

Jennifer Giordano-Coltart, Ph.D.

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Services

Adversarial Patent ProsecutionSM

Asset Creation - Prosecution &
Counseling

Life Sciences Patent Disputes

FDA Regulation

Intellectual Property

Intellectual Property Due Diligence

KT Patent Prosecution Extranet

Licensing, Transactions &
Monetization

Market Protection - Opinions &
Dispute Avoidance

Patent Due Diligence

Patent Litigation

Patents

Post-Grant Proceedings

Trade Secrets

Industries

Agribusiness & Food

Technology

Health & Life Sciences



Jennifer Giordano-Coltart, Ph.D., focuses her practice on patent prosecution, portfolio management, transactional matters, and intellectual property strategy in the life sciences. She prosecutes patents for clients in the U.S. and abroad and provides patentability, patent validity, infringement, and freedom-to-operate counseling to facilitate her clients' business goals. In addition, Jennifer assists her clients with licensing and acquisitions, including due diligence and negotiations. She also provides technical assistance on litigation matters and actions before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Jennifer's experience with a wide range of clients—investment groups, start-ups, universities, mid-size and growing companies, and established industry leaders— informs her ability to tailor intellectual property strategies to the needs of her clients.

Jennifer has broad research experience and technical expertise in the life sciences, including molecular biology, biochemistry, genetics, cell biology, and immunology, in addition to biologics, pharmaceuticals, diagnostics, tissue and cell products, and agricultural products. She conducted her doctoral research at Cornell University Weill Graduate School of Medical Sciences and Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, where her research focused on human DNA replication. She has also conducted research in the areas of intracellular trafficking, apoptosis, and human genetic diseases. During law school, Jennifer wrote and edited for the *Duke Law & Technology Review* and was President of the Intellectual Property & Cyberlaw Society. She is a member of the Editorial Board for *Current Stem Cell Reports* and also regularly publishes on patent law issues of interest to the life science and biotechnology industries.

Jennifer was recognized in 2027 and the five years immediately preceding in the area of Biotechnology and Life Sciences and as the 2023 and 2026 "Raleigh Lawyer of the Year" for Biotechnology and Life Sciences by *The Best Lawyers in America*®. She was recommended by *Legal 500 US* in 2025 for Patent Prosecution. Jennifer was named a highly recommended patent practitioner in 2026 by *IAM Patent 1000*. She was recognized as a North Carolina "Rising Star" for Intellectual Property Law by *Super Lawyers* magazine in 2014-2018.

Experience

Provides patent prosecution and portfolio development counseling for public clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company focused on development and commercialization of well-characterized drugs for life-threatening, rare, and ultra-rare diseases with high unmet medical needs and no approved therapies.

Provides patent counseling to leading manufacturer of transplantable allogeneic cell and tissue products, obtaining substantial patent protection for core innovative products.

Provides patent counseling to clinical-stage specialty pharmaceutical company developing inhaled therapies for rare and severe diseases in the endocrinology, respiratory and cardiovascular space.

Provides patent counseling to startup company developing novel agricultural product platform focused around targeted protein degradation.

Provides patent counseling on cardiopulmonary disease-targeted inhaled drug formulations for clinical-stage specialty pharmaceutical company.

Represents several early stage life science companies in patent portfolio development, patent licensing, agreements for employees, consultants, and advisors, and general counseling.

Represents universities and research institutions in North Carolina and California in developing patent protection around cutting-edge innovation in such fields as therapeutic antibodies, diagnostics, gene editing and expression modification, pharmaceuticals, and vaccines.

Represented company developing natural pesticide products in negotiation of joint development agreement with major consumer product brand and numerous licensing and other transactional agreements relating to patent rights and product development.

Represented startup company developing plant-microbiome driven agricultural products to improve crop productivity, growing patent portfolio to over 20 issued patents and over 160 pending applications over four

years. Pursued aggressive prosecution strategy to obtain issued patents covering first commercial product prior to launch.

Provided patent counseling services including patent license review, dispute resolution and pre-litigation counseling to leading pharmaceuticals manufacturer related to reexamination and reissue applications for large and small molecule therapeutics.

Represents an emerging company developing immunotherapies to treat solid tumors with respect to patent prosecution and related counseling. Assisted with providing transactional related patent due diligence services, including performance of patent related due diligence on potential partners, and responding to patent-related due diligence requests from potential partners. Also assisted in the drafting and negotiation of strategic partnership agreements, joint development agreements, patent license agreements, employment and consulting agreements, and related transactional documents.

Represents a leading clinical laboratory services provider in intellectual property related services, including freedom to operate analyses, patent license negotiation and review, collaborative research and development agreement preparation and analysis, patent prosecution and litigation services and due diligence and pre-litigation counseling. Technologies include clinical diagnostic services; bioinformatics; genetic testing; gene mapping and counseling; companion diagnostics; blood testing services, and biotechnology.

Part of team assisting one of the world's largest clinical laboratory networks in its acquisition of an international biotechnology laboratory. Our work included due diligence on the laboratory's oncology, virology, microfluidics and reagent technology and over 200 related patents and applications. We also assisted with acquisition documents and post-closing transition of the intellectual property.

Represented an indigent client in legitimation proceeding in North Carolina Superior Court for three minor children where the client married after the death of the first child's mother. The case required coordination with translators, appointment of and interaction with Guardian ad Litem, and interaction with the court to determine proper procedure for filing petition for legitimation.

Represent children and/or their best interests in a variety of settings and courts. Lawyers routinely serve as guardians ad litem, representing the best interests of children in a variety of contexts. In Atlanta and in Winston-Salem, lawyers have represented the best interests of hundreds of children whose parents are disputing their custody. The guardian ad litem is charged with getting to know the child, studying the circumstances of the child's life, interviewing witnesses, reviewing documents and ultimately, making an oral or written recommendation to the appointing court as to what is in the child's best interests.

Education

Duke University School of Law J.D. (2008)

Cornell University Ph.D. (2005) Molecular Biology

University of Alberta B.S. (1999) Biological Sciences - Molecular Genetics, *with honors*

Admissions

North Carolina (2008)

Court Admissions

U.S. District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina (2008)

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (2009)

Professional & Community Activities

North Carolina Bar Association, Intellectual Property Law Section, Council Member and Biotech & Chemical Patents Committee, Co-Chair

Current Stem Cell Reports, Editorial Board, Member

Women's Fund of Winston-Salem, Member

American Red Cross, Northwest North Carolina Chapter, Board of Directors, Past Member

United Way for Forsyth County, Women's Leadership Counsel Steering Committee, Past Member

Insights

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Kilpatrick Attorneys Once Again Earn Outstanding Recognitions in 2027 Edition of The Best Lawyers in America®

August 20, 2026

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In-House Counsel Summit

September 12, 2024

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Kilpatrick Breaks Record for Number of Attorneys Recognized in 2025 Edition of The Best Lawyers in America®

August 16, 2024

[Events](#)

IP Due Diligence in Corporate Transactions

August 5, 2024

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Kilpatrick Attorneys Recognized as Thomson Reuters "Stand-out Lawyers"

February 22, 2024