



Christine A. Goddard, Ph.D.

Principal
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Overview

Christine Goddard, Ph.D., focuses her practice on life sciences patent procurement, strategic portfolio management, and general patent counseling, particularly in the area of pharmaceuticals. She is sought out for her experience by both small and large pharmaceutical companies to develop strong patent positions with respect to existing and future drug products.

Christine regularly advises clients with respect to identification of patentable inventions, patentability searches, patent preparation, patent prosecution strategies, global filing strategies, state of the art and patent landscape searches, freedom to operate opinions, due diligence, licensing, contracts, and assignment of patent rights.

Christine's prior experience includes work in-house at Bristol-Myers Squibb as well as at two law firms in the Philadelphia area. In the pharmaceutical and biotechnology realm, she has particular experience in medicinal chemistry, including synthesis and characterization of molecules, pharmaceutical formulations, isomers, isotopes, metabolites, salt forms, and crystalline forms (e.g., polymorphs). She has also advised in the areas of diagnostic and therapeutic proteins, DNA libraries, directed evolution techniques, chemical indicators, genes, proteins, antibodies, optical fibers, optical devices including OLEDs, solid catalysts, petroleum processing, ink formulations, and more.

Prior to her law career, Christine gained extensive experience in the synthesis and characterization of organic compounds and transition metal complexes while working on projects related to the structural mimicry of metalloenzyme active sites at Harvard University. In particular, she regularly characterized compounds using X-ray crystallography, electrochemistry, NMR, IR, and mass spectrometry and gained experience in air-sensitive synthetic techniques. Her experience also includes analytical work at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute as a summer fellow, where she helped develop methods for measuring nitrates in seawater. She has also worked in the area of biochemistry related to the isolation, purification, and structural characterization of membrane-bound photosynthetic proteins.

Recognitions & awards

IAM Patent 1000

IAM2021-2025

IAM Strategy 300

IAM2021-2025

Life Sciences Star

LMG Life Sciences 2022-2024

Top Women of Law

Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly 2021

Massachusetts Rising Star

Super Lawyers 2016-2020

Women Worth Watching

Profiles in Diversity Journal 2018

Testimonials

"Christine Goddard and her team understand what is needed at each stage of the growth cycle." — Third-Party Testimonial, 2023 Chambers and Partners USA

Professional associations

Member, American Chemical Society

Member, American Bar Association

Member, Women in Bio, Boston Chapter

Member, ChIPs

Insights

Article | December 30, 2014

Bulletproofing Pharma Patents

Article | March 5, 2013

1st-To-File System Isn't New To Drug Companies

News

June 11, 2025

Fish & Richardson Attorneys Named to the 2025 IAM Strategy 300 List

May 30, 2025

Fish & Richardson Receives Top Rankings in 2025 Edition of IAM Patent 1000: The World's Leading Patent Professionals

September 23, 2024

Fish & Richardson Receives Top Rankings From LMG Life Sciences, 14 Attorneys Named 2024 "Life Sciences Stars"

July 30, 2024

Fish & Richardson Featured in Eight Categories of the LMG Life Sciences Awards 2024 Shortlist

June 11, 2024

Fish & Richardson Receives Top Rankings in 2024 Edition of IAM Patent 1000: The World's Leading Patent Professionals

June 11, 2024

Fish & Richardson Attorneys Named to the 2024 IAM Strategy 300 List

October 2, 2023

Fish & Richardson Attorneys Named to IAM's 2023 Strategy 300 List

September 25, 2023

Fish & Richardson Receives Top Rankings from LMG Life Sciences, 14 Principals Named 2023 "Life Sciences Stars"

July 27, 2023

Fish & Richardson Featured in 11 Categories of the LMG Life Sciences Awards 2023 Shortlist

June 27, 2023

Fish & Richardson Receives Top Rankings in 2023 Edition of IAM Patent 1000: The World's Leading Patent Professionals

September 29, 2022

LMG Life Sciences Awards Top Rankings to Fish & Richardson; 16 Principals Named 2022 "Life Sciences Stars"

September 8, 2022

Fish & Richardson Receives Top Rankings in 2022 Edition of IAM Patent 1000: The World's Leading Patent Professionals

September 21, 2021

Fish & Richardson Principal Christine Goddard Named to 2021 "Top Women of Law" List by Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly

September 2, 2021

Fish Principals Named to IAM's 2021 Strategy 300 List

July 7, 2021

Fish & Richardson Receives Top Rankings in 2021 Edition of IAM Patent 1000. The World's Leading Patent Professionals

July 26, 2018

Fish & Richardson Attorneys Named 2018 "Women Worth Watching" by Profiles in Diversity Journal

Events

May 3, 2023

Boston Seminar Series 2023 Mid-Year Review

June 23, 2021

The Nexus of IP and R&D: Applying Insights to Accelerate Innovation

January 29, 2020

Boston Seminar Series: 2019 Year in Review

April 4, 2018

2018 Carothers Award Symposia

May 21, 2014

The USPTO Extends its Ability to Limit Examination of Markush Claims

Additional insights

Publications

- Chapter "Polymorphs" in course materials for Patent Resources Group course entitled Pharma & Biotech Strategies for Patent Prosecution, Hatch-Waxman, Litigation and Licensing.
- "Case Study: Falana v. Kent State," Law360 (May 2012)

Services

Patent

Patent Prosecution

Strategic Patent Counseling & Opinions

Patent Portfolio Management

IP Licensing, Transactions & Agreements

Industries

Energy & Chemicals

Life Sciences

Biotech & Diagnostics

Pharmaceuticals

Academic Research & Medical Centers

Admissions

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (2000) Massachusetts (2010)

Education

J.D. *cum laude*, Suffolk University Law School (2010) Ph.D., Bio-inorganic Chemistry, Harvard University (1999) S.B., Chemistry, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1993)

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