Allison W. Dobson, Ph.D.

Partner

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Services

Adversarial Patent Prosecution℠

Asset Creation - Prosecution & Counseling

Life Sciences Patent Disputes

Intellectual Property

Intellectual Property Due Diligence

ITC Section 337

Market Protection - Opinions & Dispute Avoidance

Patent Due Diligence

Patent Litigation

Patents

Post-Grant Proceedings

Trade Secrets

Industries

Agribusiness & Food Technology

Health & Life Sciences

Medical & Surgical Devices

Allison Dobson's practice encompasses all aspects of patent law. Her experience includes litigation, patent prosecution and counseling, due diligence, post-grant proceedings such as *Inter Partes Review* (IPR), and Post Grant Review (PGR), licensing, and other intellectual property issues. Allison has worked with a wide range of technologies including biotechnology, medical devices, and pharmaceutical innovations, as well as other matters in chemistry and life sciences. Allison advises on litigation and other adversarial patent proceedings worldwide. She prosecutes patents for clients in the U.S. and abroad and provides counseling and opinions regarding patentability, patent validity, infringement, and freedom-to-operate. She also has *Inter Partes Review* experience from both patent owner and petitioner perspectives.

Prior to her legal career, Allison conducted research in the medical sciences, including molecular biology, biochemistry, genetics, cell biology, and toxicology. She also took Medical Gross Anatomy and taught Anatomy & Physiology at Winston-Salem State University. She was an NIH Postdoctoral Fellow in Molecular Neurotoxicology at Wake Forest University School of Medicine and a legal Postdoctoral Fellow at the Center for Genomics and Society of University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Allison was recognized in 2018, 2019, and 2020 as a North Carolina "Rising Star" for Intellectual Property by *Super Lawyers* magazine. She was also recognized in 2022, 2023 and 2024 as one of the "Best Lawyers: Ones

to Watch" for Patent Law by *The Best Lawyers in America*®.

Experience

Counsel a nonprofit research and teaching hospital regarding freedom-to-operate issues, including investigation and analysis of potentially relevant intellectual property and analysis of proposed assays intended to design around numerous patents.

Represent Wake Forest University Health Sciences in preparing and prosecuting numerous U.S. and international patent applications, including applications relating to cancer diagnostics and/or treatment, the treatment of neuronal dysfunction. For example, patents have been granted for methods to prevent neurodegeneration, to detect elevated MAP-2 in melanoma, and the use of angiotensin antagonists to treat cancer. Also, the firm assisted with patent license counseling and negotiation, inventorship disputes, and inter-university agreement negotiations.

Represent 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; robotics; bioinformatics; genome mapping; genetic testing; gene mapping and counseling; companion diagnostics; blood testing services, and biotechnology.

Education

University of North Carolina School of Law J.D. (2009) Gressman-Pollitt Award for Oral Advocacy; *The Order of Barristers*

University of South Alabama College of Medicine Ph.D. (2001) Basic Medical Sciences

Georgia Institute of Technology B.S. (1996) Applied Biology

Admissions

North Carolina (2010)

Court Admissions

U.S. District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina (2012)

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (2011)

Professional & Community Activities

North Carolina Bar Association, Member

Leadership Winston-Salem, Class of 2021, Member

Federal Circuit Bar Association (FCBA), Member

Insights

Webinars

IP Innovations | Pharmaceutical Patents: Evolving Standards for Written Description and Enablement

October 13, 2026

Events

Does a Forest Provide Support for a Single Tree? Evolving Standards for Written Description and Enablement

August 3, 2026

Webinars

IP Innovations: Annual Review of Patent Case Law (Part II)

March 3, 2026

Events

Advanced Patent Law Seminar

February 12, 2026

Events

Annual Review of Patent Case Law (Winston-Salem)

February 11, 2026

Blogs

Post Grant Proceedings

It's Not Always Obvious: A Successful Showing of Substantial Evidence Before the Federal Circuit

December 5, 2023