



Neil P. Ferraro

Shareholder

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Neil Ferraro chairs the firm's [Mechanical Technologies Group](#). Neil counsels clients in all areas of intellectual property, with particular emphasis on domestic and international patent procurement, clearance to market analyses, acquisitions, diligence, and licensing matters.

Neil represents clients ranging from startups to large corporations in wide-ranging technologies including injection molding equipment, medical devices, sports equipment, consumer products, office supplies, imaging systems, electromechanical devices, printers, microfluidic systems, industrial equipment, fabrics, touch fasteners, sensors, optics, utility line equipment, and engines and automotive components.

Neil's strong technical skills coupled with his deep knowledge of patent law and industry standards allow him to provide sound technical, business and legal advice to aid clients in obtaining their business objectives.

Neil joined the firm after serving as an intellectual property attorney with the Ford Motor Company. His technical experience includes four years as a mechanical engineer, where he was responsible for new product development from concept to design to manufacturing start-up.

Client testimonial:

"Neil is extremely responsive and almost always answers the phone."

Client testimonial:

"We were getting pretty negative office actions, and [Ferraro] was able to turn that around. Neil architected a strategy to salvage that patent, and we still got the priority dates. I was definitely impressed."

Education

Stevens Institute of Technology, BS, Mechanical Engineering, *with honors*

Franklin Pierce Law Center, JD

Practice Groups

Licensing & Transactions

[Mechanical Technologies, Chair](#)

Client testimonial:

"Neil's been professional and responsive and detail oriented. He has a certain assertiveness, which is important when we need that."

Client testimonial:

"The interaction and responsiveness with Neil is fantastic."

Experience

- Performed audit of client's intellectual property strategy, supporting client's win of a Top 10 Law Department Award for In-House Counsel Magazine.
- Negotiated joint development agreements.
- Conducted freedom-to-operate diligence for venture capital firm.
- Performed diligence in support of major acquisitions.
- Cleared a significant product introduction for major consumer product company, navigating through dozens of patents held by competition.
- Analyzed seller's patent portfolio for major medical device manufacturer's purchase.
- Counseled venture capital firm on acquisition of university patents and clearance to market for startup medical device company.
- Analyzed competitor's patents and counseled client regarding infringement exposure, then negotiated with client's OEM customer regarding shifting infringement responsibility.
- Obtained important patent protection for client previously having difficulty with prosecution and aided client with enforcing patent against infringer.

Activities

- Boston Patent Law Association
- President, 2012; Initiatives included: bid to host a US Patent Office Satellite Office in Boston; and establish relationships between Boston-area IP professionals and entrepreneur centers in Latin America
- Held various Board Positions and Offices between 2004-2011

- SBANE
- Judge for Innovation Awards Competition
- Presenter at various industry organizations, including ASME and MassMEDIC

Recognition

Neil has been repeatedly named to *The Best Lawyers in America*© and to the Massachusetts Super Lawyers list for his work in the field of intellectual property law.

Interests

An inventor himself, Neil holds five U.S. patents resulting from his prior engineering work.