

PATHWAYS TO INCLUSIVE INNOVATION

SPEAKERS



Derrick Brent

Deputy Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Deputy Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Derrick Brent is the Deputy Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Deputy Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). He serves as the principal advisor to Kathi Vidal, Under Secretary of Commerce for

Intellectual Property and Director of the USPTO, for one of the largest intellectual property (IP) offices in the world, with more than 13,000 employees and an annual budget of more than \$4 billion.

Deputy Director Brent has served in all three branches of the federal government and the private sector. He clerked for the Hon. Algenon L. Marbley, Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio, and served for six years as a Senior Trial Attorney at the U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, where he received a Special Achievement Award for his trial work. He also served as a Chief Counsel in the U.S. Senate, where handled IP issues along with other areas such as constitutional law, civil rights, and judicial nominations.

Deputy Director Brent's experience in the private sector includes serving as Vice President/Associate General Counsel for Masimo, on the leadership team at Cut Golf, and as an engineer at General Motors.

Deputy Director Brent received a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering from The Ohio State University and a Juris Doctor degree from the Northwestern University School of Law (now the Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law).



Valencia Martin Wallace

Deputy Commissioner for Patents

As Deputy Commissioner for Patents, Ms. Martin Wallace manages and leads the Patents organization's efforts related to international IP harmonization and provides executive oversight over patent-examining functions in technology centers that examine in the technologies of communication, mechanical engineering, manufacturing, and medical devices and processes. Regarding international IP harmonization, she specifically provides executive leadership on international patent legal issues and various work sharing efforts with international partners.

Ms. Martin Wallace is currently the Executive Lead for the USPTO's Council for Inclusive Innovation (CI2). The CI2, comprised of representatives from industry, academia, and government, will help guide the USPTO in developing a comprehensive national strategy to build a more diverse and inclusive innovation ecosystem by encouraging participation demographically, geographically, and economically.

As part of her twenty-eight year career at the USPTO, she recently served as Deputy Commissioner for Patent Quality where she was responsible for sustaining the high quality of the USPTO's patent examination processes and products. She also served as Assistant Deputy Commissioner for Patent Operations, where Ms. Martin Wallace oversaw operations in the software technology centers, served as executive co-lead on the implementation of the AIA First-Inventor-to-File statutory framework, and led the implementation of the Office of Patent Examination Support Services.

Ms. Martin Wallace is a graduate of Howard University, where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering, and The George Washington University School of Law, where she earned a Juris Doctorate. She has also received a certificate in Advanced Public Administration from Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Public Administration.



Will Covey

Deputy General Counsel and Director for the Office of Enrollment and Discipline

As Deputy General Counsel, Mr. Covey is responsible for ensuring that the nation's patent attorneys and agents are of good moral character and sufficiently knowledgeable to practice before the USPTO. Mr. Covey's team of attorneys and other professionals develops and administers a registration examination designed to measure an applicant's knowledge of patent law and practice. Successful applicants are registered to practice by OED. In addition, OED

investigates complaints of unethical conduct made against individuals practicing patent and/or trademark law before the USPTO.

Mr. Covey has held a number of key positions at the USPTO, including Acting General Counsel and Deputy General Counsel for the Office of General Law. Mr. Covey was appointed to the Senior Executive Service in 2007.

Mr. Covey received his undergraduate degree from Fordham University (magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa) and earned his J.D. from Fordham University Law School in 1991. He graduated from Harvard University's JFK School of Government (Senior Executive Fellowship) in 2005 and the U.S. Army War College with an M.S. in Strategic Studies in 2010.

Prior to joining the USPTO in 2000, Mr. Covey was a Special Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of New Jersey. He also served on active duty in the Pentagon, and was a senior officer in the Army Reserve assigned to the Office of the Army Staff, Office of the Judge Advocate General. He completed combat tours in Iraq (2007) and Afghanistan (2011) and served as Deputy Legal Counsel to the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff. Mr. Covey retired from the Army in February 2022.



James Silbermann

Senior Counsel for Enrollment and Intellectual Property Legal Services Office of Enrollment and Discipline

James M. Silbermann is USPTO's Senior Counsel for Enrollment and Intellectual Property Legal Services in the Office of Enrollment and Discipline. He leads a team of attorneys that are responsible for all aspects of enrollment to practice before the USPTO, including development of the registration examination to measure an applicants' knowledge of patent law and practice. He also is responsible for oversight and management of the USPTO Patent Pro Bono and Law School

Clinic Certification Programs.

Mr. Silbermann is also responsible for Office of Enrollment and Discipline rulemaking and other non-disciplinary matters.

Prior to becoming Senior Counsel, Mr. Silbermann was a staff attorney in the Office of Enrollment and Discipline handling enrollment and discipline matters and also supervising the Law School Clinical Certification Program. Before joining USPTO in 2005, Mr. Silbermann worked at the law firm of Dickstein Shapiro Morin & Oshinsky LLP in Washington, D.C. and the Washington, DC office of Foley & Lardner LLP, where he specialized in intellectual property acquisitions, patent litigation and prosecution, and client consultation.

Mr. Silbermann received his B.S. degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Maryland, College Park, and his J.D. degree, magna cum laude, from the Catholic University of

America, Columbus School of Law, where he was an editor of the Journal of Contemporary Health Law and Policy.



Kyle Ingram

Trademarks Customer Outreach Attorney

Kyle Ingram is an attorney for Trademarks Customer Outreach within the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). Prior to this, he was as a trademark examining attorney for six years.

As an attorney, Kyle has previously worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Department of Justice's Federal Bureau of Prisons. Before attending law school, Kyle served in the U.S. Air Force as a contracting officer. When he

isn't working, Kyle enjoys fitness, travel, and learning about nature.

Kyle obtained his Juris Doctor from the University of Oregon, his Master of Natural Resources in natural resource management from Virginia Tech, and his Bachelor of Arts in economics from the University of Virginia.



Anand Desai

Patent Pro Bono Coordinator Detailee

Anand Desai received a doctorate in Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics from the University of Maryland and Graduate Partnership Program at National Institutes of Health. Anand's research focused on the expression of glutamate gated channels during brain development. Anand has been working at the United States Patent and Trademark Office since June 2003 as a patent examiner in the biotechnology center. Anand is currently on detail with the Patent Pro Bono Program.



Carmen V. Lyles-Irving

Patent Attorney

Ms. Lyles-Irving is a Patent Attorney with the United States Patent and Trademark Office's Office of Enrollment and Discipline. Prior to her role with the Office of Enrollment and Discipline, Ms. Lyles-Irving was a Primary Examiner under Technology Center 1700 specializing in prosecuting patent applications in the fields of Fuel Cells and Batteries. In addition to working as a Primary Examiner, she has detailed at the Patent Trial and Appeal Board, the Office of Petitions and with the Texas Regional Office. Ms. Lyles-Irving has served with the USPTO since July of 2012, before that Ms. Lyles-Irving worked as a Registered Patent Attorney where her practice involved patent preparation and prosecution as well as trademark preparation and prosecution. Additionally, Ms. Lyles-Irving worked in chemical processing and product manufacturing as a Chemical Engineer at companies such as AlliedSignal Inc. and 3M Company prior to attending graduate school and law school.

Ms. Lyles-Irving has a BS in Chemical Engineering from Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, an MBA from The University of Georgia, and a JD from The University of Georgia.



Jennifer Simmons

Director, Government Relations, Washington, D.C., International Trademark Association (INTA)

As Director of Government Relations, Ms. Simmons is INTA's liaison with federal government officials and contributes to the development of INTA's positions on national and global intellectual property (IP) issues.

Prior to joining INTA in 2019, Ms. Simmons served as Assistant General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, at the United States Trade Representative (USTR). She was the lead IP attorney for the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement and engaged with Congress and industry stakeholders. Ms. Simmons also served as Pro Bono Coordinator in the Office of the Under Secretary and Director, and as Associate Counsel in the Office of the General Counsel, at the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).



Terri Denison

District Director, U.S. Small Business Administration, Georgia District Office

Terri Denison is the Georgia District Director of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). In this role since May 2002, she oversees the implementation of the SBA's financial, counseling/training, and business development programs and resources for small businesses throughout Georgia.

Terri began her SBA career in 1987 as a Presidential Management Intern at the Agency's Washington, D. C. District and Headquarter Offices. Other positions included working with the Agency's former Minority Enterprise Development and One Stop Capital Shop programs and serving on the inaugural staff of the SBA's Office of Field Operations. In 1994, she served as the SBA representative on the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Empowerment Zone/Enterprise Community Interagency Task Force. Terri has also served as the SBA Indiana Deputy District Director and Acting District Director in Wisconsin.

As Georgia District Director, Terri has been recognized by the Atlanta Business League, Georgia Microenterprise Network, Greater Atlanta Economic Alliance, Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Atlanta Business Chronicle, Georgia Lenders Quality Circle, and Who's Who in Black Atlanta.

A native of Corpus Christi, Texas, Terri holds a B.A. Degree in American Government from Cornell University and an M.A. Degree in Urban Studies from Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas. She is also a graduate of the Federal Executive Institute in Charlottesville, Virginia. Prior to her SBA career, Terri served as the pro bono services coordinator at Neighborhood Legal Services of Thompkins County (NY) and graduate intern at the City of San Antonio's Department of Economic and Employment Development.