

Roberto J. Fernandez

Senior Counsel

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Roberto Fernandez is a seasoned patent attorney who understands how to construct a formidable patent portfolio with strategic business advantages that can be leveraged against competitors for years to come. His extensive experience preparing and prosecuting utility and design patent applications provides unique insights that drive future innovation and growth. Roberto has conducted oral hearings before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB), serving as lead counsel multiple times.

Roberto has harnessed his unique background to provide clients with detailed and technical counsel in numerous *inter partes* review (IPR) and *ex parte* reexamination proceedings before the PTAB. He routinely publishes thought leadership pieces on IPR practice developments, and he has also served as counsel in district court actions for patent infringement. Roberto also has performed due diligence reviews of intellectual property portfolios in connection with various business ventures, including acquisitions, spin-offs, and more.

Roberto's technical experience spans numerous fields, including automotive systems, engines, power generation systems, additive manufacturing, medical devices, consumer products, refrigeration, solar systems, lighting systems, fitness devices, and various electronic devices. He has also represented a significant number of pro bono clients and is honored to have helped many secure patent protection for their inventions.

Roberto is a member of the firm's Mechanical & Electromechanical Technologies Practice, PTAB Trials Practice, and the Design Rights Team. He is also a member of the firm's Automotive, Food & Beverage, and Energy Industry Teams.

Awards and Recognition

- Illinois Super Lawyers® Rising Star (2022-2024)

Presentations and Publications

- Panelist, *Practice Before the PTAB*, PTAB Bar Association (July 2022)

- Presenter, *Idea – Invention – Industry*, Chicago Inventors Organization Annual Conference (October 2019)
- Alumni speaker, Milwaukee School of Engineering Annual Scholarship Luncheon (October 2016)

Sectors

- Automotive
- Blockchain & Digital Assets
- Energy & Infrastructure
- Energy Transition
- Food & Beverage
- Hydrogen
- Manufacturing
- Oil & Gas
- Power & Renewables
- Smart Manufacturing

Practice Areas

- Intellectual Property

Education

- Chicago-Kent College of Law (J.D., 2019)
 - CALI Award recipient for Patent Law, Patent Office Practice, International Intellectual Property Law, and Trade Secrets
- University of Notre Dame (M.S., 2015)
 - Patent Law
- Milwaukee School of Engineering (B.S., 2014)
 - Mechanical Engineering

Admissions

- Illinois
- U.S. Patent and Trademark Office