



John C. Adkisson

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Overview

John Adkisson is president and chief executive officer of Fish & Richardson and has served in that role since 2020. As president and CEO, John is responsible for the firm's overall strategic direction. He has a reputation for his in-the-trenches work ethic and his passion for promoting Fish's culture of innovation and teamwork to the firm's clients and potential clients. John's priorities include expanding the firm's global reach and maintaining and building on Fish's reputation as one of the world's premier intellectual property firms.

John has chaired the firm's Management Committee since 2020 and has been an elected member of the Management Committee since 2017. John also served as the managing group leader for the firm's 200-plus lawyer litigation group from 2017 to 2020.

In addition to serving as president and CEO of the firm, John has 20-plus years of experience as a patent infringement litigator. Over the past decade, John has focused on high-stakes pharmaceutical cases, including representing clients in Hatch-Waxman and the rapidly emerging field of biosimilar litigation. John has also acted as lead counsel in numerous post-grant proceedings before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board.

Some of John's high-profile cases include helping Repligen Corp. and Massachusetts Institute of Technology win a \$65 million settlement from ImClone Systems. He was on the team that represented Coherus BioSciences Inc. and succeeded in getting three key patents covering AbbVie Inc.'s arthritis medication Humira® — the world's best-selling drug — invalidated by the PTAB in 2017.

As the managing group leader for the firm's litigation group, John played a pivotal role in investing in and shaping the firm's next generation of trial lawyers. He is a strong proponent of Fish's 1L Diversity Fellowship program, which awards scholarships and summer associate positions to diverse first-year law students.

John's contributions to the field of intellectual property law have been widely recognized. In 2020, *Law360* featured John in his new role as CEO. In 2015, *The National Law Journal* profiled his long-standing successful work on behalf of 3M Co. He has also been named a Minnesota Super Lawyer since 2016 and has been included in *Best Lawyers in America* every year since 2015.

Experience

Immunex Corp and Amgen Manufacturing, Ltd. et al v. Samsung Bioepis Co., Ltd., (D.N.J.) Serving as counsel for Samsung Bioepis against Immunex and Amgen in case involving ETICOVO, Samsung Bioepis's biosimilar product to Enbrel. Case is ongoing.

Janssen Biotech, Inc. v. Samsung Bioepis, Co., Ltd., (D.N.J.) Served as counsel for Samsung Bioepis against Janssen in case involving Renflexis, Samsung Bioepis's biosimilar product to Remicade. Janssen dismissed all claims against Samsung Bioepis with

prejudice in November 2017.

Athena Diagnostics Inc. v. Mayo Clinic (D. Mass.) Served as counsel for Mayo Clinic in patent case related to detection of autoimmune disorder in patients. Case dismissed in Mayo's favor on all counts in August 2017 and dismissal affirmed by Federal Circuit in 2019.

Coherus BioSciences, Inc. v. AbbVie Biotechnology Ltd., IPR 2016-00172 (P.T.A.B.) Served as counsel for Petitioner Coherus Biosciences in IPR proceedings related to patents covering AbbVie dosing regimens related to Humira. All claims invalidated in Final Written Decisions issued in May and June 2017, cases settled in 2018.

Gilead Sciences, Inc. v. AbbVie Inc., (D. Del.) Served as counsel for Gilead against AbbVie in case involving solid formulations of pharmaceutical products related to treatment of Hepatitis C. Case settled in 2016.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Repligen Corp. v. ImClone Systems, Inc., (D. Mass.) Obtained \$65 million settlement on morning of trial in September, 2007 in patent case in District of Massachusetts involving cancer drug Erbitux. Case reported in articles, "Twin Cities Lawyers Take On Most Bizarre Case of Their Lives in MIT v. ImClone Systems," and "[Twin Cities Lawyers Score in Boston.](#)"

Amarin Pharmaceuticals Ireland Ltd. v. Omthera Pharmaceuticals, Inc. and AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals L.P. (D. Del.) Counsel for Amarin Pharmaceuticals in patent case involving cholesterol-lowering drugs.

The Regents of the University of Michigan and Repligen Corp. v. Bristol Myers Squibb, (E.D. Tex.) Counsel for the University of Michigan and Repligen Corporation in patent case related to patent for method for treating rheumatoid arthritis.

Arctic Cat v. Polaris and Polaris v. Arctic Cat (D. Minn.) Lead counsel for Arctic Cat on series of patent infringement cases and PTAB proceedings related to off-road vehicles. Argued and obtained successful PTAB rulings on behalf of Arctic Cat. Cases currently pending in the District of Minnesota.

3M Innovative Properties Co. v. Avery Dennison Corp., (D. Minn.) Served as co-lead counsel for 3M in patent and antitrust cases related to retroreflective sheeting used on highway road signs. Argued and obtained successful *Markman* and summary judgment rulings on behalf of 3M. Cases settled in 2013.

Halo LLC v. Pulse Engineering, Inc., (D. Nev.) Counsel for Halo LLC in patent case related to surface mount transformers used in electronics products. Case resulted in a jury verdict of willful infringement on Halo's behalf in November 2012 in the District of Nevada, affirmed by the United States Supreme Court in 2016.

3M Innovative Properties Co. v. Avery Dennison Corp., (D. Minn.) Trial counsel for 3M in case tried to jury in Minneapolis in December, 2005. Jury returned verdict for 3M on all counts, permanent injunction granted in March, 2006.

NUTech Ventures v. Syngenta Seeds, Inc., (D. Neb.) Counsel for NUTech Ventures (associated with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln) in patent case related to genetically modified corn. Argued and obtained successful *Markman* ruling on behalf of NUTech. Case settled in 2014.

Testimonials

"John Adkisson is the trial supremo... Adkisson focuses on big-ticket pharmaceutical cases in district courts, although he also has ample post-grant lead counsel experience." — *Client testimonial, 2019 IAM Patent 1000*

"John Adkisson is very, very good. He's unflappable in negotiations, he doesn't bang his shoe on a podium, he comes across well and he's persuasive to folks on the other side. He always takes a thoughtful approach, he's not emotional, and he'll say why if he disagrees." — *Client testimonial, 2017 Chambers and Partners*

Recognitions & awards

Best Lawyers in America

Best Lawyers 2015-2024

Ranked Lawyer

Chambers USA: Minnesota 2022-2023

IAM Patent 1000

IAM 2020-2023

Life Sciences Star

LMG Life Sciences 2018-2023

Minneapolis Lawyer of the Year for Patent Litigation

Best Lawyers 2021-2022

Super Lawyers

Super Lawyers 2012-2014, 2016-2021

Healthcare/Life Science Trailblazer

National Law Journal (NLJ) 2020

Attorney of the Year

Minnesota Lawyer 2018

Professional associations

American Bar Association

Federal Circuit Bar Association

American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA)

Minnesota Intellectual Property Law Association

Insights

Article | March 6, 2024

Law360 Pulse: Fish & Richardson Leader on Thriving During Pandemic

Webinar | January 11, 2022

Biosimilars 2021 Year in Review

Webinar | January 28, 2021

Biosimilars 2020 Year in Review

Article | September 1, 2020

Fish Attorneys Author *Biosimilar Development* Article, "An Update On 2020 U.S. Biosimilars Regulation & Litigation"

Webinar | July 23, 2020

Biosimilars: A 2020 Mid-Year Review

Blog | March 16, 2020

Fish's Response to COVID-19 and Business Continuity Update

Webinar | January 16, 2020

Biosimilars - 2019 Year in Review

Webinar | July 18, 2019

Biosimilars - 2019 Mid-Year Update

Webinar | January 17, 2019

2018 Biosimilars - A Year in Review

Webinar | January 18, 2018
2017 Biosimilars - A Year In Review

Webinar | May 23, 2017
BPCIA Guidance from the Federal Circuit and the Supreme Court

Blog | March 8, 2017
Minnesota Patent Litigation Wrap-Up: February 2017

Blog | February 7, 2017
Minnesota Patent Litigation Wrap-Up — January 2017

Webinar | June 8, 2016
Post-Grant for Practitioners Evidentiary Trends at the PTAB Part II: "Paper" Witness Testimony

Article | April 6, 2015
Principal John Adkisson Highlighted in *National Law Journal's* "Twin Cities Counsel to Counsel" Report

News

March 14, 2024
Fish & Richardson Names Chris Bowley, Ph.D., as Managing Principal of Silicon Valley Office

March 4, 2024
John Adkisson Re-Elected to Second Term as President & CEO of Fish & Richardson

February 28, 2024
Fish & Richardson Expands Life Sciences Industry Team with Addition of Louis Fogel and Shaun Van Horn

February 12, 2024
Fish & Richardson Launches Team Focused on Protecting Life Sciences Innovations

January 2, 2024
Fish & Richardson Elevates 20 Attorneys to Principal

September 25, 2023
Fish & Richardson Receives Top Rankings from *LMG Life Sciences*; 14 Principals Named 2023 "Life Sciences Stars"

September 25, 2023
Fish & Richardson Welcomes 2023 Fall Associate Class

August 17, 2023
101 Fish Attorneys Included in the 2024 Edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*

June 27, 2023
Fish & Richardson Receives Top Rankings in 2023 Edition of *IAM Patent 1000: The World's Leading Patent Professionals*

June 1, 2023
Fish & Richardson Earns "Band 1" Nationwide Rankings for Intellectual Property and ITC Practices in *Chambers USA 2023*

March 13, 2023
Fish & Richardson Names Joshua A. Griswold as Managing Principal of Dallas Office

March 2, 2023
Lex Machina Ranks Fish & Richardson Most Active Firm for Patent Defense and PTAB Work

October 24, 2022
Fish & Richardson Recognized by Leadership Council for Legal Diversity as 2022 Top Performer and Compass Award Winner

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*

August 22, 2022
96 Fish Attorneys Included in the 2023 Edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*

May 25, 2022
Lex Machina Lists Fish & Richardson as Most Active Firm for Defendants and at the PTAB

January 27, 2022
Fish & Richardson Named 2022 Best Place to Work by Human Rights Campaign

October 5, 2021

LMG Life Sciences Awards Top Rankings to Fish & Richardson; 13 Principals Named 2021 "Life Sciences Stars"

August 19, 2021

Fish Attorneys Recognized in 2022 Edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*

July 20, 2021

Fish & Richardson Attorneys Named to 2021 Minnesota *Super Lawyers* List

July 7, 2021

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

April 12, 2021

Fish & Richardson Named 2021 IP Boutique Firm of the Year and ITC Firm of the Year by *Managing Intellectual Property*

March 19, 2021

A Statement From President and CEO John Adkisson Against Anti-Asian Violence and Hate

January 28, 2021

Fish & Richardson Recognized as "Best Place to Work for LGBTQ Equality" by Human Rights Campaign's 2021 Corporate Equality Index

January 7, 2021

Fish & Richardson Receives 2020 "Attorney of the Year" Group Award from *Minnesota Lawyer*

September 29, 2020

Fish & Richardson Receives Top Firm Rankings and 14 Principals Named 2020 "Life Sciences Stars" by *LMG Life Sciences*

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...

April 6, 2020

John Adkisson Named "Healthcare/Life Sciences Trailblazer" by *The National Law Journal*

February 24, 2020

Fish & Richardson Names John Adkisson as President-elect and CEO

February 7, 2020

Peter Devlin Stepping Down as President and CEO of Fish & Richardson

October 2, 2019

Fish & Richardson Receives Top Firm Rankings from *LMG Life Sciences* in Four Practice Areas

June 20, 2019

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

January 3, 2019

Fish & Richardson Receives Two 2018 "Attorney of the Year" Awards from *Minnesota Lawyer*

September 27, 2018

Fish & Richardson Announces 13 Principals Named 2018 "Life Sciences Stars" by *LMG Life Sciences*

August 15, 2018

47 Fish Attorneys Named to The Best Lawyers in America 2019 List

June 13, 2017

PTAB Rules in Favor of Fish Client Coherus BioSciences in Two More IPR Decisions

May 17, 2017

Fish Client Coherus BioSciences Prevails in '135 IPR Decision

April 27, 2011

Minneapolis Attorneys Win Jury Verdict in Trade Secrets Case

Events

September 22, 2022

Longwood Healthcare Leaders Fall Meeting

February 13, 2019

Minnesota Lawyer "Attorney of the Year" Awards

September 27, 2018
2018 Midwest IP Institute

August 9, 2017
Boston Seminar Series: Mid-Year Review of BPCIA Litigation

June 24, 2015
National Law Journal "Twin Cities Legal & Litigation Departments of the Year"

September 18, 2014
2014 Midwest IP Institute

March 12, 2010
Children's Defense Fund 'Beat the Odds' fundraising event

Additional insights

Presentations

- "After *TC Heartland*: Venue Considerations for Practitioners," *Midwest IP Institute* (2017)
- "Biosimilars Litigation: A Midyear Review," *Fish & Richardson Boston Seminar Series* (August 2017)
- "U.S. Patent Litigation Five Years After The America Invents Act," *AIPLA Spring Meeting* (2016)
- "Post Grant Challenges at the PTO: Process and Strategy," *Midwest Intellectual Property Institute* (2014)

Publications

- "[If You Snooze, Do You Lose Your Right To Sue?](#)" *National Law Journal* (October 1998)

Media mentions

- "[Fish & Richardson Leader On Thriving During Pandemic](#)," *Law360* (March 5, 2024)
 - "[Fish & Richardson Reelects CEO to 2nd Term](#)," *Law360* (March 4, 2024)
 - "[These Firms Are Leading In Patent Litigation Work](#)," *Law360* (February 08, 2024)
 - "[Fish & Richardson Breaks Half-Billion in Revenue After 'Tremendous' Year in IP Litigation](#)," *The American Lawyer* (March 3, 2023)
 - "[These Firms are Pulling in the Most Patent Litigation Work](#)," *Law360* (February 15, 2023)
 - "[These Firms Are Landing The Most Patent Litigation Work](#)," *Law360* (May 19, 2022)
 - "The Big Interview: John Adkisson, firm president and CEO of Fish & Richardson," *Chambers Associate* (July 5, 2021)
 - "[3 Things Keeping Managing Partners Up At Night In 2021](#)," *Law360* (January 4, 2021)
 - "[How 7 IP Firms Weathered The COVID-19 Pandemic](#)," *Law360* (December 2020)
 - "[What Does the Future Hold for Intellectual Property in 2021?](#)" *Law.com* (December 2020)
 - "[Six IP Firms Reveal Post-COVID Management Plans](#)," *Managing IP* (July 24, 2020)
 - "[Law Firm Leaders: Fish & Richardson's John Adkisson](#)," *Law360* (June 17, 2020)
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Services

Litigation
Patent Litigation
Trade Secret Litigation
Post-Grant

Industries

Life Sciences

Admissions

Minnesota (1996)

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

U.S. District Court for the District of Minnesota

Massachusetts (2020)

Education

J.D. *cum laude*, University of Wisconsin, Madison (1996) Member, *Wisconsin Law Review*

B.A. *cum laude*, University of Nebraska (1993)