

Patent Prosecution Boot Camp | March 4-6, 2026

AIPLA Headquarters | Arlington, VA

Wednesday, March 4, 2026

8:00 - 8:30 am Breakfast, Registration, and Networking

Application Preparation

Lead by: Stefan Osterbur, Van Hoven P.C.

8:30 - 8:40 am **Opening Remarks**

8:40 - 9:15 am **Initial Inventor Interview and Invention Disclosure**

Stephanie Kwong, Abbott Labs

9:15 - 10:00 am **Inventorship/Filing Formalities**

Theresa Stadheim, Marshall IP

10:00 - 10:30 am **Patent Search and Opinions**

Rocky Lieberman, Lieberman & Brandsdorfer, LLC

10:30 - 10:45 am **Break**

10:45 - 11:30 am **Overview of Design Patents**

Margaret Polson, Polson IP Law

11:30 - 12:15 pm **Proper Use of AI**

Tom Franklin, Mughal Gaudry and Franklin PC

12:15 - 1:00 pm **Lunch & Speaker:** Drew Hirshfeld, SLW - Former Commissioner of Patents

1:00 - 1:45 pm **Application Drafting and Provisional Applications**

Peter Jay, Wenderoth, Lind & Ponack

1:45 - 5:30 pm **Claims Drafting Workshops (Break: 3:45 - 4:00 pm)**

Mechanical

John Higgins, Sterne Kessler

Scott Bergeson, Troutman Pepper Locke

Patent Examiner, USPTO

Electrical

Lucas Hjelle, Schwegman Lundberg & Woessner, PA

Marc Richards, Crowell & Moring LLP
Patent Examiner, USPTO

Biotech/Pharma/Chemical

Andy Freistein, Wenderoth, Lind & Ponack
Sulay Jhaveri, Wenderoth, Lind & Ponack
Patent Examiner, USPTO

Thursday, March 5, 2026

8:00 - 8:15 am Breakfast and Networking

Prosecution of Patent Applications

Lead by: Tony Curtis, Schwegman Lundberg & Woessner, PA

8:15 - 9:15 am **Responding to § 102 and 103 Rejections**
Mauricio Uribe, Knobbe Martens

9:15 - 10:30 am **Responding to § 101 and § 112 Rejections**
Matt Marrone, Dennemeyer

10:30 - 10:40 am **Break**

10:40 - 11:20 am **Restriction, Elections, and Double Patenting**
Steve Petkovsek, Fish Richardson

11:20 - 12:00 pm **Continuations and RCEs**
Ian Clouse, Holland & Hart
Zachary Christofferson, Holland & Hart

12:00 - 12:15 pm **Lunch**

12:15 - 12:45 pm **Examiner Interviews & Knowing the USPTO**
Yelena Morozova, Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner, LLP

12:45 - 12:55 pm **Break**

1:00 - 4:00 pm **Responding to Office Actions Workshops (Break: 3:45 - 4:00 pm)**

Mechanical

Rakhi Nikhanj, Mueting Raasch Group
Andy Johnson, Donaldson Company
Patent Examiner, USPTO

Electrical/Software

Usha Parker, Perilla Knox & Hildebrandt
Anna Lloyd, Nokia
Patent Examiner, USPTO

Biotech/Chemical

Joshua Goldberg, Nath, Goldberg & Meyer
Joshua Ney, Barnes & Thornburg, LLP
Patent Examiner, USPTO

4:00 - 5:30 pm **Reception at USPTO – Shuttle bus provided**

Friday, March 6, 2026

8:00 - 8:30 am Breakfast and Networking

Digging Deeper: Petitions, Appeals, Post-Grant Proceedings, & Int'l Practice

Lead by: Stefan Osterbur, Van Hoven P.C.
Tony Curtis, Schwegman Lundberg & Woessner, PA

8:30 - 9:30 am **Petitions and Appeals**
Kevin Hawkes, IPTechLaw

9:30 - 10:15 am **Prosecution Tips from Patent Litigator's Perspective**
Brian Horne, Knobbe Martens

10:15 - 10:30 am **Break**

10:30 - 11:15 am **Issuance, Patent Term, Certificate of Correction, Disclaimers & Maintenance**
Babak Akhlaghi, NovotechIP

11:15 am - 12:15 pm **Ethics, IDS & Duty of Candor**
Tom Irving, The Marbury Law Group, PLLC

12:15 – 1:30 pm **Lunch (on your own)**

1:30 - 3:30 pm **PCT Filings and International Patent Prosecution**
Jay Kesan, Key IP Law Group

3:30 pm **Concluding Remarks**