covering the critical intellectual property issues that can make or break major financial deals such as mergers, acquisitions and IPOs in the biotech, pharmaceutical and chemical industries.

Pete regularly provides opinions on issues of patent infringement and validity and represents both opponents and patentees in *inter partes* reviews and reexaminations.

Pete is a proven thought leader in the intellectual property space and has been quoted on IP issues in publications including the *New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Bloomberg*, the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Boston Globe* and *American Lawyer*.

Services

- Intellectual Property
- Patents

- Life Sciences
- Pharma & Biotech
- Transactional Risk

Before Fox Rothschild

Prior to joining Fox Rothschild, Pete was a partner in a Boston-based international law firm and co-chair of the firm's patent procurement practice group.

Before law school, he pursued graduate studies in chemistry while simultaneously working as a synthetic organic chemist for E.I. DuPont de Nemours Co. (now part of Bristol-Myers Squibb).

Pete is an inventor on DuPont Pharmaceutical's US Patent 4,977,173 "Aminomethyl Oxooxazolidinyl Ethenylbenzene Derivatives Useful As Antibacterial Agents," which covers predecessor development compounds to Pfizer's oxazolidinone antibacterial Zyvox.

Bar Admissions

- Massachusetts
- U.S. Patent & Trademark Office

Court Admissions

- U.S. Court of Appeals, First Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Circuit

Education

- Boston College Law School (J.D.)
- Johns Hopkins University (B.A.)
 - Chemistry

Memberships

- Johns Hopkins Medicine Institute for Basic Biomedical Sciences, Advisory Council Member
- Boston Patent Law Association (BPLA), Past President
 - BPLA Amicus Committee, Past Co-Chair
 - BPLA Chemical Patent Practice Committee, Past Chair
- Wellesley Youth Wrestling Program, Past Director
- American Bar Association
- Licensing Executives Society
- American Intellectual Property Law Association
- American Chemical Society
- Association of University Technology Managers

Honors & Awards

- Named in the *IAM Patent 1000: World's Leading Patent Practitioners* guide (2016 – 2025)
- Selected to the "Life Sciences Stars" list by *LMG Life Sciences* (2022-2025)
- Selected to the "IP Stars" list by *Managing Intellectual Property* (2014 – 2021, 2023 – 2025)
- Included in the list of Best Lawyers in America for Patent Law (2015 – 2022)
- Included in the list of Massachusetts Super Lawyers (2004 – 2020)
- Ranked among the top Patent Prosecution and Patent Strategy & Management attorneys by *LMG Life Sciences* (2021)
- Recommended by *The Legal 500 United States* for Health Care: Life Sciences (2016)
- Included in a list of Boston's Top Rated Lawyers (2014)
- Hailed as "a lawyer with a keen eye for detail and an understanding of what is commercially critical to his clients" by Intellectual Asset Management, *IAM Patent 1000 World's Leading Patent Practitioners* (2014)

- Rated AV Preeminent in Martindale-Hubbell

Publications

October 15, 2025

USPTO Implements Change to Restrict Examiner Interviews

July 29, 2025

Report: U.S. Commerce Department Weighs New Patent Fee

April 15, 2025

USPTO to Expedite Patent Issuance

November 21, 2024

USPTO to Increase Patent Fees January 19, 2025

September 30, 2024

USPTO to Terminate AFCP 2.0 Program Effective Dec. 14

February 13, 2024

Inventorship: USPTO Guidance on AI-Assisted Inventions Underscores Importance of ‘Human Contributions’

May 18, 2023

Supreme Court Unanimously Affirms Enablement Requirement in Closely Watched Amgen-Sanofi Case

April 27, 2023

Cha-Ching: USPTO Proposes Increases in Patent Fees

March 22, 2023

Ready, Set, Go: Implications of USPTO’s Shift to Electronic Patent Grants