

Joe C. Hao, Ph.D.

Partner

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Services

Asset Creation - Prosecution & Counseling

Industries

Health & Life Sciences

Joe C. Hao focuses his practice on preparing and prosecuting patent applications and assisting clients with formulating international patent filing and prosecution strategies, patent portfolio management, patentability and freedom to operate analyses, due diligence reviews, and post-grant procedure strategies. Joe's experience spans numerous disciplines and industries, including antibody and nucleic acid therapies, protein engineering, immunotherapy, vaccines, diagnostics, molecular and cellular biology, genetics, neuroscience, stem cells, drug formulations, drug delivery, pharmaceuticals, and medical devices.

Joe represents universities as well as a variety of start-up and publicly-traded companies in the biotechnology industry located in the U.S., Canada, and Europe.

Joe conducted independent research on the characterization of the molecular mechanisms of axon guidance and branching as a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Predoctoral Fellow at the University of California, San Francisco. He has also worked as a paper reporter for Genome Biology, covering the latest advances in genomic research. Joe has authored and co-authored articles in peer-reviewed journals and has presented his research at scientific conferences. Previously, he worked as a patent agent and technical advisor at Townsend and Townsend and Crew. During law school, Joe was a Lead Content Editor of the Santa Clara Computer and High Technology Law Journal and focused his studies on intellectual property law and related fields.

Education

Santa Clara University School of Law J.D. (2008)

University of California, San Francisco Ph.D. (2003) Neuroscience

University of California, Berkeley B.A. (1995) Molecular and Cell Biology, *with honors*

Admissions

California (2008)

Court Admissions

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (2004)

Professional & Community Activities

San Francisco Intellectual Property Law Association (SFIPLA), Member

Insights

Perspectives

Kilpatrick Client Success | Kilpatrick’s Patent Prosecution Expertise Plays Key Role in Record-Breaking Covid Vaccine Settlement

March 16, 2026

Events

Bio & Pharmaceutical Patent Forum

March 15, 2016

Events

What Biotechnology Can You Patent? What’s in, What’s out, and What’s Your Best Bet for Protecting Your Innovations

March 15, 2016

News

Kilpatrick Townsend's Media Report January 16-22, 2015

January 23, 2015

News

Kilpatrick Townsend's Media Report January 9-15, 2015

January 16, 2015