



MILLEN, WHITE, ZELANO & BRANIGAN, P.C.

The task of recognizing, developing, protecting and exploiting IP has never been more important—or more complex. It is imperative that businesses secure the services of thoughtful, incisive and cost-effective IP counsel. The attorneys, agents and staff of MWZB have been fulfilling these needs effectively for our clients for almost 50 years.



Ross J. Christie

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Ross J. Christie, a Director, joined the firm in 2024. Mr. Christie focuses on the preparation and prosecution of U.S. specifications as well as advising his foreign clients on the proper manner to prepare such documents to avoid patent-eligibility problems. He also provides and manages patentability, invalidity, and non-infringement opinions for domestic and foreign clients.

Mr. Christie also assists clients in conceiving and implementing both domestic and international intellectual property filing strategies, and building portfolios for licensing and monetization. He has served as a Volunteer Co-Instructor for the Licensing Executives Society US & Canada for the course of “Ethics in IP Licensing”. He has also served as a Pro Bono Attorney for the Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts.

After earning his law degree, Mr. Christie practiced in various boutique intellectual property law firms for over a decade before joining the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. At the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Mr. Christie examined patent applications as a Patent Examiner for over a decade. For over twenty-five years, Mr. Christie’s career has always involved intellectual property.

While working as a Patent Examiner, Mr. Christie earned a Master in Business Administration, with a concentration in Strategy, from the Fuqua School of Business at Duke University. His concentration project focused on developing an operating strategy for a sustainability startup intent to repurpose structures by refitting with clean technology for a proposed technology/innovation park.

Services

Preparation and Prosecution of Domestic and International Utility Patents and Design Patents; Opinions and Analysis re: Patentability, Infringement, Validity, Freedom-To-Operate and Due Diligence; Patent Portfolio Management and Strategy; Assist and Provide Analysis for Patent Litigation Matters; Patent Enforcement.

Technologies

Abrasives, Coatings, Gas Turbine Engines, Automotive Emission Systems, Catalysts, Fuel Cells, Dental Materials, Semiconductors, Semiconductor Fabrication, Injection Molding, Printed Wiring Boards, Electroplating, Circuit Breakers, Manufacturing and Quality Control, Nuclear Power, Biotech/Pharmaceutical/Medicinal Chemistry, and Agricultural Biotechnology.

Education

- Bachelor of Science in Chemistry, Grove City College, 1994
- Juris Doctor, Law & Technology Program, University of Dayton School of Law, 1997
- Master of Business Administration, Concentration: Strategy, Fuqua School of Business, Duke University, 2016

Publications

- Mr. Christie is a co-author of the article entitled “The International Trade Commission and Design”.
- Mr. Christie received a footnote acknowledgement for providing helpful expert legal feedback on the legal issues in the Gillette vs. Energizer case study.

Admissions

- State of Connecticut Bar (1997)
- State of New York Bar (1999)
- Admitted to practice before the United States Patent & Trademark Office (2001)

Volunteer Experience

- Volunteer Co-Instructor for Licensing Executives Society US & Canada for “Ethics in IP Licensing”
- Volunteer Mediator and Pro Bono Attorney for Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts