



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.



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Christopher B. Kilner, a Director, joined the firm in 2024. Mr. Kilner 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. Kilner started his career as an engineer at a U.S. Navy laboratory, testing undersea systems and developing weapon systems for Naval Special Warfare (SEALs). After that, he spent more than a decade at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office as a Patent Examiner before getting his law degree. After becoming an attorney, he joined various boutique intellectual property law firms and has been prosecuting patent applications for U.S. and foreign clients for over 25 years.

Services

Preparation and Prosecution of Domestic and International Utility Patents and Design Patents, with particular emphasis on drafting specifications, Post-Grant Procedures, Patent Portfolio Management and Strategy, Opinions and Analysis regarding patent infringements, Invalidity, Freedom-to-Operate and Due Diligence, Assist and Provide Analysis for Patent Litigation Matters, Patent Enforcement.

Technologies

Mechanical Systems and Devices, Automotive Systems, Electronic Displays (LED, OLED, Micro-LED, LCD), Power Generation and Storage (solar, wind, water, fuel cells, batteries), Refrigeration/HVAC, Heat Exchangers, Medical Devices, Semi-Conductor Fabrication, Telecommunications, Satellite Networking, Network Security and Protocols, Blockchain Technologies, Internet of Things (IoT), Manufacturing, and Designs.

Education

- Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering Under the Co-operative Education Program, University of Maryland, College Park (1986)
- Juris Doctor, George Mason University School of Law (now the Antonin Scalia Law School) (1998)

Membership and Affiliations

- American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA)

Admissions

- Virginia Bar (1998)
- Admitted to practice before the United States Patent & Trademark Office (1999)
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit (1999)
- Supreme Court of Virginia (2000)
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit (2008)