

MEENAKSHI CHOTIA

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

An accomplished Senior Patent Attorney with over 10 years of experience in providing strategic business counseling on intellectual property (IP) matters at K&S Partners, a leading IP boutique law firm in India with over 260 people across six offices. Seeking opportunities for a legal role with an esteemed law firm that will allow me to leverage my existing skillset in patent development, prosecution, portfolio management and acquisition, team management, and to partner with commercial and scientific teams, as well as executive leadership, to develop comprehensive, actionable and cost-effective global IP portfolio strategies.

CORE EXPERTISE

- * Represent a wide range of clients across the life sciences sector on various IP matters, including Indian and global patent drafting, filing, prosecution, appeal, opposition, and matters with the National Biodiversity Authority of India.
- * Counsel Indian and international clients on worldwide patent prosecution and portfolio management, throughout the life cycle of a patent.
- * Conduct various searches and provide opinions on matters including Patentability search, Freedom to Operate search, Invalidation search, Equivalent search and Landscape search.
- * Advise clients on IP strategies, commercial and legal IP risks (including conducting due diligence search and analysis), Freedom to Operate, Patent Invalidations and Patent Landscape, and leveraging an extensive knowledge of Indian and international patent laws, including prosecution strategies, patent guidelines and country specific approaches, such as the problem-solution approach & auxiliary claim set practice in Europe, and 101 issues in the USA.
- * Conduct seminars as an expert on Indian patent law and Patent Prosecution Highway.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

K&S Partners | Bangalore, India | (August 2011 – September 2021)

Senior Associate | (April 2015 - September 2021)

- * Supervised a team of associates and paralegals and managed workload within the life-science team.
- * Drafted legal opinions for international and domestic clients related to IP matters, including, freedom to operate, landscape, patentability and invalidation opinions.
- * Represented multinational and domestic corporations in both Indian and international patent prosecution, including conducting technical and legal reviews of third-party IP and issuance of legal opinions.
- * Drafted and reviewed IP affidavits and agreements, including non-disclosure agreements and employment agreements.

- * Responsible for drafting, filing and prosecution of complex Indian and international patent applications, including those involving latest technologies such as synthetic biology, personalized medicine, cancer immunotherapy, CRISPR, multi-drug resistance, polymer technology etc.
- * Conducted and counseled clients on due diligence on IP, legal and commercial issues in connection with acquisition and divestiture transactions.
- * Drafted and filed Indian Patent Appellate Board (IPAB) appeals, pre-grant oppositions and post-grant oppositions for Indian and international patent applications.
- * Principal counsel at prosecution, opposition and appeal hearings before the IPO/ IPAB.
- * Represented clients (in conjunction with local counsel) before patent examiners in Europe and the United States with respect to patent prosecution matters.
- * Counseled commercial and scientific teams, and co-counseled with international law firms, regarding IP matters and commercial strategies in sync with their business models and markets of interest.
- * Counseled clients on provisions of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002; drafted, filed and prosecuted applications with the National Biodiversity Authority.

Associate | (August 2011 - March 2015)

- * Responsible for drafting, filing and prosecution of Indian and international patent applications (including Ordinary Applications, PCT Applications, National Phase Applications and Conventional Applications) in the fields of biotechnology, chemistry, biochemistry, biopharmaceuticals, genetic engineering, medical diagnostics, therapeutics, microbiology, bioinformatics, materials science, textiles and polymer technology.
- * Prosecution- Drafted responses to First/Second Examination Reports and Hearing notices issued by the IPO; Office Actions issued by foreign jurisdictions including IP5; International Search Report-Written Opinions / further Written Opinions issued for PCT applications.
- * Attended hearings, as a firm representative, at the Indian Patent Office (IPO).
- * Conducted search for assessing patentability, freedom to operate, invalidation and other opinion matters using free and proprietary patent databases.
- * Reviewed work products of colleagues and paralegals.

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION AND MEMBERSHIPS

- * Registered Indian Patent Agent - Reg. no.: IN/PA-2280| (2013 – Present).
- * Member of the Karnataka State Bar Council – Reg. no.: KAR/2307/2015 | (2015 - Present).
- * Advanced Course on Basics of Patent Drafting | (May-August 2014)
World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Academy
- * Advanced Course on Patent Information Search| (September-November 2014)
WIPO Academy

ACTIVITIES

- * Blog Article - The Challenging Pursuit of Patent Claim Amendments in India (July 2020, SpicyIP) [[click to view](#)].

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Law (Legum Baccalaureus-LL.B.) | (July 2012 – June 2015)

Karnataka State Law University | Bangalore, India

Master of Science (M.Sc.) – Specialization: Biochemistry | (September 2009 – June 2011)

Jain University | Bangalore, India

- * *Thesis Project:* Production and Partial Purification of a Thermotolerant Alkalophilic Pectate Lyase from Bacillus licheniformis.
- * Adjudged the Best Poster Presented entitled “Production Of Pectinases From Extremophilic Bacteria” at the UGC National Conference on “Advances In Environment Research: an Interdisciplinary Approach” March 2011, Department of Zoology, Annamalai University, Tamil Nadu.
- * Advance diploma in Bio-informatics from Genohelix, 2010-2011.
- * *Publication:* Optimized Production of Pectate Lyase by a Thermoalkaliphilic Strain of Bacillus licheniformis, Advances in BioResearch, March 3, 2015.

Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) – Specialization: Biotechnology | (June 2006 – July 2009)

Jyoti Nivas College (Autonomous)| Bangalore, India

- * Certificate Program in Protein Modeling, from IBX, 2008.
- * *Project:* Genetic Manipulation of E.coli and Characterisation of Expressed Recombinant Protein By Immunological Methods @ Institute of Biosciences and Molecular Biology, Bangalore, 2008-2009.

Pre-University Course – Specialization: Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Biology| (June 2004 – July 2006)

Jyoti Nivas College| Bangalore, India

Secondary Education | (Graduated 2004)

Cathedral High School | Bangalore, India

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Gender: Female
Date of Birth: June 20, 1988
Languages: English, Hindi, Kannada
Interests: Travelling, Music and Reading