



## James (Jim) W. Babineau

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### Overview

James Babineau advises clients on protecting and licensing their intellectual property, managing their patent portfolios, and avoiding infringement risks.

Well-versed and experienced in electrical and mechanical technology areas, Jim counsels clients ranging from Fortune 100 companies to independent inventors. Many of the clients are consumer product manufacturers in varied industries from personal care appliances to toy and infant care, to packaging, fasteners, fabrics, and robotics. Jim also counsels power tools, equipment, and machinery manufacturers, as well as automotive components suppliers.

Industry-leading companies have relied on Jim to help them structure, establish, and enforce international licensing programs and to negotiate customized license and cross-license deals to maximize the value of their IP. He advises on IP strategy, including trademark, copyright, and trade secret protection, and guides clients in their implementation to advance their long-term business goals while avoiding unnecessary risks.

Before beginning his legal career, Jim spent several years working as an executive, automotive development engineer, and engineering instructor. He designed and developed vehicle chassis systems and geotechnical and environmental exploration and testing equipment. Jim's technical know-how, legal knowledge, and hands-on real-world corporate experience prove invaluable in guiding clients at every stage, addressing their pain points, and helping them manage risk and grow their businesses by strategically leveraging their IP assets.

Jim is the named inventor on various U.S. and foreign patents relating to automotive systems, materials processing, and subsurface geotechnical equipment. He frequently writes and lectures on foreign patent practice and strategy.

Jim resides in Austin, a place he describes as “a city where creative expression is celebrated, nonconformity is normal, and individualism is respected. It is a place where people care less about pedigrees and more about competence and results – a place where, if you live and work near the river, for example commuting by kayak seems as normal as anything else.”

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### Recognitions & awards

IAM Patent 1000

*IAM*2014, 2016-2026

IP Star

*Managing IP*2014-2025

Client Service All-Star

*BTI Consulting Group Inc. 2022-2023*

Rising Star

*Super Lawyers 2008-2009*

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## Testimonials

"[Jim] is incredibly smart, thoughtful, and practical. He definitely takes care to understand what my goals are and help me accomplish them in a way that maximizes my bang for the buck." — Client Testimonial, 2023 *Chambers & Partners USA*

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## Professional associations

Member, AIPLA

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## Technical Experience

Jim is a former professional engineer and engineering instructor. He is the named inventor on various U.S. and foreign patents relating to automotive systems, materials processing, and subsurface geotechnical equipment. He frequently writes and lectures on foreign patent practice and strategy.

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## Insights

Webinar | September 14, 2016

*Inter Partes* Review (IPR) of Design Patents

Blog | June 24, 2016

Impact of Brexit Vote on Design Protection in the EU

*Fish & Richardson*

Webinar | June 3, 2015

Understanding the New International Design Registration (IDR) System

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## News

News | June 3, 2026

Fish & Richardson Receives Top Rankings in 2026 Edition of *IAM Patent 1000: The World's Leading Patent Professionals*

News | October 1, 2025

Fish & Richardson Ranked Highly by *Managing IP*; Attorneys Named IP Stars

News | May 30, 2025

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

News | October 4, 2024

Fish & Richardson Ranked Highly by *Managing IP*; Attorneys Named IP Stars

News | June 11, 2024

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

News | October 5, 2023

Fish & Richardson Ranked Highly by *Managing IP*; Attorneys Named IP Stars

News | June 27, 2023

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

News | June 13, 2023

Three Fish Principals Named 2023 Client Service All-Stars by BTI Consulting Group

News | September 8, 2022

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

News | June 2, 2022

Fish & Richardson Named a Top ITC and Life Sciences Firm by *Managing IP*, Attorneys Named IP Stars

News | July 7, 2021

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

News | August 12, 2020

Fish & Richardson Receives Top "Gold" Ranking from *IAM Patent 1000* for National Litigation Practice; National Rankings in the Plaintiff Firm and Prosecution...

News | August 4, 2020

32 Fish & Richardson Attorneys Named 2020 "IP Stars" by *Managing Intellectual Property Magazine*

News | June 20, 2019

Fish & Richardson Receives Top "Gold" Ranking from *IAM Patent 1000* for National Patent Litigation Practice

News | May 22, 2019

Fish & Richardson Announces 32 Attorneys Named "IP Stars" by *Managing Intellectual Property Magazine*

News | June 14, 2018

Fish Receives Top "Gold" Ranking from *IAM Patent 1000* for National Patent Litigation Practice

News | May 21, 2018

Fish & Richardson Announces 39 Attorneys Named "IP Stars" by *Managing Intellectual Property Magazine*

News | March 6, 2018

Fish & Richardson Announces Ranking as a Top National Trademark Practice by *Managing Intellectual Property*

Media Coverage | November 2, 2017

Independence May Help USPTO Better Control Budget

*Law360*

News | July 24, 2017

Fish & Richardson Receives Top "Gold" Ranking from *IAM Patent 1000* for National Patent Litigation Practice

News | June 23, 2017

Fish & Richardson Announces 36 Attorneys Named "IP Stars" by *Managing Intellectual Property Magazine*

News | June 22, 2017

Fish Recognized at Volunteer Legal Services of Central Texas' Covington Pro Bono Service Awards

News | June 15, 2016

Fish & Richardson Named to *IAMPatent 1000* for National Patent Litigation and Prosecution Practices

News | June 2, 2016

Fish & Richardson Announces 36 Attorneys Named "IP Stars" by *Managing Intellectual Property Magazine*

Media Coverage | February 12, 2014

iRobot shares hit all-time high; patent honor, Google may be the reasons

*Boston Business Journal*

News | February 11, 2014

iRobot Honored for Strong Patent Portfolio

Media Coverage | March 1, 2013

iRobot and Its Patents - What Makes Them Strong?

*Boston Business Journal*

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## Events

January 17, 2018

Fish & ACC Austin Happy Hour

January 11, 2017  
Fish & ACC Austin Happy Hour

March 30, 2009  
Law Seminars International

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## Services

Post-Grant  
Patent  
Patent Portfolio Management  
IP Licensing, Transactions & Agreements

## Industries

Electrical & Computer Technology  
Optics  
Telecommunications  
Medical Devices  
Transportation, Aerospace & Defense

## Admissions

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (1998)  
Massachusetts (2001)  
Texas (2007)

## Education

J.D., Harvard Law School  
M.S., Mechanical Engineering, University of Michigan  
B.S. *Tau Beta Pi*, Mechanical Engineering, University of New Mexico

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