



Yifan Mao

Senior Associate

1080 Marsh Road , Menlo Park , CA USA 94025

t 650.324.6311 | f 650.618.8645

ymao@kilpatricktownsend.com

Services

Patent Litigation

Post-Grant Proceedings

Market Protection - Opinions &
Dispute Avoidance

Asset Creation - Prosecution &
Counseling

Industries

Chemicals

Health & Life Sciences

Yifan Mao focuses her practice on patent counseling, prosecution, and due diligence matters in the chemistry and life sciences industries, focusing on areas relating to diagnostics, large molecule therapeutics, devices, sequencing, and bioinformatics.

Ms. Mao was a senior patent agent at an agriculture biotechnology company where she developed the company's patent portfolio on genomics, bioenergy and trait improvement technologies before joining the firm. She held research positions at Genentech and Genencor International (now DuPont Industrial Biosciences) prior to her legal career.

Ms. Mao is a board member for the Fremont Union High Schools Foundation and serves as the Foundation's Grant Chair. She oversees the Foundation's teachers' grant program, which provides valuable resources to teachers to enrich the students' educational experience.

Ms. Mao was recognized as a Northern California "Rising Star" in 2018, 2019 and 2020 for Intellectual Property by *Super Lawyers* magazine. Her native language is Mandarin Chinese.

Experience

Represented a biopharmaceutical company and secured patent protection in the US and beyond for its core oncology drug. The drug has been commercialized in China and is being reviewed by the FDA in the United States.

Procured patent protection on sequencing technologies and provided counseling on patent-related transactional



matters for a large international company.

Represented and counseled an emerging company in procuring patent protection for digital diagnostics and devices and developing its global patent portfolio.

Provided patent procurement and freedom-to-operate counseling for international clients in Singapore, Korea, and China on technologies related to diagnostics and protein therapeutics

Counseled both public and private agriculture companies in protecting trait improvement technology, advising strategies on securing utility and plant patents.

Supported a patent infringement lawsuit for an agriculture chemical company on issues relating to claim construction, infringement analysis, defending against invalidity contentions.

Provided patent procurement and counseling to companies at all stages in protecting diagnostic and therapeutic technologies for oncology indications and infectious diseases.

Obtained clemency for a federal inmate serving a life sentence because of non-violent drug convictions.

Represented a youth facing school expulsion and secured withdrawal of the expulsion.

Education

Santa Clara University School of Law J.D. (2014) High Tech Law Certificate with honors, *magna cum laude*, *Dean's List*, *Best Oral Advocate Award*, *CALI Awards*, *Witkin Awards*, *Emery Law Scholarship*

Michigan State University M.S. (2000) Biochemistry

Wuhan University, PR. China B.S. (1995) Microbiology

Admissions

California (2015)

Court Admissions

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (2007)

Clerkships

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Professional & Community Activities

San Francisco Intellectual Property Inn of Court, Member



Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Silicon Valley, Member

Insights

Alerts

What to Watch in 2021: Big Changes for Drug Companies in China

December 21, 2020

News Releases

24 Kilpatrick Townsend Attorneys Recognized in 2020 *Northern California Super Lawyers*

August 7, 2020

News Releases

Kilpatrick Townsend Attorneys Named 2019 Northern California Super Lawyers

July 16, 2019

Perspectives

5 Takeaways How Do We Ensure Effective Protection of Antibodies?

October 22, 2018

News Releases

Twenty-Six Kilpatrick Townsend Attorneys Named 2018 Northern California Super Lawyers & Rising Stars

July 23, 2018

Alerts

Obviousness Requires Articulation; Routine Optimization Insufficient Alone

August 30, 2017

News Releases

Kilpatrick Townsend Announces 2016 Kilpatrick Townsend Pro Bono Awards

April 12, 2017

Alerts

“Patents 4 Patients”: A New Cancer Immunotherapy “Fast Track” for U.S. Patent Applicants

July 6, 2016



[In The News](#)

Kilpatrick Townsend's Media Report March 13-19, 2015

March 20, 2015